

Finance Committee Meeting  
Thursday, July 6, 2017 | 4:00 PM  
Keil Building | Third Floor Conference Room

**Members Present:** Brian Hodges; Michael Dugan; Paul Fregeau; Todd Covault; Beth Nolan; and Bobbi Williams

**Others Present:** Beth Creighton; Laurie VanNatta; Dan Oakes; Kathy Horath; Suzanne Kreps; Kendall Briscoe; Rhonda Thornton; Kay Geskey; Jim Gortner; Paula Busboom; Courtney Carson; Bob Dolgan; and representatives from the New York Times

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. There was no public participation and the minutes from the June 6, 2017 meeting were approved by acclamation.

### **Future Meeting Dates and Times**

- Finance committee will convene on the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00 PM in the third floor conference room at the Keil Building

### **Prevailing Wages**

- Illinois law requires that all contracted laborers, workers, and mechanics employed by or on behalf of a school district, its contractors, or subcontractors to perform construction work (maintenance, repair, assembly, or disassembly) must be paid not less than the hourly wage generally prevailing for similar work in the area
- A school district is not required to pay employees prevailing wages
- Board annually approves a resolution that the prevailing hourly rate will be paid for the respective contracted workers
- Resolution will be taken to the Board on July 11, 2017 for consideration
- After the Board approves, the Business Office will file the resolution with Illinois Department of Labor

### **Teamster Contract**

- Four (4) year contract
  - Effective July 1, 2017
- Changes in recognition clause
  - Local 279 closed; now part of Local 916
- Probation changed from 30 to 90 days
  - Clarified without benefits
- Sick leave carryover clarified
- Director of Purchasing changed to Transportation Coordinator throughout the contract
- Holiday language clarified
- Eliminated language regarding pay for overtime on daily basis
- Updated work gear to align with other contracts
  - \$170 for new employee shoes
  - \$75 annually for shoe replacements
- Language added regarding implementation of TimeClock
- Contract significantly changed for future hires
  - Probation previously - \$20
    - New - \$18
  - Non-Probation previously - \$26.80
    - New - \$20

- Provides for wage increases for current employees of 2.25% for each of the four (4) years
- Align language with insurance negotiations committee
- Contract will be taken to the July 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting for consideration

### **Projects Update – Jim Gortner**

- Harris Air Conditioning – On Schedule
- Oak Grove Boiler Replacement – On Schedule
- Parsons Traffic Circulation and Parking – On Schedule
- Eisenhower Bleachers / Press Box – On Schedule
- Southeast Asbestos Abatement (boiler and tunnels)
  - Work begins July 10
  - Tunnels/boiler room
    - Will not impact inside of building
- Johns Hill Asbestos
  - Issue remains with IDPH
    - No ruling from IDPH
  - Environmental Consultant nudging IDPH
  - Plan for not having auditorium next school year
  - Blocking time at Eisenhower for Johns Hill Events
    - Graduation staging available in cafeteria for smaller events
- Hope and Dennis TV Monitors/Apple TV Devices
  - Ahead of schedule
- Durfee Cafeteria Tables
  - New tables arrive mid-July
  - Week or two to replace
- IP Camera Installation
  - Awaiting hardware
  - Cameras arriving within a week
  - Start project after wind down Apple TV
  - Implement at seven (7) or eight (8) elementary schools
- TimeClock Device Installation
  - Waiting on selection of location
  - Scheduling appointments with Administrators to find out where to hang devices
  - Rhonda Thornton to work with Danny Hainline, project point person
- Athletic Field Fencing
  - Not started on
  - Materials are on-site
- Stephen Decatur Middle School Athletic Lockers Boys
  - Small project
  - Materials not ordered
  - Phil Tapscott point person
- Pershing Kitchen Three Basin Sinks
  - Health Department dinged District for not properly serving food
  - Couple day project
- Dennis Playground Installation/Landscaping
  - Dennis PTO has finalized pieces, buying directly
  - Buildings and Grounds waiting on order
- Move Preparations
  - Adult Education
    - Moved out last week

- Student Services
  - Moved furniture and prepped spaces at Tech Academy
  - Reassembling Student Services furnishings
- Reading Recovery Room
  - Located at PDI (north conference room and office next to north conference room)
  - Under construction
- Mowing/Lining/Athletic Fields
  - On-going operational process
  - Summer Temp Workers
    - Extra sprucing up in landscaping areas
- Water Containing Lead
  - District is in process of interviewing licensed plumbers
  - Vacancy for one full time plumber
    - No licensed plumber on site
  - District is trying to attract temporary plumbers
    - Possibly offer higher wages
    - Requires maintenance union approval
  - Possibility of taking recommendation to the Board on July 11, 2016 for consideration
  - Covault and Gortner have had discussions with union

### **Updated Bond Proposal**

- A document was provided to the committee outlining original assumptions and updated assumptions
- Next steps
  - Continue planning for \$2 million working cash issuance this fall
  - Strategic Planning
    - Facility Prioritization
    - Develop long-range planning for facility improvements, including Johns Hill

### **Fair Funding for Schools Discussion**

- Bob Dolgan, Communications Director with Advance Illinois
- SB6, SB 9, SB42
  - All were approved during finance meeting by override veto
- Highlights of SB1
  - New law requires school funding to be an evidence-based formula
  - Each school district treated individually with an Adequacy Target based on the needs of its student body
  - New dollars go to the neediest districts first – those furthest from their adequacy target
  - Treats students in Chicago the same way it treats students in every other school district in the state by getting rid of Block grants and reconciling pension payments
  - No District loses money – no exceptions
- 85% of all dollars go to districts with greater than 50% low income
- Roughly 70% of all dollars go to Districts with lower than median property wealth
- Downstate Students receive about 34.5% of all new formula dollars for 34% of the students
- Chicago students receives about 20% of all new formula dollars for about 19% of all the students
- No property tax freeze under SB1
- Creates property tax relief fund for high tax districts to receive state grant funds to lower property taxes
- SB1 awaiting Governor's signature

### **Planning for No State Funding**

- House overrode Governor's veto of state budget, revenue package, and appropriations during Finance Committee Meeting
- Awaiting on action for SB1

### **SB1 Communications Discussion**

How should District communicate with families regarding importance of SB1

- Video on District's Facebook Page
- Post something similar to the sample letter to the website
- Phone Calls to Governor's office

### **Policy Discussion**

- Committee members recommended to take policy function out of finance committee
- Recommendation to create standalone policy committee of the Board
- Michael Dugan asked if this would include Code of Conduct
- Committee member Nolan would be willing to serve on the committee
- Administration to review establishing committee policy

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM