

SPEED S.E.J.A. #802

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

July 15, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bean called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL

On roll call the following answered present: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Mr. Alex Bosch, District 153; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Karen King, District 206; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Michelle Hoereth, District 233.

Absent: Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194; Dr. Todd Hall, District 201U.

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; Mr. Joe Kekelik, Director of Buildings and Grounds and Principals: Ms. April Brown, Ms. Nicole Taylor and Ms. Amina Payne.

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

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

There were no visitors however Dr. Halliman acknowledged Mr. Alex Bosch from SD 153 who was in attendance for that district.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ESSER

Dr. Halliman stated that at the previous meeting she reported that after relentless efforts by herself and other cooperative across the state, ISBE did finally allot cooperatives ESSER federal funds which is being called The American Rescue Plan ESSER III Federal funds. SPEED will receive in excess of \$1.4M. The only caveat is that unlike regular education districts where there is some latitude to use the funds for anything related to COVID such as cleaning and disinfecting, air filtration and ventilation, we have been restricted to only 3 categories. The categories are Learning Loss (academic programming), Afterschool Programs and Summer Enrichment.

There was a plethora of questions posed to ISBE at the webinar concerning these restrictions, but they did not have answers at this meeting. Dr. Halliman stated that hopefully they will consider some of those efforts for us but none the less we are pleased that we have \$1.4M allocated to us.

Mr. Bean congratulated the superintendent on her efforts in getting some funds for the coop.

Cook Illinois Fall Transportation

Dr. Halliman stated that at the previous board meeting she reported that she received notification that all districts that were clients of Cook Illinois received a letter stating that they were anticipating potentially not being able to provide adequate bus service to districts due to a national bus shortage. After meeting with Mr. O'Sullivan and our allotted representative, they assured us that the shortage would not affect SPEED. Our buses are routed out of the Frankfort bus yard.

Dr. Halliman shared that she received another e-mail yesterday and requested a meeting today. They are still pretty sure (not 100% guarantee) that they will be able to provide service, but they are short some drivers which will impact that bus yard. In conclusion, they are going off of our student number from pre-pandemic level, so we are down 100 children this past school because our member districts enrollment also went down. We think all routes should be covered but we will keep the Board informed. They did however inform us that that SPEED was at the top of their list because we did work with them during the pandemic to provide meals and academic packets to our students and they recognize the high needs of our students.

New CDC Guidelines

Dr. Halliman reported that new CDC Guidelines were released on July 9. Subsequently, ISBE and IDPH have fully adopted these guidelines. Dr. Halliman reported a few key factors are that we were using the language of "mitigating efforts" that we were putting into place during the pandemic i.e., handwashing, masks, six-foot social distancing, etc. The new language is "Comprehensive Prevention Strategies". There are approximately 9 or 10 of these. The two key ones are what we are going to do for social distancing and what we are going to do for masking. It is recommended that we observe 3-foot social distancing and this is what we are going to do tentatively. In order to have all of our staff back and all of our students back, we cannot adhere to 6-foot social distancing because we won't be able to fit every in our building. When we did the hybrid in the spring, we had an alternate day hybrid so that we could each student in that chose to return. We will also adopt universal masking. This means that everyone will continue to wear a mask indoors regardless of vaccination status, both staff and students. Finally, we will also continue with our screening testing. We have already received the BinaxNow Tests for our district, but we are also in the final stages of solidifying an agreement for the Shield test which we will bring forward at the August meeting.

Dr. Halliman further stated that she has letter that will be sent to parents and staff stating that there is one exemption for students who have medical conditions. They can request remote learning. The state code is pretty clear that students must have a licensed physician submit a letter on behalf of the student who cannot attend in person due to a medical condition. Principal Amina Payne is the point person to receive this documentation. We should know by the end of July the number of students that must attend remotely due to medical reasons.

Dr. Halliman shared that the remaining prevention strategies will remain intact. We have ventilation efforts in place, we have double filtration, we change filters monthly instead of quarterly, we run our systems 24/7, we have handwashing, respiratory etiquette in place, stay home when you are sick and get tested, we do contact tracing and we still have our cleaning and disinfecting schedules.

Ms. Matthews asked if we have the how remote as far as the remote or are you having in-person and remote? Do you have how that looks?

Dr. Halliman replied that if we have a population that is remote, we will more than likely to synchronous learning although we are required to do the synchronous learning. This is something that the guidelines have relaxed. Dr. Halliman further stated that she is saying this absent of more information from ISBE. As it stands now, we are only required to provide remote, but we are planning to do it the same way we've done it before. There will not be alternating days. When the parents return the letter to us, it will be effective by semesters. These are semester commitments.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Summary Report

Ms. Murillo reported that at the end of June we received 77% of our revenues and have expended 90% of our budget. The 77% of our revenues is what was received on time and posted. So far, we have received \$773,886 as of 6/30. There is still \$466,731 of open invoices for tuition and other services that is due in July. We are still expecting an estimated \$20k from state revenue. Overall, our revenues came in at 82% of our budget. Ms. Murillo asked the Board to keep in mind that COVID related expenses were not budgeted in the FY21 budget. We spent roughly \$132k on PPE and other protective equipment. The Technology department also has fully expended their budget by at least \$38k. Human Resources also had unbudgeted COVID expenses.

Our enrollment was also down by approximately 100 students and so was special services that are requested by our member districts. Those services include interpreting, consulting, staff training and assessments. Ms. Murillo shared that the impact of low enrollment could be as low \$2.6M if we divided the 100 students by the cost of our least expensive program.

Auditing Services

Ms. Murillo stated that auditing services began this week with Miller Cooper. They were on-site for one day just to introduce themselves and are expected to return next week to meet with the Central Office staff to learn about our processes.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:24 p.m. Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 moved, seconded by Mr. Alex Bosch, District 153 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 employment, compensation, and/or performance of a specific employee of SPEED and or matters regarding students. Any items needing approval will be voted on during open session.

On roll call vote: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Mr. Alex Bosch, District 153; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Karen King, District 206; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Michelle Hoereth, District 233.

Absent: Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194; Dr. Todd Hall, District 201U.

Nays: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168 moved, seconded by Ms. Christina Dupee, District 163, that the Governing Board ratifies the Consent Agenda items A, B, C, D, and E as presented

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2021
- C. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of June 24, 2021
- D. Approval of Recurring and Non-Recurring Bills
- E. Approval of Imprest and Activity Funds

On roll call vote: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Mr. Alex Bosch, District 153; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Karen King, District 206; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Michelle Hoereth, District 233.

Absent: Ms. Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Mr. Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194; Dr. Todd Hall, District 201U.

Nays: None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS


None

INFORMATION

- Student Enrollment Report

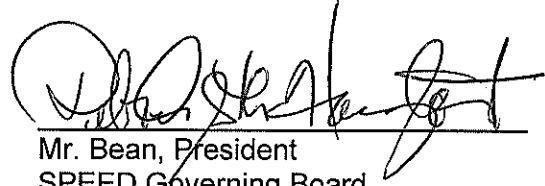
ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bean adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.



Deborah Havighorst, Secretary
Cassandra Giles, Recording Secretary

Date: 8/26/2021



Mr. Bean, President
SPEED Governing Board