

REAVIS HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 220  
6034 WEST 77<sup>th</sup> STREET, BURBANK, ILLINOIS 60459  
COOK COUNTY

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017, AT 7:00 P.M.  
LIBRARY

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MINUTES

**1. OPEN MEETING, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL**

Time: 7:01 p.m.

The following Board Members were physically present at the meeting:

Mr. Ted Arnold  
Mr. Gerardo Ayala  
Ms. Mary Ann Cook, President  
Ms. Andrea Creger  
Mr. J.R. Higgins, Vice President  
Ms. Linda O'Dowd

Absent: Mr. Russell McKinley, Secretary

Also Present: Dr. Daniel J. Riordan, Superintendent  
Administrators  
Students and Community Members

**2. SECRETARY PRO TEM**

Nomination of Mr. J. Higgins to serve as Secretary *Pro Tem*:

Motion: M. Cook  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Regular Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2017.

Motion: G. Ayala  
Second: L. O'Dowd  
Aye: G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

B. Closed Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 21, 2017.

Motion: L. O'Dowd  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

**4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was no *Audience Participation* at this meeting.

**5. COMMUNITY USE OF FACILITIES**

There were no requests for *Community Use of Facilities* at this meeting.

**6. FISCAL MANAGEMENT**

A. Financial Statements dated March 31, 2017.

Motion: M. Cook  
Second: L. O'Dowd  
Aye: A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

B. Payment of Bills for the month of April, 2017.

Motion: A. Creger  
Second: G. Ayala  
Aye: J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- C. Approve *Oosterbaan & Sons*, Posen, Illinois, as apparent responsible low bidder, for the 2017 Auditorium Wall Repair Work project, at a cost of \$168,000.00.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook

Dr. Riordan stated that the recommendation from administration will be to reject this bid and reevaluate this project. Further, after discussions with Mr. Markham, *SPM Architects*, and other superintendents in the surrounding area, the feeling is now that the economy has started to recover, contractors currently have plenty of work and are not providing competitive bids and/or not bidding at all.

Aye: None  
Nay: L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins  
Vote: 0-6

- D. Approve *CCI*, Crest Hill, Illinois, as apparent responsible low bidder, for the 2017 Auditorium Floor Repair Work project, at a cost of \$61,458.00.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook

Dr. Riordan stated that only one bid was received and since this is not an immediate concern, it was again decided to reevaluate this project. Therefore, the recommendation of the administration is to reject this bid.

Aye: None  
Nay: T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd  
Vote: 0-6

- E. Approve *CCI*, Crest Hill, Illinois, as apparent responsible low bidder, for the 2017 Cafeteria Floor Replacement Work project, at a cost of \$117,062.00.

Motion: M. Cook  
Second: G. Ayala  
Aye: G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

## **7. EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL**

There were no requests for *Educational Travel* at this meeting.

## 8. PERSONNEL

- A. Approve a flex time leave of absence according to the provisions of the *Family Medical Leave Act* for Ms. Carol Kraus, Teacher, effective immediately.

Motion: A. Creger  
Second: L. O'Dowd  
Aye: M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- B. Approve the hire of Mr. Michael Jebens, Teacher, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- C. Approve the hire of Ms. Stacie Scheiner, Teacher, at a 4/5 schedule, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: G. Ayala  
Aye: J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- D. Approve the hire of Mr. Jeffrey Grider, Teacher, at a 3/5 schedule, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- E. Approve the hire of Mr. R. Joseph Madsen, Teacher, at a 3/5 schedule, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- F. Approve the hire of Ms. Kelly Miller, Teacher, at a 2/5 schedule, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- G. Approve the hire of Ms. Karina Rodriguez, School Psychologist, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- H. Approve a contract for Daniel J. Riordan, Ed.D., Superintendent, for school years 2017 through 2022.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- I. Approve the hire of Ms. Samantha Ippolito, Cheerleading Head Coach and IHSA Cheer Coach, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- J. Approve the hire of Ms. Katrina Arnold, Cheerleading Assistant Coach, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: G. Ayala  
Aye: L. O'Dowd, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins  
Nay: None  
Abstain: T. Arnold  
Vote: 5-0-1

- K. Approve the hire of Ms. Carly Mannix, Cheerleading Assistant Coach, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: G. Ayala  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- L. Approve the hire of Mr. Jeff Kreil, Cross Country Assistant Coach, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- M. Approve Ms. Stacie Scheiner, as a Volunteer Softball Coach, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: G. Ayala  
Aye: A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

There was no *Old Business* discussed at this meeting.

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve entering into a five-year leasing contract with *Midwest Transit Equipment* for eight (8) buses at \$12,329.00 per bus.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: L. O'Dowd

Mr. Negrete, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, reported that this contract, which also includes the maintenance agreement, reflects an approximate increase of nine percent from five years ago.

