

SPEED S.E.J.A. #802

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting
SPEED Governing Board
Zoom Teleconference
7:00 p.m.

October 22, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bean called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

On roll call the following answered present: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; (arrived at 7:05 p.m.) Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Dr. Halliman, Superintendent was present as well as the following SPEED Staff: Ms. Brenda Murillo, Director of Business and Finance; Ms. Vanessa Duffin, Director of Human Resources; Dr. Maureen White, Director of District Services; Mr. Gregory Furgason, Director of Technology

Also present: Mr. Eric Grodsky, Attorney from Hauser, Izzo, Petrarca, Gleason & Stillman, LLC

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Ms. Jane Cornelius, Union President was in attendance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

COVID 19 Educational Taskforce

Dr. Halliman reported that the COVID 19 Educational Taskforce has been meeting over the past three weeks. During the meetings, time was spent time putting together a parent town hall meeting as well as developing questions for an additional parent survey to gather more specific information around the District needs such as, can your child wear a face mask, if so for how long, 0 – 2 hours, 2 - 4 hours, etc. stating this kind of information would be helpful to SPEED as we look toward bringing students back into the building.

Town Hall Meeting

SPEED's first town hall meeting was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. A Google Form was sent to parents the week prior, with a video attached, explaining the expected outcomes. Parents were asked to submit their questions on the Google Form by Monday night at 10:00 p.m. A total of 16 questions were received and there were approximately 48 participants including the 15 members of the Taskforce present at the meeting. At the end of the meeting a few questions were answered that were not submitted in advance.

Dr. Halliman stated that the meeting went very well and is looking forward to doing this again moving forward. Additionally, a more in depth parent survey would be sent out later today which would allow SPEED to garner more information on the students. There is a recommendation on the Board packet today regarding the reassessment of our reopening plan for the 2nd quarter and what our recommendation will be which is to continue with our Remote + Plan which allows us to see students by appointment for related service for evaluation. We have two teachers that bring some students in on an individual basis for tutoring. We are moving into some of those academic pieces of the remote plus plan.

Social Distancing Staff Contest

Our social distancing contest went very well. We have a number of video submissions as well as slogans that were presented. We shared with staff who voted on the best submission in order to determine the winner.

The impetus to doing this contest was to create a fun way to stress the importance of Social Distancing. While working with the union president, we came up with doing this kind of campaign to involve the entire staff. The winning slogans will be showcased.

Dr. Halliman ended her report by sharing that Ms. Murillo would share some big ticket items for us this year concerning auditing and liability insurance. She further informed the board that we currently use IEP Plus which is a subsidiary of Power School for our Special Education IEPs; however, we have been informed that they are discontinuing the product for next year. We have assembled a small team to facilitate a big turnover. This is a huge project for our IEP system. We are looking at Easy IEP and Embrace. A number of our member districts use Easy IEP and others use Embrace. Our Director of Technology, Mr. Furgason, has a team together and we are beginning this process.

Questions:

Ms. Dupee: Were there any parents that have concerns about remaining remote?

Dr. Halliman responded that we have a survey that has more specific questions that is in process. We do not have that data back at this time but from the parents that were on the call, no. One of our high school districts was in contact with a Special Ed Director about one of our parents who had twins or siblings in our PAL program and she wanted her children to be on site. What we do because in our remote plus plan by appointment we still can see children safely with tutoring. The staff has been working to try to bring those children in once per week to meet with their teacher. We actually have a teacher at our satellite site in District 144 that sees children because they do have children on-site. We also have a teacher here in our ELC program that sees children as well. We have discussed informally with the Educational Taskforce some way of formalizing that tutoring by appointment plan so that we can safely bring in more children. There are some things that we need to tweak for example, being fully transparent, this by appointment for related services for the most part is working out but our parents having been leaving and not coming back to pick the child up on time which creates an unsafe environment because there is another child waiting to be seen.

So far since school has started, we have had two positive cases that we are aware of but that also required a number of our staff to be quarantined as well. We've brought our nurses in to help with contact tracing.

Ms. Vlietstra: Regarding the new IEP program, is there a transition plan to get all of the information from one program to the new program?

Dr. Halliman responded that they have not selected a new program as of yet. We are in the process of vetting out vendors. Two vendors are being considered so far, Embrace and Easy IEP. Mr. Furgason has a small team of people who will actually meet virtually to meet with the vendors to see if their program meets our needs.

Dr. Halliman stated that based on prior experiences; there is a conversion period, typically toward the end of the year and over the summer. The good part of this is that the company is dissolving and not that we are ending a contract with them so they will work with us to help get this conversion done. Also, she stated that she has hired data entry personnel to help get information entered. The good thing is that we are starting so early into the school year that we will have some of those pieces in place.

Ms. Taylor: As we are moving into 2nd Quarter, the information you provided is going to the end of the quarter which leads us into holiday break?

Dr. Halliman replied that 2nd quarter ends right before the January 2021 Governing Board meeting however the recommendation that is on the packet tonight is to have this plan through the end of January so that we can have our Board meeting before we change the plan.

Mr. Taylor: Have you decided whether you will go back full in February or are you just waiting to see how everything pans out?

Dr. Halliman replied that we are not waiting. We have the Taskforce in place to plan many different options. Task of this group is to start putting things in place with the hopes of having children back on campus.

