

**REAVIS HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 220
6034 WEST 77TH STREET, BURBANK, ILLINOIS 60459
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M.
REAVIS LIBRARY**

MINUTES

1. OPEN MEETING, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

Time: 7:02 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
Mr. Russell McKinley, Secretary
Ms. Linda O'Dowd

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2016.

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

B. Closed Session Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 18, 2016.

Motion: R. McKinley
Second: L. O'Dowd

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

3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no *Audience Participation* at this meeting.

4. COMMUNITY USE OF FACILITIES

- A. Approve request by *Burbank Bulldogs FC Soccer* program to use the North Gym for the purpose of soccer practices on Tuesdays and Fridays from November 29, 2016 to February 24, 2017, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

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

- B. Approve request by *Inter/FC Soccer Club* to use the North Gym for the purpose of indoor soccer skill drills on Tuesdays from November 29, 2016 to February 21, 2017, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

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

5. FISCAL MANAGEMENT

- A. Financial Statements dated October 31, 2016.

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

- B. Payment of Bills for November, 2016.

Motion: A. Creger
Second: L. O'Dowd

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

- C. Approve audit of the Financial Statements for the period ending June 30, 2016 as presented by *Cilella and Associates, Inc., Certified Public Accountants*.

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

- D. Approve audit of the Student Activity Fund for the period ending June 30, 2016 as presented by *Cilella and Associates, Inc., Certified Public Accountants*.

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

- E. Approve request to develop specifications and solicit bids for the hydraulic modernization of the Reavis High School elevators.

Motion: G. Ayala
Second: L. O'Dowd

Mr. Tim Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities & Operations, advised that this would be a summer project and would take approximately twenty weeks to complete.

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

- F. Approve Addendum to the Bond & Interest Fund, due to a *Wells Fargo* invoice that just came in today. This payment is due by December 1, 2016 and, therefore, must be voted on at tonight's meeting.

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

6. EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

- Approve request by Mr. Robert Morack to attend the *NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America) Conference* in Los Angeles, California, from January 11-15, 2017.

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

7. PERSONNEL

- A. Approve leave of absence according to the provisions of the *Family Medical Leave Act* for Ms. Katie Conley, Teacher, from approximately December 8, 2016 until February 3, 2017.

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

- B. Approve a flex time leave of absence according to the provisions of the *Family Medical Leave Act* for Ms. Helen Tabor, Support Staff, beginning immediately.

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

- C. Approve the hire of Ms. Vickie Sarich, Hall Monitor, effective immediately.

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

- D. Approve the following volunteer coach, effective for the 2016-2017 school year:
Mr. Steve Wellwerts Boys' Basketball

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

8. OLD BUSINESS

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

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve first reading of updated and new School Board Policies, as presented.

Motion: R. McKinley
Second: L. O'Dowd

Dr. Riordan noted that a *School Policy Board Committee* meeting was held on Monday, November 7th where suggested updated board policies were reviewed. Suggestions are received from *PRESS (Policy Reference Education Subscription Service)*, a division of *IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards)*. Dr. Riordan continued that policy 2:125 must be updated by January 1, 2017. This update pertains to implementing the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act, which sets limits on what a Board will/can approve when attending a workshop or conference, whether in state or out of state. These policies will be open for review until the December 13, 2016 Board Meeting.

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

B. Approve 2017-2018 Curriculum Guide, as presented.

Motion: G. Ayala
Second: M. Cook

Dr. Riordan reported that the *Curriculum Board Committee* also met on November 7th to discuss annual updates, edits, tweaks and course changes to the Curriculum Guide. Once approved, the Guide will go to print as we prepare for student course selections for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

C. Approve request by Reavis Baseball Team to travel to Fort Lauderdale, Florida from Sunday, April 9 to Friday, April 14, 2017.

