

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

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 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  
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  
Administrators  
Students and Community Members

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Public Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2017.

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

B. Closed Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 22, 2017.

Motion: A. Creger  
Second: L. O'Dowd  
Aye: J. Brodinski, M. Cook, A. Creger, R. McKinley, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Abstain: G. Ayala  
Vote: 6-0-1

### **3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Dr. James Gunnell, Executive Director of A.E.R.O., thanked the Reavis School Board and administration for their support in finding A.E.R.O. an extra classroom one week before the school year started. Dr. Gunnell spoke that Reavis has always been a very welcoming and safe environment for the A.E.R.O. students. He thanked Mr. Tim Smith and his maintenance staff for making the classroom ready for their use. He also thanked Ms. Loretta Macaulay, Cafeteria Manager, as she made sure these new students received lunch. He presented a formal thank you letter, but also wanted to thank everyone in person. A.E.R.O. is very fortunate to be a part of the Reavis community.

Adriana Perez, student, brought treats to the Board members and spoke on behalf of the culinary crew. She thanked the School Board for allowing them to attend Disney World last May. Mr. Bob Morack, Division Chair, PE & CTE, continued that several students competed in the Culinary Improv last May and had an amazing experience. This is an annual competition and the FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) Club is discussing the possibility of attending again in the future as everyone felt it was a very worthwhile trip.

### **4. COMMUNITY USE OF FACILITIES**

- Approve request by *Little Rams Wrestling Program* to use the Main Gym, Wrestling Gym, Multi-Purpose Room, and Cafeteria for the purpose of their *Little Rams Rumble Wrestling Tournament* on Sunday, January 28, 2018 from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Motion: R. McKinley

Second: T. Arnold

Aye: M. Cook, A. Creger, R. McKinley, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, J. Brodinski

Nay: None

Vote: 7-0

### **5. FISCAL MANAGEMENT**

- A. Approve *Resolution* authorizing a partial repayment of an interfund loan as permitted under the Illinois School Code, pursuant to Section 10-22.33.

Motion: G. Ayala

Second: J. Brodinski

Mr. Negrete, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance, reminded the Board that it authorized an interfund loan in the amount of \$600,000. to be made to the Operations and Maintenance Fund from the Transportation Fund at the June 21, 2016 Board of Education meeting. Per school code, this loan must be repaid within three years. A \$200,000. repayment was made in September of 2016 and tonight he is asking for consideration to make another partial repayment of \$200,000.

Aye: A. Creger, R. McKinley, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, J. Brodinski, M. Cook

Nay: None

Vote: 7-0

B. Financial Statements dated August 31, 2017.

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

C. Payment of Bills for September, 2017.

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

**6. EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL**

- Approve request by Ms. Erika Banick, Mr. Tom Witting and ten (10) faculty members to attend the *Solution-Tree Workshop: PLC (Professional Learning Community) at Work Workshop* in San Antonio, Texas from November 8-10, 2017.

Motion: M. Cook  
Second: G. Ayala

Dr. Riordan noted that the money spent on this travel is grant money specifically earmarked for professional development. Dr. McCurdy continued that during the 2016-2017 school year, they investigated the Solution Tree plan for developing professional learning communities. We have an existing Road to Mastery program that provides a foundation for this PLC work, but the next step was to design a plan to train staff to lead these academic team groups on Late Start Wednesdays. During the summer of 2017, four team members were sent to a conference in Minnesota. Feedback from administrator and teacher participants was positive. The administrative team has set a goal of having twenty percent of our staff trained in this program by the end of the 2017-2018 school year. Title I and Title II funds will fund the training.

Dr. Riordan continued by acknowledging that this shows a trust between the Board, administration and teaching staff to allow ten teachers to attend an out-of-state national conference and count on them to attend meaningful sessions and then bring back useful information to present to their colleagues for the improvement of instruction. Dr. Riordan believes this is a win-win situation to help our students grow and succeed. This particular conference will be cross curricular and Dr. McCurdy will provide the names of the teachers attending when complete.

Aye: T. Arnold, G. Ayala, J. Brodinski, M. Cook, A. Creger, R. McKinley, L. O'Dowd  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

## 7. PERSONNEL

- A. Approve the hire of Mr. Eric Novak, Chief School Business Official, effective January 1, 2018.