FINANCIAL REPORT

August, 2020

Ms. Murillo reported that as of August 30, 2020, we've collected 8% of our revenue and expended 19% of our expense budget. Reminder notices for membership dues were released on September 12, 2020. Ms. Murillo reminded the Board that these invoices are just requesting the difference from the first invoices that were sent on which were based on the preliminary amounts that ISBE posted and the final IDEA Allocation amounts for the current year were posted on September 16, 2020. The 4th quarter IDEA reports were due on September 14, 2020. Ms. Murillo stated that we have one (1) member district that has not met MOE and she has spoken with them. That district is working with ISBE on their issue.

Ms. Murillo further stated that the Business Managers have been contacted regarding securing information on their current and future auditors to have a pool of candidates to send out quotes for next year. She further stated that she has been communicating with ISBE regarding food service bidding beginning July 1, 2021.

On September 15, we sent out 2nd notices for past due FY20 invoices. Also, calls were made to the Special Education Directors on August 27-28, 2020 as well as e-mail reminders.

September, 2020

Ms. Murillo reported that we have received 32% of our budgeted revenues and expended 24% of our budgeted expenses. We are on target with our expenditures in time. We have received 8% more in revenues than anticipated for the period. We should be at 25% for the 3rd quarter.

SPEED will no longer use Legacy Auditors, LLC for our financial audits. Inquiries have been sent to our member districts to request information on the firms currently being used. Based on the information received, we have sent RFP's to the following:

- Baker Tilly
- RSM
- Crowe, LLP
- Miller Cooper & Company
- GWA & Associates

The submission deadline for consideration is Friday, November 20, 2020.

Our current insurance cooperative, ISIC is disbanding at the end of December, 2020. We have been in communication SSCIP and CLIC insurance cooperatives from Gallagher. ISIC currently holds our Casualty and General Liability insurance. SPEED will be joining the cooperative that best suits our needs and attention.

The process of completing the required documentation for the food service vendor bidding has begun. The new service will begin July 1, 2021. ISBE is allowing us to engage with preferred meals on an emergency basis.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:26 p.m. Ms. Jones, District 168 moved, seconded by Ms. Havighorst, District 153 that the Governing Board That pursuant to the Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(1), Section 2(c)(10) and Section 2(c)(11) the Governing Board goes into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; and pending, probable and/or imminent litigation matters.

Motion carried by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Taylor, District 144 moved, seconded by Ms. Vlietstra, District 161 that the Governing Board ratifies the Consent Agenda Items A, B, C, D and E as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 16, 2020 meeting.

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Approval of Minutes of August 27, 2020
- C. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of August 27, 2020
- D. Approval of Recurring and Non-Recurring Bills
- E. Approval of Imprest and Activity Funds

On roll call vote: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Nays: None

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Roop, District 201U moved, seconded by Ms. Taylor, District 144 that the Governing Board ratifies the New Business Agenda Item 8A as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 16, 2020 meeting.

A. Employment of Assistant Principal

On roll call vote: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Nays: None

Ms. Havighorst, District 153 moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, District 227 that the Governing Board ratifies the New Business Agenda Item 8B as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 16, 2020 meeting.

B. Press Policy Updates

On roll call vote: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Nays: None

Ms. Jones, District 168 moved, seconded by Ms. Taylor, District 144 that the Governing Board ratifies the New Business Agenda Item 8C as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 16, 2020 meeting.

C. eLearning Plan

On roll call vote: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Nays: None

Ms. Roop, District 201U moved, seconded by Ms. Dupee, District 163 that the Governing Board ratifies the New Business Agenda Item 8D as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 16, 2020 meeting.

D. MOU Regarding Evaluations

On roll call vote: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Nays: None

Ms. Havighorst, District 153 moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman District 227 that the Governing Board ratifies the New Business Agenda Item 8E as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 16, 2020 meeting.

E. Unpaid Leave – T. Kelly

On roll call vote: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Nays: None

Ms. Taylor, District 144 moved, seconded by Ms. Vlietstra, District 161 that the Governing Board ratifies the New Business Agenda Item 8F as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 16, 2020 meeting.

F. Unpaid Leave – T. Polanski

On roll call vote: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Nays: None

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. LaRocca, District 233 moved, seconded by Ms. Dupee, District 161 that the Governing Board approves the Old Business Agenda Item 9A as presented.

A. Reopening Plan for 2nd Quarter 2020/2021 School Year

On roll call vote: Ms. Kathy Taylor, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Cheryl Roop, District 201U; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Beth LaRocca, District 233

Absent: Mr. Joe Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Ms. Karen King, District 206

Nays: None

INFORMATION

- Student Enrollment Report

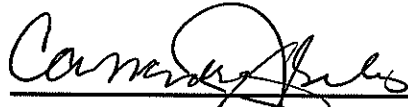
Dr. Halliman reported that she was a bit concerned at the enrollment numbers in late August/early September but is pleased to announce the numbers have increased. We met with a couple of district reps and special ed directors as well as working with individual districts because what we determined is that our enrollment may be lower because our member district enrollments due to this pandemic. Current enrollment is 283.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS


None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bean adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.



Deborah Havighorst, Secretary
Cassandra Giles, Recording Secretary



Mr. Ronald Bean, President
SPEED Governing Board

Date: 2-15-2021