

THE JOSEPH SEARS SCHOOL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Education Committee of the Board of Education of Kenilworth School November 15, 2005

The Education Committee of the Board of Education of Kenilworth School District Number 38, Cook County, Illinois held a meeting on the 15th day of November, 2005, at 7:50 a.m., in the Superintendent's Office of The Joseph Sears School, 542 Abbotsford Road, Kenilworth, Illinois. Members present were: Susan Rohrman, Karen Hartman, Joe Seminetta, Tom Wiegand, Mike Conran, and Kelley Kalinich.

Approval of October 3, 2005, Minutes

Amended minutes of the October 3, 2005 were approved after the second sentence of the paragraph titled "Student Interactions (Bullying)" was changed to read:

Mrs. Rohrman reported that the standards and protocol regarding bullying situations could be considered as outlined in a presentation by John Dominguez, North Shore Academy Intervention Specialist.

Possible Board Letter Article – Administrative Forum and ISAT Test Scores (attached)

Education-related topics for the next Board newsletter were reviewed including an upcoming Administrative Forum and recent newspaper coverage of regional ISAT test scores that omitted Sears School because of its unusual categorization as a K-8 school.

Discipline and Ethics Committee Update

The October 21, 2005 Discipline and Ethics Meeting was reviewed and discussed. The Committee will meet on January 4, 2006. Proposed policy changes will be shared with the Education Committee after this meeting. Kelley Kalinich and Mike Conran agreed to work to develop opportunities for teachers to explore books on the topic of gender through book groups.

Science Olympiad

Kelley Kalinich noted that the Science Olympiad initiate would be publicized to junior high students by distributing a flyer and including an article in *Sears to Home*.

5th Grade Behavior Letter and Status

Mike Conran and Kelley Kalinich reviewed the current status of fifth grade behavior and the results of follow-up actions.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

A handout of Parent/Teacher Conference expectations was reviewed and Mike Conran recommended that report cards should be distributed to students by dismissal on the Monday of conferences with an Xpedite telephone call notification to parents.

Intermediate Grades (3-5) Report Card Review

The revised third grade report card was presented to the Committee. It was noted that fourth and fifth grade report cards must also be revised. The target for possible debut is the third trimester.

P.E. 4 Life Participation

The Committee reviewed the P.E. 4 Life physical education curriculum and discussed who should receive training. Joe Seminetta and Tom Wiegand both expressed interest in participating in the training.

7th and 8th Grade Trips Update

Mike Conran reported on recent extended trips taken by the seventh and eighth grades. He stated that a full report would be presented at the December 5, 2005 Board of Education meeting.

Early Childhood

Susan Rohrman and Karen Hartman reviewed the discussion from the November 14, 2005, Administrators' Forum. Susan Rohrman and Kelley Kalinich reviewed the Extended Kindergarten Day Committee meeting. Outstanding issues include parent concerns, cost, and planning an evening parent information session. The proposed 2006 – 2007 Junior Kindergarten enrollment letter was reviewed.

Referendum Issues

The Committee explored two issues related to the passage of a referendum. For identifying class size targets by department (K-2, 3-5, 6-8), comparison data will be collected from other New Trier Township elementary school districts. Similarly, data will also be gathered to address foreign language and its funding.

Classroom Materials Identification (Labeling Items, etc.)

The Committee recommended that there be communication to all grade levels regarding labeling classroom materials.

Gifted Education and Support

While discussing gifted education and support, the Committee identified that this should be part of the District's differentiation initiative, highlighting the need to develop the process to identify gifted students. Further, that comparison data from other New Trier Township elementary school districts should be procured for review.

Areas of Focus-Status Update

Progress on the 2005 – 2006 Areas of Focus was reviewed.

Student Services Review

Kelley Kalinich agreed to continue to follow-up on the progress of the Student Services Department Review.

Faculty Profiles

The best way to present faculty profiles was discussed. The Committee agreed that the data should be clustered as much as possible, that it should feature highlights and that a template to share with the committee and the KEA should be developed.

Sample IEP Process

Kelley Kalinich and Susan Rohrman reviewed the IEP process for the Committee.

Other

Math grouping was also discussed by the Committee and Kelley Kalinich noted a committee of teachers and parents would be established in January for review of school procedures.

Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Education Committee meeting would take place on Tuesday, January 10, 2006, at 7:45 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Kelley M. Kalinich
Secretary, Board of Education
Kenilworth School District No. 38