

**Board of Education
Worth School District 127**

Dr. Rosemary Lucas Administrative Center, Conference Room
11218 South Ridgeland Avenue, Worth, Illinois 60482

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 10, 2008

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Danette Keeler called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

In the absence of Carol Kats, Secretary, Ed Palenik assumed the responsibilities of Secretary Pro-tem.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Danette Keeler, Drew Sernus, Carol Kats (arrived at 7:35 p.m.), Marty Flanagan, Jeanne Lahey, Ed Palenik, George Zeman

Administrators: Dr. Rita Wojtylewski, Ed O'Malley, Tracy Flood, Tim Hathorn, Joe Zampillo, Margaret McKenna

Others Present: Jane Kinkaid, WEA
Rose Hodson, WEA
Bob Moyer
Brenda Miller, Recording Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Keeler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC HEARING ON FY09 BUDGET

Ed Palenik moved that the Board of Education conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed budget for 2008-09 which has been on file in accordance with the requirements of the School Code of Illinois.

Drew Sernus seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

Ed O'Malley briefly summarized pages 2 and 3 of the budget. He noted that a page-by-page overview was presented to the Finance Committee on September 9th. He opened the floor for questions from Board members and audience members. In response to a question from George Zeman on the deficit in the Fire Prevention and Safety Fund, Ed O'Malley stated that monies will be transferred after all the bills are paid to correct the deficit.

Hearing no further questions from Board members or the audience, Jeanne Lahey moved that the Board of Education close the public hearing and return to regular session.

Marty Flanagan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

5. CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no remarks made.

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Staff and Student Recognition

Dr. Wojtylewski commented on the well-attended Open House activities at each of the schools. She congratulated the staff for the professional and welcoming manner in which they presented their schools. Dr. Wojtylewski and Mayor Guzdziol had the honor of participating in the investiture ceremony for 60 Worthwoods students serving on the Worthwoods Student Council, during the Worthwoods Open House.

B. Start of School, August 2008

Dr. Wojtylewski reported the first day of school change from a half-day student attendance day to a full student attendance day went smoothly. Many parents commented positively from a day care perspective. Teachers had varying responses, which will be assessed for determining next year's calendar. A major benefit was the balance between attendance days for kindergarten and pre-k students.

Commendations were also offered to the special education staff who have already had their first meeting of the year, and to the technology department for their efforts in ensuring a smooth start to the school year.

Dr. Wojtylewski noted that with the recalculation of the ISAT scores the district would not be required to submit a mandatory school improvement plan. However, the district will address areas of weakness and implement plans to help students who are struggling.

C. Acknowledgement of Donation

Dr. Wojtylewski acknowledged the donation of a full size organ to the music department of WJH by Mrs. Alice Flynn, a grandmother of one of our students. A letter will be sent on behalf of the Board of Education, thanking Mrs. Flynn for the donation.

D. Life/Safety Renovation Update

Ed O'Malley and Dr. Wojtylewski provided the Board with a summary report of the completion of work and punch list status for life/safety renovation work. Work that cannot be done during the school day will be scheduled for Columbus Day, when staff and students are not in attendance.

E. AYP 2008

As mentioned earlier, Dr. Wojtylewski noted that all schools in the district, including the district made AYP.

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance Committee

Drew Sernus had nothing additional to add to Ed O'Malley's report of the September 9th Finance Committee. He commended and thanked Ed O'Malley for his thorough presentation of the budget to the committee making sure they understood and felt comfortable with the budget as presented.

8. BOARD MOTIONS

A. Consent Agenda

Ed Palenik moved that the Board of Education approve the following consent agenda items:

1) <u>Accounts Payable</u>	September 10, 2008	\$497,581.28
2) <u>Payroll Summary</u>	Education Fund	\$448,598.12
	Building Fund	\$37,897.20
	FICA/IMRF/Medicare/TRS	\$34,641.91
3) <u>Employment of Certified Staff, effective 2008-2009 School Year</u>	Patrick Moroney, Physical Education Teacher, Worth Elementary, 0.3 FTE	
4) <u>Resignation, Classified Staff, effective end of 2007-2008 School Year</u>	Nancy Anderson, Part-time Custodian	
5) <u>Employment of Classified Staff, effective September 11, 2008</u>	Diana Vargas, Lunch Supervisor, WW	
6) <u>Call List of Substitute Teachers, Instructional Aides, Office and Lunch Supervisors</u>		

George Zeman seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

B. Approval of Minutes – Board Meetings

George Zeman moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the August 13, 2008, regular meeting.

Marty Flanagan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

C. Adoption of FY08 Budget

Drew Sernus moved that the Board of Education approve the 2008-09 budget as presented, according to the resolution (page 1 of ISBE Form 50-37) for Worth School District 127.

Marty Flanagan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

D. Approval of Recognition of Schools Applications

George Zeman moved that the Board of Education approve the Applications for Recognition of Schools as presented in Attachments F1-F4

Ed Palenik seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

E. Request for Enrollment of Students from District 130

Drew Sernus moved that the Board of Education approve a request to enroll students from Cook County School District 130 who are eligible to transfer under the Choice provisions of the NCLB Act.

Marty Flanagan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Nay, 1 Absent - Motion Denied

F. Acceptance of Donation

Marty Flanagan moved that the Board of Education accept a donation to the music department of a full size organ from Mrs. Alice Flynn.

Drew Sernus seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

G. Approval of PMA Contract

Ed Palenik moved that the Board of Education approve a contract with PMA for financial services as presented in Attachments H2-H6.

George Zeman seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

9. BOARD DISCUSSION

A. Parent/Student Calendar and Handbook

Board members commented favorably on the new format for the handbook. A few grammatical errors will be corrected. Dr. Wojtylewski thanked Brenda Miller for her work on the handbook.

B. Board Goals

President Keeler read and reviewed last year's goals prompting discussion on this year's goals. The Board of Education represents community interest for providing and maintaining the best education possible for our students. The Board of Education established the following goals to support the district's mission statement and provide guidance for the future.

GOAL #1: This year the Board will continue to endorse curriculum development and promote excellence in instruction.

GOAL #2: Last year the district achieved Financial Recognition status and the Board met its goal. However, in order to maintain this profile, the Board will continue focusing on the financial state of the district. The Board will focus on keeping the district's expenditures less than its revenues.

The Board's objective is to achieve and maintain instructional excellence by addressing curriculum development on an ongoing basis. Providing the best education for our children, while being fiscally responsible is of great significance to the Board and our community.

Members of the Board acknowledged the efforts of staff and students and congratulated them for the schools and district making AYP.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

Danette Keeler read a letter from Dr. McCord from District 123, thanking Dr. Wojtylewski for assisting District 123 in the development of a plan for filling administrative vacancies within District 123. Dr. McCord commended Dr. Wojtylewski's integrity, ideals, and willingness to assist others, which have made her a well-respected individual throughout the educational communities. The Board agreed.

Board members congratulated members of the band, cheerleaders, color guard, along with their sponsors for their great performance in the Worth Days Parade.

11. CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no remarks made.

12. CLOSED SESSION

George Zeman moved that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session at 7:04 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, and security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property.

Ed Palenik seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent - Motion Carried

13. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Ed Palenik moved that the Board of Education, upon completion of its discussions in closed session, reconvene in public session at 8:35 p.m.

Marty Flanagan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: All Aye - Motion Carried

14. ADJOURNMENT

George Zeman moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Ed Palenik seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: All Aye - Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted:

Ed Palenik
Secretary Pro-tem, Board of Education

Danette M. Keeler
President, Board of Education