Motion: R. McKinley  
Second: G. Ayala

Dr. Riordan reminded the Board that Mr. Negrete and Mr. Smith are retiring at the end of this school year; therefore, a new administrative plan must be put into place. Mr. Novak will start January 1<sup>st</sup> and will work alongside Mr. Negrete for the Second Semester so that he is ready to take over on July 1, 2018. Dr. Riordan also stated that even though Mr. Novak will begin training and working as the Chief School Business Official effective January 1, 2018, this new contract signed tonight won't take effect until July 1, 2018.

Aye: G. Ayala, J. Brodinski, M. Cook, A. Creger, R. McKinley, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

- B. Approve leave of absence according to the provisions of the *Family Medical Leave Act* for Ms. Megan Prendergast, Title I Counselor, beginning on or around September 25, 2017 with an anticipated return the beginning of Second Semester, January 8, 2018.
- C. Approve leave of absence according to the provisions of the *Family Medical Leave Act* for Ms. Krystin Rockett, Teacher, beginning on or around November 17, 2017 with an anticipated return on or around March 6, 2018.
- D. Approve leave of absence according to the provisions of the *Family Medical Leave Act* for Ms. Teresa Zoltek Kwak, Teacher, beginning on December 14, 2017 with a return at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year.
- E. Approve leave of absence according to the provisions of the *Family Medical Leave Act* for Ms. Katie O'Malley, Support Staff, beginning on September 20, 2017 with an anticipated return on or around November 1, 2017.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve *Items B through E* under *Personnel* with one motion:

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

- F. Approve the hire of Ms. Kimberly Sullivan, Hall Monitor, effective for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion: R. McKinley  
Second: M. Cook

Aye: M. Cook, A. Creger, R. McKinley, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, J. Brodinski  
Nay: None  
Vote: 7-0

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

There was no *Old Business* at this meeting.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve *Data Sharing Agreement* between Moraine Valley Community College and Reavis High School District 220.

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

- B. Approve *Resolution* commemorating Moraine Valley Community College on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

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

## 10. CATEGORICAL REPORTS

- A. Student Reports – no reports

- B. Administration

Mr. Raymond Negrete reported that the annual Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Compensation Report will be posted on our webpage as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. He continued that the State finally approved a budget but the historic new evidence-based funding model has yet to be implemented and, therefore, money has not been dispersed as of now. Mr. Negrete, Mr. Novak and Dr. Riordan are attending a workshop on October 11<sup>th</sup> where four of the key individuals who put the model together, will explain the new system. On the surface, it appears that the District's allotment should remain steady with the possibility of some additional monies and Mr. Negrete is hopeful funding will start to be released by late October. Lastly, Mr. Negrete stated that he will hold a Board *Finance Committee* meeting in early October in anticipation of proposing the 2017 tax levy at the October Board meeting with approval at the December meeting.

Mr. Tim Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities & Operations, reported that he continues to work with Mr. Bruce Radowicz and Dr. Riordan, along with the administrative team, on our Crisis Management or Emergency Operations Plan. Upcoming State mandated drills include: a fire drill on September 29<sup>th</sup>, coordinated with Chief Gilgenberg and the Burbank Fire Department; the annual Active Shooter Drill on October 11<sup>th</sup>, coordinated with Chief Shore and the Burbank Police Department; and a bus evacuation drill in late Fall. Mr. Smith continued that the Auditorium wall repair project is moving along well and we are very satisfied with the work of *Oosterbaan and Sons*. The Drama Club lock-in takes place this Friday and Saturday and Mr. Smith is working with Mr. Witting and Mr. Anastasopoulos to make this weekend successful and fun for our students. Lastly, Mr. Smith reported that the Varsity Club, under the direction of Mr. Craig Hickey, elected to undertake a hurricane donation project. With the assistance of our Support Staff Union, Mr. Morack, other faculty and staff, and donations from Mr. and Mrs. Grover of *Stars and Stripes*, over three pallets, with 25 boxes of clothing per pallet, will be sent to Houston by the end of this week.

Dr. Heather McCurdy, Director of Curriculum, offered congratulations to Ms. Krystyna Nasinska, ELL Coordinator, who was selected to be on the *ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education)* team that determines the State benchmarks from the SAT testing that took place in April 2017. She will be working on the math assessment team, representing Reavis and our students in this process. Ms. Nasinska will do a great job and everyone here at Reavis is very proud of her.