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

10. CATEGORICAL REPORTS

A. Student Reports

Ms. Jooste, Art Teacher, thanked the School Board and Administration for allowing her Advanced 3-D students to present their concepts for sculptures that they are hoping will be installed on the grounds of Reavis High School. Per the approval of Dr. Riordan and Mr. Witting, the land between the auto garage and north gym, in front of the Deans' offices, has been slated to become a Sculpture Garden. The six students presenting were charged with the task of creating several sculptural designs. Two concepts were chosen to be shared this evening. These students have been working collaboratively and have been completely spearheading this project. Students Reem Suleiman, Dominic Bartolini and Anthoanette Ponce deLeon presented *Diversity*, "the sculpture that represents us all", and is based on the sculptures of Henry Moore. Students stated that "in Reavis High School, there are many students and staff of various shapes, sizes, colors, ethnicities and cultures. No matter how similar or different we are, we as a whole make up the community of Burbank. And that is what our Sculpture is representing: our differences that make us a whole." Students Ryan Kwitkowski, Anna Bukowska and Amira Ali next presented their kinetic stacked sculpture. Their inspiration was kinetic art, a form of art that depends on movement for its effect. They are 3-dimensional sculptures or figures that move naturally or are machine operated. "How does this connect to Reavis? We believe High School is full of many *twists and turns* but in the end, with hard work and dedication, the same kind of skills used to create this piece, you're ready to stack a new chapter onto your life". Ms. Jooste ended by stating she hopes this will be an annual project for our students and that the Garden continues to grow.

Mr. Andrew Terleckyj, English and American Studies (a combination of American Literature and American History) Teacher, also thanked the School Board and Administration for accommodating the Columbus Day boycott on Monday, October 10th. He noted that in American Studies they start the school year by talking about how to study history or how to study *any* information presented to them and ask them to become critical thinkers. The students are encouraged to question things with a healthy skepticism. Since this is an American History/Literature class, they start with the origin story or the "supposed" origin story of our country, which is often told about Columbus sailing the ocean blue in 1492. When the historical facts of that time period are presented and what the Spanish conquest of the Americas entailed, he is often met with horror and disgust by the students. He likes to ask hypothetical questions in the classroom and for years, has asked his students how horrified are they? Should we be celebrating this day? What if you took a stand and did not celebrate it and actually came to school on that day? So, this year, he sent out a google form, pulled a survey and found out that many students were serious. Student Donna Booe next spoke to the Board. She stated that when they started their Columbus unit, she couldn't believe what she was learning and that we celebrate this individual. She spoke that Mr. Terleckyj inspires her every day, but in this unit in particular, he was very committed to this history, which made her committed to it. She had never stood up for something so big before and she started talking her friends into coming to school on Columbus Day. She said it was interesting to come to school on a day off, very cool, and the news media even became involved. She continued that part of the day was spent learning even more about this story and writing letters to the Cook County Board of Commissioners. She hopes they read them and understood where they were coming from.

Dr. Riordan also commended Donna for speaking on this subject as well as Mr. Terleckyj, who challenges our students on a daily basis. When this protest was first proposed, Dr. Riordan had many questions. However, after meeting with Ms. Banick and Mr. Terleckyj, and hearing that students were going to come to school on a day off and challenge the status

quo, he was supportive of this concept. We want our students to ask tough questions, investigate, and always be open to hearing the other side of the story. He believes this was a great experience for our students.

Mr. Terleckyj agreed that it is important to let students know that they can and should cultivate their voice, but there needs to be a purpose to a boycott or a protest. He stated that many states have already replaced Columbus Day with Indigenous People's Day and many others are also considering it. He asked, on behalf of the students, that some sort of change be considered for next year's school calendar. Mr. Terleckyj ended by also thanking and acknowledging Mr. Joe Illichman, fellow faculty member here at Reavis, who supported the boycott and invited his Math students to join in the day.

B. Administration

Mr. Negrete, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance, reminded the Board that the tentative levy was passed at the October 18, 2016 meeting. He is still refining the numbers based on information he has received on area TIFs (tax increment financing) closing as we want to make sure we set ourselves up to capture as much tax revenue as possible. Final figures will be presented and proposed for approval at the December 13, 2016 Board meeting.

Mr. Tim Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities & Operations, welcomed Ms. Ana Moyer, *SPM Architects*, and reported that *SPM* has put together a detailed report about potential summer 2017 projects. Mr. Smith will present specifics to the Board after the next *Building and Grounds Board Committee* meeting. Mr. Smith continued that per *ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education)* mandates, numerous school safety drills take place every school year. In that vein, an Active Shooter Drill was held the morning of a Late Start Wednesday, November 2nd. Mr. Bruce Radowicz, our Security Coordinator, worked with the Burbank Police Department, and together they put together a great drill. Mr. Smith is proud of our staff for taking this drill seriously and who, post drill, asked a lot of great questions through their staff evaluation report. He also noted that, at this time, 125 people in our building have downloaded and activated their cell phones to our mobile CrisisManager app. We are always looking to expand and make this a better program, but overall, he is pleased with where we are at.

Dr. Heather McCurdy, Director of Curriculum, proudly reported that numerous activities took place recently to make sure the election process is a part of what we do. As an example, forty-one students participated in training and then served as election judges on election day. We again took students off campus to cast their ballots. Lastly, 112 students signed in for Debate Watch on October 19th, where our students watched one of the presidential debates. They also had the opportunity to listen to 2006 alum and District 220 School Board member Mr. J.R. Higgins share his experiences of running for public office at age 20. Our goal? Civic engagement among our youth!! Continuing, Dr. McCurdy noted that over 1000 people voted in our Mock Election; the results of which now afford our government teachers the opportunity to discuss the Electoral College and the interactive maps, among other conversations. Next, Dr. McCurdy reported that Reavis will be participating in the 5Essentials Survey from November 16 through January 16, 2017. This Survey provides school districts with detailed data on school culture and climate by inquiring into five leading areas for school improvement. Lastly, Dr. McCurdy stated that on Wednesday, December 7th, our senior students will not be on campus, but rather will be encouraged to do some preparation towards career readiness (college visit day).

Dr. Riordan continued election discussion by noting that last Spring he visited classrooms to encourage students to vote in the presidential primary as well as for our local referendum. Local elections take place this Spring, and these elections are just as important as the presidential election. The Burbank community will have the opportunity to choose a new mayor for the first time in many years. Further, Board of Education elections will take place and many of our current board members will be running for reelection. This is important. We will continue to promote civic responsibility among our students.

Ms. Julie Schultz, Director of Student Services, reported that the registration mailer has already gone out to the Class of 2021! Two key points this year: families can make their appointments online for either the Saturday, January 21 or Thursday, January 26 dates. Second, families can begin bringing in residency documents now and, as a matter of fact, over twelve families have already pre-registered. She, as well as Dr. McCurdy, Ms. Banick, and Mr. LaMantia are currently working on course recommendations for the incoming freshmen, by utilizing their MAP or STAR scores as well as teacher recommendations when applicable. Ms. Schultz then reported that the Attendance Matters Competition continues as our freshmen continue to lead just slightly in front of our reigning champs, the Class of 2019. Overall the underclassmen continue to meet or exceed attendance goals in Responsible Ram fashion. Ms. Schultz will again meet with any frosh-sophomore student who accumulated four or more tardies in October. This was started last month with great success. Only two students were repeaters this month; most students showed remarkable improvement. She will be meeting with them during their respective homeroom period Thursday, November 17th in the second floor library. Students will create goals, and she will then follow-up with each of them at the end of the month.

Mr. Eric Novak, Athletic Director, reported that prior to tonight's Board Meeting, the first of our three annual Pride Pin Ceremonies took place where our Fall student/athletes were honored for their accomplishments. He continued that we are now fully transitioned into the Winter sports season and our participation numbers have been very positive. Boys' Swim starts Monday, the 21st; Girls' Basketball starts this weekend; Boys' Basketball hosts its annual Thanksgiving Tournament; Wrestling starts and Dance has a competition this Sunday.

Mr. Mike LaMantia, Division Chair, Math and Science, provided two updates on topics that he spoke of last month. Yesterday, he presented at the *Northern Illinois Science Educators Conference* in Naperville. The title of the presentation is "Beyond the Science Fair: Using STEM Mentors to Support Science and Engineering Practices." Attendees were very engaged throughout the presentation and had many questions about the structure of the project, the role of mentors and the impact that the project had on students. They walked away with resources to incorporate a similar project in their school. Three key topics that were discussed in the presentation were:

- The call of the new science standards to make science education more like how science is truly practiced requires a shift from a teacher-led/passive instruction to a student-driven/active approach;
- Using mentors in making the students' experiences authentic and meaningful;
- Creating the conditions where students simultaneously enjoy and are challenged with the experience.