Aye: J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- B. Approve renewing membership in the *Illinois High School Association (IHSA)* for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

- C. Schedule a Special Reorganization Meeting between Tuesday, April 25 and Tuesday, May 2, 2017 to:
- Declare results of the Consolidated Election held on April 4, 2017
  - Swear in newly elected Board Members

It was decided to hold the meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

## **11. CATEGORICAL REPORTS**

- A. Student Reports – no reports
- B. Administration

Mr. Negrete reported that he received the 2016 Levy Edit Report earlier today. He verified the information noted and sent it back to the County Clerk. The process is now in place and we should start receiving the second tax collection in July.

Mr. Tim Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities & Operations, stated that he and the Maintenance staff are working on putting together a concrete list of summer projects and he should have that list by the May meeting.

Dr. Heather McCurdy, Director of Curriculum, reported that it is testing season at Reavis High School and across the State of Illinois. On April 5<sup>th</sup>, we hosted all school testing for our freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. Juniors took their college acceptance and placement SAT exam funded by the State of Illinois. The results of these tests will be important for students as part of their college admissions process. The results are also important to our District as the results will be posted as part of Reavis' Illinois School Report Card. Meanwhile, the sophomores and freshmen took the PSAT 10 and PSAT 9. These tests are paid for through local funds, the results of which will be used as part of our local student growth model in future years. We also think this Spring testing is important for the underclassmen as it allows students to practice the format of testing they will complete as juniors. From maintenance's help for multiple setups and transportation to support staff, administration, and faculty contributions in administering the test, we felt very good about how testing went. Dr. McCurdy is proud of our Reavis families because there were very few absences on these days; only three juniors required a makeup test. Dr.

McCurdy continued that our juniors, as part of an incentive system used for preparation for testing, did meet their fifteen million Khan Academy points mark and, therefore, are now currently eligible for a field day in the Fall. Testing season will continue this week with the Illinois Science Assessment and Mr. LaMantia will say more about this in his report. Dr. McCurdy ended by noting that no sooner did we have the boxes packed for College Board regarding the SAT and PSAT testing than the College Board AP tests started showing up on our door step. We will continue to host these important opportunities for student academic achievement.

Ms. Julie Schultz, Director of Student Services, reported that out of the Guidance Department, their first annual Community Job Fair, for our juniors and seniors, will take place on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. As of today, twenty businesses have signed up throughout the Burbank and Stickney areas to expose our students to more job opportunities. This has been promoted in their Homerooms; and students can sign up through their counselor or in the Career Center. There are certain criteria to attending this Job Fair, one of which is to create a resume. Ms. Schultz continued that Counselor Rachael Pearson is again coordinating Senior Awards Night, taking place on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is a special night where we honor our Seniors who are receiving awards and local scholarships. Lastly, Ms. Schultz thanked the Student Services Intervention Team, who are continually and collaboratively looking inward to insure that the needs of all our students are met. What interventions and resources can we bring to our students who are in high need, medium risk or in general. The Team is very loyal to best practices and they bring the most appropriate interventions to our students.

Mr. Don Erickson, Director of Information and Educational Technology, reported that the IT Department will host their final Tech Late Start of the school year tomorrow. They will be introducing the faculty to Schoology, the learning management system that will be implemented for the 2107-18 school year. Teachers Rich Nichols, Kassie Ryan, and Bill Lauer, who have been using the free version of Schoology this year, will be presenting on the following topics: explanation of general features, how to create tests, and collaborating with other teachers. Two of the many features of Schoology that Mr. Erickson wanted to highlight tonight are the sync feature and the automatic progress report email feature. The sync feature allows any test or assignment created with Schoology to automatically get graded and synced right into PowerSchool, which will prove very beneficial to our faculty.

Mr. Bob Morack, Division Chair, PE & CTE, congratulated students Giselle Campos Sarabia, Orlando Chavez Garcia, Paulina Stachon, and Jessica Vazquez for winning 2nd Place today at the Moraine Valley Business Competition. We are very proud of our students and teacher Ms. Barb Norway on another excellent showing for Reavis! Their project was on student jobs in the community. Mr. Morack continued by also congratulating Abigale Murabito, who participated at the FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) State Competition on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, in the Pastry Arts Cake Decorating event. She earned Most Outstanding in her category at Regionals and moved on to the State Competition, where she again wowed the judges and placed first, in addition to winning a \$12,000 scholarship to Kendall College. She has also been accepted at Robert Morris and now needs to choose where her future takes her. Mr. Morack noted that she is very talented and will do great in this field.

Mr. Eric Novak, Athletic Director, reported that Spring sports are doing well and winning more than losing, especially in our Conference competitions. Just today, we competed in sixteen sports, across all levels and events, in Baseball, Softball, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball, and Track and finished 16-0! Mr. Novak continued that Reavis has been asked and we have accepted to host IHSA Regionals for Softball; Sectionals for Boys' Volleyball; and for the



first time, Sectionals for Girls' Track. Finally, Mr. Novak shared with the Board a letter he received today, thanking Freshman Baseball Coach Kyle McKinley for bringing the entire baseball team in their uniforms to the funeral services of a teammate's father. The family was extremely grateful for the team's support.

