

**REAVIS HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 220
6034 WEST 77TH STREET, BURBANK, ILLINOIS 60459
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

PUBLIC HEARING

TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.

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PUBLIC TESTIMONY

1. OPEN MEETING, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

Time: 6:09 p.m.

The following Board Members were physically present at the meeting:

Mr. Ted Arnold
Mr. Gerardo Ayala
Mr. James Brodinski
Ms. Mary Ann Cook, President
Ms. Andrea Creger, Secretary
Mr. Russell McKinley, Vice President
Ms. Linda O'Dowd

Also Present: Dr. Daniel J. Riordan, Superintendent
Mr. Eric Novak, Chief School Business Official
Ms. Julie Schultz, Principal

Ms. Patricia Saunders, Burbank Resident

2. CONVENE PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Cook opened the Public Hearing to receive comments or questions on the proposal to renew previously approved ISBE Waiver of School Code and Board of Education Policy 7:60 Residence, allowing children of full time non-resident staff members to attend Reavis High School District 220 on a tuition basis.

Dr. Riordan stated that this policy has been very successful. When this waiver and policy change was originally brought up back in 2014, there were questions and concerns as to how the community and faculty would feel about allowing children of staff members to enroll here at Reavis. However, the feedback has been very positive. He stated that kids are kids and overall, they are very accepting. Dr. Riordan's son has been enrolled here since his freshman year and this August he returns as a senior. He has had a wonderful experience, loves this school and has made lifelong friends. This past May, the son of one of our teachers graduated. He enrolled the

middle of his junior year, was accepted by his peers, played volleyball and also had a great experience. In the 2018-2019 school year, five children of full-time staff will be Reavis Rams. He did state that there are no guarantees and there might be concerns in the future. However, any issues would be addressed when necessary. Dr. Riordan wants no special benefits for his children and wants them to be treated like any other Reavis student. If they get in trouble, they will suffer the consequences. If they excel, they deserve to be rewarded like any other student. He believes this is a mutual feeling among the faculty and the parents.

Ms. Cook commended and thanked our teachers for the professionalism shown in treating all our students the same and is proud that everyone is working together for the good of all.

Burbank resident and Reavis Support Staff member, Trish Saunders, commented that she thought this policy was fantastic and hopes the renewal is granted.

Dr. Riordan continued that the following letter was received from Jeff and Amy Smith. Mr. Smith is a PE teacher here at Reavis and their son, Matthew, entered Reavis last year as a freshman and this upcoming school year, their daughter, Corrin, will become a Reavis Ram.

Dear Reavis High School Board of Education,

As we reflect on the past school year, and prepare for the beginning of the upcoming school year, we come back to the saying, "Once a Ram, Always a Ram." My husband and I are both graduates of Reavis High School, and my husband has been a full-time teacher and coach at Reavis High School for many years. We truly are a Reavis family.

From the time our oldest child, Matthew, was a toddler and watching his dad coach Reavis athletes, he always knew he wanted to be a Ram when he went to high school. Fortunately, this dream was made a reality for him, as he just completed his freshman year and looks forward to his sophomore year at Reavis.

Seeing Reavis High School through the eyes of our child as his Ram parents has been a priceless gift that has filled us with so much Ram Pride, as well as indescribable gratitude for the opportunity allowing our child to experience life as a Reavis Ram. When Matthew officially became a Reavis Ram last August, he took advantage of all of the opportunities that Reavis has to offer in both academics and sports, and he transformed right before our eyes over the course of the school year. He has shown such growth not only academically and athletically, but as a human being. His work ethic and organizational skills, as well as social skills have exceeded our expectations as our son has learned to independently manage his time in order to achieve success. We credit Matthew's growth as a person to the friendly, committed, caring, supportive and knowledgeable administrators, faculty, coaches and staff at Reavis. The opportunities for all students in academics, athletics, and activities are without a doubt the best around. Furthermore, the facilities and grounds at Reavis High School are the best maintained, and our whole family takes great pride in being Reavis Rams.

Our daughter Corrin recently graduated from 8th grade, and she has chosen to also attend Reavis and wear Blue and White this fall. Prior to her 8th grade year, she thought she might follow her grade-school friends onto high school and become a Bulldog or a Mighty Mac. However, after seeing the happiness, pride, and success of her brother through his academics and athletics and being involved in the excitement of Reavis High School as a sibling, Corrin knew in her heart that she also belonged at Reavis High School as a Reavis Ram. She has been participating in running camp all summer, and already feels great Ram Pride as a Reavis student-athlete. She cannot imagine wearing anything other than "Blue and White" because she truly is a Reavis Ram.

As parents we could not be more proud of our children's decision to wear Blue and White because we know the saying is true. "Once a Ram, Always a Ram." We are grateful to the Board of Education for allowing our children the opportunity to follow in our family's footsteps and grow

in their education as Reavis Rams. We know Reavis High School is the best place for our children to bridge the gap between childhood and adulthood, and we look forward to seeing continued growth in our children as they prepare for their futures at Reavis. Go Rams!

Sincerely,
Amy and Jeff Smith
Class of 1993 and Class of 1992

No other written comments or questions have been received.

Therefore, Dr. Riordan's recommendation is to move forward with the application for Renewal of Previously Approved Waiver.

Dr. Riordan stated that, per the ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education) guidelines, notice of this Public Hearing was posted on our website and in our local newspaper. Our local and State representatives and teacher union representatives were notified as well. During the regular Board of Education Meeting taking place later this evening, the Board will consider taking action to proceed with the Renewal of Waiver application. If the Board approves that we move forward, the completed application will be sent to the State for consideration. We are hopeful the application will be approved and this Waiver will be in effect through the 2023-2024 school year.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Time: 6:18 p.m.
Motion: A. Creger
Second: M. Cook
Aye: G. Ayala, J. Brodinski, M. Cook, A. Creger, R. McKinley, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold
Nay: None
Vote: 7-0

Signed and approved this 21st day of August, 2018.

President

Secretary