Mr. LaMantia continued that the Physics field trip to *IIT* takes place next Monday. Students will meet with leaders in the field of finance, digital manufacturing, SMART grid technology, real-time communication, industrial ecology, and physics. Students will also work with instructors and students to develop their research skills as they prepare for their STEM Day projects in April. Their assignment for the field trip is to take videos or pictures of parts of their day that relate to the scientific and engineering practices and

produce a presentation that explains how the images relate to specific processes of science. He publically thanked Ms. Jodi Houlihan, Director of Community Affairs at *IIT*. She has helped him develop this experience and has gone above and beyond in opening *IIT*'s resources to our students. Mr. LaMantia is hopeful that this will be the next step in a very positive relationship between Reavis and *IIT*.

Mr. Bob Morack, Division Chair, PE & CTE, reported that over 200 units of blood have been donated to *LifeSource* thanks to our Reavis students and staff. Because of these blood drives, *LifeSource* always presents Reavis with a donation and we are grateful for their support. Mr. Morack thanked everyone who helped make this another successful blood drive and for saving lives through our donations. He continued that the Stickney Health Clinic will be on campus tomorrow to provide our students with an overview of their services and educate and bring awareness to our students on proper health and preventative care. These presentations will take place in the Auditorium during Physical Education classes. Mr. Morack continued that through our Rams Are Responsible initiative, twelve students and two teachers were recognized today for being Responsible Rams for the beginning of November. These students and teachers were nominated by their teachers and colleagues and we are very proud of their efforts. The winners received a t-shirt and took a picture that will appear on our website and social media. Mr. Morack invited everyone to check it out and encourage our students to keep doing great things!

Ms. Jooste reported on behalf of Ms. Erika Banick, Division Chair, Humanities, and Mr. Tom Witting, Activities Director and Division Chair, Fine Arts. Ms. Banick will go to Liberty Junior High on Tuesday, December 20th to give 8th graders who have taken two years of Spanish, a placement test. This will help her division decide which students are ready to start with Spanish II as freshmen and which should start at Spanish I. There have been fewer requests for level changes in Spanish since they began this placement test.

Ms. Jooste continued that the Class of 2017 Senior Breakfast will take place next Tuesday, November 22nd aboard the Odyssey Cruise Ship at Navy Pier. Tickets were sold for \$40.00 each and 339 students will be attending this event. While cruising, our Seniors will enjoy a breakfast buffet, dancing, announcing of the Who's Who winners and will vote for their Senior Prom theme. Next, she reported that the first Annual Reavis Fine Arts Expo will be held this Thursday. The event was designed for 250 Junior and Senior students enrolled in our Visual Arts or Music classes as well as Junior and Senior Thespians from the Drama Department. The day will begin with all participants in the Auditorium to hear keynote speaker, Reavis alum, Kenny Haas. The students will then attend four different sessions throughout the day, coming together midday for lunch and then at the end of the day for a closing session and evaluation. Twenty different sessions will be held with presenters consisting of Reavis alum and other professionals, all with expertise in areas of musical, visual or theatrical arts. The objective of the event is to expose students to various ways they can stay involved in the Arts after high school.

Dr. Riordan thanked Ms. Jooste, and noted that she does a great job as our Senior Class Sponsor, and is the person responsible for organizing the Senior Class Breakfast. Dr. Riordan next shared a case study from Georgetown University, called America's Divided Recovery. This case study is becoming more and more referenced throughout the nation as a study on the number of people who lost their jobs from 2008 to present. It states that if you have some sort of advanced degree after high school; i.e., associates, bachelor degree, or higher, you recovered from the recession much faster than if you only had a high school education or below. As an example, 11 million jobs were lost from 2008-2012. Of those jobs, only 80,000 were recovered for people with a high school education or below. However, if you had an advanced degree, not only did all the jobs come back, but 3 to 4

million additional jobs were added. Dr. Riordan has shared this with the Administrative Team and wants this discussion to continue. We all already know this, but as a reminder, a high school education must be the bare minimum. If you want to be a part of the economy, a good citizen contributing to society, you need to pursue some sort of education after high school.

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

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: 8:25 p.m.
Motion: G. Ayala
Second: J. Higgins
Aye: L. O’Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, R. McKinley
Nay: None
Vote: 7-0

12. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Time: 9:53 p.m.
Motion: A. Creger
Second: M. Cook
Aye: T. Arnold, G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, 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: 9:53 p.m.
Motion: L. O'Dowd
Second: A. Creger
Aye: G. Ayala, M. Cook, A. Creger, J. Higgins, R. McKinley, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold
Nay: None
Vote: 7-0

Signed and approved this 13th day of December, 2016.

President

Secretary