Mr. Mike LaMantia, Division Chair, Math and Science, reported that Biology students will take the ISBE Science Exam this week, as mandated by the State. The test will be completed by students during their Biology classes and should have a minimal effect on their regular schedule. As this is a digital test, the IT Department has developed a process which allows students to use their Chromebooks. Students will not be able to utilize their Chromebooks an hour before and after the test; however, teachers have been notified of this issue and have been instructed to prepare to use other forms of technology if necessary. Thanks to Dr. McCurdy, Mr. Erickson, and their staffs for their work in ensuring that the test is conducted in a manner that limits the impact on student and teacher schedules. Thanks also to our Biology teachers for their help in proctoring the exam. He continued that our sixth annual STEM Day takes place on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Students are currently in the process of refining their research questions and experimental designs. This year, one area of focus for students is the importance of multiple trials in the experimental process. Some of the projects include using bamboo fencing to prevent landslides, creating a solar powered cell phone charger, building a cell phone microscope, and investigating designs for windmill propellers. Students will present their projects to a group of STEM professionals right here in the Library. In addition, they will attend a session on computer coding led by Reavis alums Mr. Greg Kopec and Mr. Bob Rybczyk. Students will get a programmer's perspective of digital technology they use every day and will compete to produce the most code via Minecraft's Hour of Code game. Students will also compete in a Decoding Session led by our Media Specialist and Librarian, Ms. Mary Claire Ahern. This session is modeled around the Escape Room craze that has become the rage with young professionals. Students will have to work with a partner to decipher several codes and build a simple electromagnetic motor in a quest to be the first team to crack the code and earn a gift card to Target. This year, we will also be showcasing our ProStart students as they have prepared an impressive lunch menu for our STEM mentors. Thanks to Mr. Bob Morack, Ms. Carole Williams and her students for all their hard work making this happen.

Ms. Erika Banick, Division Chair, Humanities, reported that Lit Fest 2017 was held right before Spring Break and was highly successful. Our 230 RFM (Reading for Mastery) students did an amazing job on their presentations. Keynote Speaker, Simone Elkeles, was wonderful and our students also had the opportunity to attend ten break-out sessions on a variety of different topics related to Literacy. Ms. Banick next spoke that an English Honors verticality team was established this year in an effort to make sure our students enjoy a rich experience from 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. One of the results of these discussions is the reintroduction of our summer reading program for our Honors English students. These books and the corresponding assignments will be distributed the second week of May. Ms. Banick continued by reporting that her Division will invite seventeen 8<sup>th</sup> grade Liberty students to attend Reavis in the Fall to take Honors English I. A similar program was developed two years ago with an Honors Algebra I class and was met with much success. As these students continue through high school, they would then have the opportunity to take Oral Communication Honors; American Literature Honors; AP Language and Composition; and AP Literature. These students would graduate from Reavis with a very strong foundation in English, writing and rhetoric.

Mr. Tom Witting, Activities Director and Division Chair, Fine Arts, reported that the Jazz Café, under the direction of Mr. Brandon Faust, takes place tomorrow evening, 6:30 p.m. at Chuck's. Environmental Fair will be held Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, and he thanked Ms. Manzke and Ms. Cunningham in putting this together. IHSA Journalism Sectional and IHSA Music Organization takes place this Saturday. Next Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> brings the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, here in our Library, and last but certainly not least is Prom at the Odyssey Country Club on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Cook ended the meeting by personally thanking Mr. Higgins for his service. She noted that he is a 2006 graduate of Reavis High School and by 2008 was already running for the Board of Education. He has worked tirelessly and pushed the Board to provide the best Advanced Placement, as well as other opportunities for our students. The commitment he has made to this school, with his time, personal donations and vision, is the definition of giving back to your community. Mr. Higgins has been a good friend and he will be missed.

Mr. Ayala reiterated Ms. Cook's comments and continued that Mr. Higgins has been a breath of fresh air to the Board and brought a younger perspective of what a student goes through every day. Mr. Higgins encouraged the Board to understand his perspective and that they always work towards making sure our students can and will be successful.

- C. Teachers Union – no report
- D. Support Staff Union – no report
- E. Maintenance Union – no report
- F. Board Reports – no reports

## 12. CLOSED SESSION

Enter into Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2, to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, dismissal or evaluation of personnel, contract negotiations, possible or imminent litigation, resident delegate concern, student disciplinary issues, and held recommendations with any required action taken in open session.

Time: 8:01 p.m.  
Motion: G. Ayala  
Second: A. Creger  
Aye: A. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

**13. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Time: 9:04 p.m.  
Motion: L. O'Dowd  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

**14. NEW BUSINESS**

There were no motions brought up after Closed Session.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Time: 9:04 p.m.  
Motion: J. Higgins  
Second: M. Cook  
Aye: A. Creger, J. Higgins, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook  
Nay: None  
Vote: 6-0

Signed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.

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President

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Secretary