

# THE JOSEPH SEARS SCHOOL

## **Minutes of a Meeting of the Education Committee of the Board of Education of Kenilworth School**

The Education Committee of the Board of Education of Kenilworth School District Number 38, Cook County, Illinois held a meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2006, at 8:00 a.m., in the Superintendent's Office of The Joseph Sears School, 542 Abbotsford Road, Kenilworth, Illinois. Committee members present were: Susan Rohrman, Karen Hartman, Joe Seminetta (by telephone), Tom Wiegand, Karen Hartman (arrived at 8:27 a.m), Mike Conran, and Kelley Kalinich.

### **AGENDA**

#### Review of November 15, 2005, Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the November 15, 2005, Committee meeting were approved as presented.

#### Extended Day Kindergarten Program

The Committee reviewed survey information on extended day kindergarten programs offered by other New Trier Township elementary districts. They also reviewed progress toward determining possible extended day kindergarten program options and a draft parent survey that will be distributed to the parents of 2006 – 2007 kindergarteners and junior kindergarteners at a community meeting on Thursday, January 19, 2006. The Committee identified the following potential issues that should be addressed by the presentation: retention of teachers, the District's commitment to its junior kindergarten program, and access to the program for all interested families. It was agreed that the presentation should clearly address specific differences between the options of three, two, or five day-a-week extended programs.

#### Student Services Review

Kelley Kalinich reported that Karen Noonan has developed a request for proposals for the district's student services review and that two individuals are in the process of submitting proposals for evaluation by the Committee.

#### Community Survey Review

Preliminary results of the Fall 2005 Community Survey were reviewed.

#### ISAT Scores Review

The Committee agreed to take the following action to review Sears School ISAT scores. Consultant John Wick will be contracted to analyze weak patterns throughout the data and, especially in third grade. The data will be distributed to District teachers for their analysis and social worker Terri Chamberlin, and experts from Northern Suburban Special Education District will also serve as consultants to the Committee's ISAT score review.

#### Parent Visitation Day

Kelley Kalinich outlined plans for Parent Visitation Day.

### Ongoing Projects

Kelley Kalinich reviewed progress on the Social Science renewal initiative and the Science Olympiad. She noted that adult volunteer sponsors were needed for many topics covered by the competition. Committee members suggested additional sources of volunteers such as the Winnetka Volunteer Network, the JSSPVA, community members, and local universities.

### Review of School Consolidation in State Initiatives

A recent article published in the *Chicago Tribune* on a State of Illinois government initiative to consolidate small school districts to reduce administrative costs was reviewed along with accompanying statistics stating administrative costs as a percentage of the budget.

### Class Size

The Committee reviewed survey information from other New Trier elementary school districts about their class size policies. They noted that the policies resulted in class sizes that fall within projections for recommended ranges.

### Discipline and Ethics Committee Update

Kelley Kalinich reported on the work of the Discipline and Ethics Committee.

### Other

The Committee discussed science instruction in the junior high.

The topics of gifted education, math groupings/placement, and athletic team fees were postponed to the next meeting, which will be Monday, January 30, 2006, at 7:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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