Ms. Julie Schultz, Director of Student Services, reported that Reavis will be applying to the *Illinois State Board of Education* to deliver Seals of Biliteracy and Commendations of Biliteracy to graduating students that meet the State criteria. This is a new opportunity for students that highlights the gifts of those students who have grown up in a home speaking another language or to honor those students who have worked hard to achieve intermediate or better skills in at least two languages in the academic setting. Students must meet the standard in both English and the other language to be eligible for the seal or commendation to be included on their diploma. In this pilot year, seals and commendations will be offered for students meeting the standard of English-Spanish and English-Polish as structures are currently in place for facilitating the assessments required to achieve it. Ms. Schultz stated that we will continue to look at ways to meet the assessment needs of students who speak other languages as well.

Mr. Don Erickson, Director of Information and Educational Technology, provided an update on Schoology and reported that teachers have now received initial training in multiple Late Start and RAM period sessions. The goal for the First Semester is for all teachers to develop some presence in Schoology in their classroom by uploading material and by either using the assessment feature or by creating an assignment within the platform and sharing it with their students. He next reported that there is an issue with the new teacher laptops. An estimated thirty to forty devices have experienced one or more of the following issues: a blackened screen when the computer is turned on, a flickering screen when using the touch feature, and/or the DVD player freezing up. After several discussions with both *PCM* and *HP* and several trouble-shooting hours logged by our techs, the IT Department recommends that all of the 130 devices be returned and replaced with a new model, or possibly even a different brand.

Mr. Mike LaMantia, Division Chair, Math and Science, reported that on Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, all staff and students assembled on the football field to view the solar eclipse. Although the weather conditions weren't ideal, there were a few breaks in the clouds that allowed for some good views through the solar eclipse glasses. The event was a great way to illustrate the relevance of Math and Science both globally and locally. Fifteen students worked with

Mr. Brian Hurley to collect data regarding temperature, pressure, and other atmospheric changes. This data was shared with NASA as part of their global citizen project. Mr. LaMantia thanked the teachers in Math, Science, Social Studies, and Art for connecting their curriculum to the event. He also thanked Dr. Riordan, Mr. Witting, and Mr. Smith for going above and beyond to make this event happen. Mr. LaMantia continued that the number of students taking advantage of Science dual credit opportunities has more than doubled this semester. Last year, there were about twenty students registered for dual credit First Semester. This semester, we have nineteen students registered for dual credit in AP Biology for a total of 76 possible credits and twenty-four additional students registered for dual credit in Medical Terminology for a total of 72 possible credits. This translates into a potential 148 college credits earned. On a similar note, the Statistics classes are starting the second year of utilizing a program called EdReady to prepare for the Accuplacer exam, which is MVCC's entrance exam. Students will take a pre-test this week and an individualized plan of study will be developed based on the results of the test. Statistics teachers will work with students in class to prepare them for the Accuplacer. Students who meet benchmarks in EdReady will have the option to take the Accuplacer at Moraine on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Based on last year's data, the goal is to reduce by fifteen percent the amount of students who place into MTH-090, which is the lowest level noncredit math class, and increase the number of students who place into college credit math classes.

Mr. Bob Morack, Division Chair, PE & CTE, spoke about the *Young Hearts for Life* cardiac screening day held last Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. He thanked the three members of the Board who volunteered, members of the community, and staff of Reavis, who volunteered to help with the screenings. He also thanked Dr. Riordan for allowing the program to be held here every other year and the Maintenance staff for setting everything up. Mr. Morack reported that 1281 students were screened. Nine students were referred for further testing based on an abnormal EKG, which proves how valuable this program is. Unfortunately, our community lost a student back in 2009, Robert Regalado, a perfectly healthy kid one day and the next day you hear that he passed away. His family has become a big advocate of these screenings and they also thanked everyone for their support. Lastly, Mr. Morack thanked Ms. Maureen Hernandez, his administrative assistant, who spearheaded this entire event. She worked with the *Young Hearts* organization, our teachers, volunteers and did whatever was necessary to make sure this was successful. She was absolutely super and it was a great day!

Mr. Eric Novak, Athletic Director, thanked the Board and Dr. Riordan for their trust and confidence in approving him for his new position. He is excited for this opportunity and new challenge. He stated that Mr. Negrete has been a great mentor and he looks forward to working alongside him. Mr. Novak continued that he will provide a detailed athletic report next month as October starts post-season play. He further reported that our Boys' Varsity Soccer Team, under Coach Morack, heads to Burlington, Iowa next Thursday for their annual trip. Nine or ten states will be represented at this *Goal 4 the Goal Classic* tournament. Mr. Novak ended by noting that the *IHSA* has asked Reavis to host Girls' Volleyball Regionals and Boys' Soccer Sectionals the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Dr. Riordan thanked Dr. Gunnell for attending tonight's meeting and stated that for over two years now, Dr. Gunnell has led a team to design a strategic long-range plan to find a home, building, or piece of land where all A.E.R.O. students could be served under one roof. Now, with the closing of Queen of Peace High School, there has been discussion among the two Boards that serve A.E.R.O.: the Executive Board, made up of the superintendents of the schools served by the Cooperative; and the Governing Board, made up of one school board member from each of the school districts, to consider purchasing this property. Currently there are A.E.R.O. students in numerous buildings and classrooms throughout the Coop area.

Dr. Riordan remarked that good conversations have taken place among the Boards, in particular as to how the Cooperative would finance the purchase and updating of the building necessary to serve these students. Queen of Peace will officially close their doors on September 30, 2017.

#### C. Teachers Union

Humanities teachers, Mr. Andrew Terleckyj and Ms. Kelly Klein, spoke on Columbus Day. Mr. Terleckyj thanked the Board for listening to them and reminded them that he spoke about this subject last year as well. He is asking the Board to consider changing the name of the Columbus Day Holiday to Indigenous Peoples Day. He provided Board members with a Columbus Day survey as well as some fact-checked statements. He asked the Board members to look over their report and/or read a book by missionary Bartolome de las Casas, *An Account, Much Abbreviated, Of The Destruction Of The Indies, With Related Texts*. He noted that Los Angeles changed the name of the holiday this year. Others who have adopted this change include Minneapolis, Evanston, Oak Park, the Niles school district, as well as the states of Hawaii, Alaska and Oregon. Ms. Klein continued that she teaches the History side of American Studies and History teaches compassion and good citizenship. When her instruction turns to Christopher Columbus, her students transform into passionate young adults. They start to ask questions about humanity and sympathize with oppressed people, past and present. The students begin to feel motivated to make change in their real world and they take on the role of active citizens. Ms. Klein continued that these students wish to exercise their rights and petition the Board to change the name of this holiday. Some are even willing to go as far as assembly and will choose to come to school on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. She understands that change is unsettling and hard but she asked that we look at the students walking our halls in 2017. She next addressed the survey, which reflected that 73.2% of the 82 American Studies students questioned, believe this issue is important to them, with 25.6% not having an opinion one way or another. She ended by asking that the name of this holiday be changed to Indigenous Peoples Day, which is the trending name, or even Native American Day.

Dr. Riordan thanked Mr. Terleckyj, Ms. Klein and students for attending the meeting and noted that, ultimately, this is a Board decision. He promised that further discussion will take place.

#### D. Support Staff Union – no report

#### E. Maintenance Union – no report

#### F. Board Reports

Dr. McCurdy stated that the Minutes of the Board *Curriculum Committee* meeting were provided to all members. The professional development plan and Seals of Biliteracy and Commendations initiative have already been reported on. The last piece of the meeting addressed the 2017-2018 Assessment Plan, highlighting key dates and timelines and noting that the Spring Testing Day is important for analyzing student growth data.

- Reminder on Freshman Placement—No Placement Exam
- Fall Testing Day: October 11, 2017
- SAT Prep: HR and Khan Academy Informed by Spring Testing

- Spring Testing Day: April 10, 2018
- Homeroom Review through Khan Academy linked to Practice SAT

**11. 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: 8:14 p.m.  
 Motion: T. Arnold  
 Second: G. Ayala  
 Aye: L. O’Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, J. Brodinski, M. Cook, A. Creger, R. McKinley  
 Nay: None  
 Vote: 7-0

**12. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Time: 9:24 p.m.  
 Motion: M. Cook  
 Second: R. McKinley  
 Aye: T. Arnold, G. Ayala, J. Brodinski, M. Cook, A. Creger, R. McKinley, L. O’Dowd  
 Nay: None  
 Vote: 7-0

**13. NEW BUSINESS**

There were no motions brought up after Closed Session.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Time: 9:24 p.m.  
 Motion: M. Cook  
 Second: T. Arnold  
 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2017.

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 President

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 Secretary