MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education, Forest Ridge School District 142, held Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at Hille Middle School, 5800 West 151st Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452 from 7:00 – 7:25 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT
Mary Derman, President
Sarah Doff, Vice-President
Jack Hille, Secretary
Tina Banialis (arrived at 7:58 PM)
Nancy Hullinger
Karly Senesac

OTHERS PRESENT
Dr. Paul McDermott, Superintendent
Susan Arvesen, Board Recording Secretary

ABSENT
Rebekah Mensing, President

I. Call to Order
President Derman called the meeting to order.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call
President Derman asked for a Roll Call and Members responded as follows: PRESENT: Members Derman, Doff, Hille, Banialis, Hullinger, and Senesac  ABSENT: Rebekah Mensing

IV. Destination Excellence Award
Dr. Paul McDermott awarded the Destination Excellence Award to Officer Mrs. Kimberley Smith-Valentine, Sodexo cafeteria employee at Hille Middle School. Mrs. Smith-Valentine is known for her ready smile and the fact that she takes time to greet each and every person who crosses her path every day. Mrs. Smith-Valentine is a person the students look forward to seeing as she knows each student by name. Students respond to Mrs. Smith-Valentine’s true kindness, interest, care, and concern. Mrs. Smith-Valentine makes a significant impact on students’ lives every single day in the way she makes them feel that they matter. Whether Mrs. Smith-Valentine is checking in on a student to see if everything is okay or she is interacting with staff in a most professional and personable manner, she embodies the Destination Excellence Award spirit.

V. Focus on Ridge Early Childhood Center – Jeff Kulik, Principal
Throughout the school year, the Board of Education highlights each school’s achievements and activities. Mr. Kulik provided an overview of Kerkstra Elementary School highlights. Mrs. Kulik stated that Kerkstra six value-add philosophies to its educational experience: 1. Professional collaboration between teachers and staff, 2. Sustaining a strong sense of community, 3. Rigorous curriculum and instruction, 4. Creating fun, hands-on learning activities for students, 5. Instilling a sense of student ownership in behavior and academics, and 6. Continually finding ways to integrate technology in teaching and learning. Mr. Kulik stated that he was pleased to share that Kerkstra Elementary School achieved “Exemplary” status on the 2019 Illinois State Report Card. Mr. Kulik stated that this high status was achieved through the coordinated efforts of teachers, students, and partnering with parents in the education of their children. Mr. Kulik reviewed the strengths of various subjects including the implementation of the new EL Education for Reading and Language Arts, continual focus on Guided Math and daily small group Math instruction, and consistent infusion of technology to teach above the line. Mr. Kulik stated that student behavior continues to improve, with referrals for discipline down by 50% from the previous year. Mr. Kulik stated that 5th Graders
V. Kerkstra Overview (cont.)

now take leadership roles in the school by recording their own PBIS videos and presenting
them to students in Grades 1 through 4. Mr. Kulik shared the various successful student
activities throughout the school including the 4th/5th Grade Choir, the Drama Club, the Success
Club providing Reading and Math Support, the Early Act/Student Council Club that continues
to carry out acts of philanthropy for good causes, the newly-returned Newspaper Club, the
Intramural Sports with a large number of students participating.

VI. Audience Participation
President Derman asked if anyone present would like to come forward to address the Board.
No one from the public came forward to speak.

VII. District Committee Reports
1. Policy Committee – 1/21/2020 @ 1:00 PM
Member Nancy Hullinger stated that the Policy Committee met to review several
policies that had minor verbiage changes and many footnote changes due to recent laws
passed. Mrs. Hullinger stated that one policy pertained to the how legalized cannabis is
handled in a school setting.

2. Budget & Finance Committee – 1/21/2020 @ 6:00 PM
Member Mary Derman stated that Budget & Finance Committee met to review the latest
legislative issues affecting school districts, a review of substitute teacher pay in the area
and a consideration of raising District 142’s pay rates for substitutes, the Kerkstra
bathroom remodeling costs, a status check on the District Office demolition, and
upcoming District insurance renewals. Mrs. Derman stated that it was determined that the
recommendation would be no increases in regular student fees for the 2020-2021 School
Year. Mrs. Derman stated that the CPI came in at 2.3% - the highest it has been in five
years. District 142 always budgets for a CPI much lower to continue to be prudent
in its finances. Mrs. Derman stated that for the fifth consecutive year, District 142 has achieved
“Recognition” Status by the State of Illinois – the highest financial rating for school
districts. Looking ahead, Mrs. Derman stated that SEA (Support Education Association)
negotiations will begin to build a new contract beginning with the 2020-2021 School
Year.

VIII. Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Representative
President Derman asked if a representative from the District 142 PTA would be making a
statement. PTA President, Tracy Zerinskis, stated that a recent, first-ever Paint Night drew
over 100 participants. Mrs. Zerinskis shared information about fund raisers including
Domino’s Pizza and Dine Out at Gatto’s. Mrs. Zerinskis stated that fun events were
forthcoming, including the Family Fun Night in March, which will include a Glow Dance at
Hille, and a Sock Hop at Foster in February.

IX. Teacher Representation
President Derman asked if a representative from the District 142 FREA had any news to share.
FREA Co-President Stacey Curtis stated that it was good to start off the 2nd Semester with the
knowledge that students achieved amazing growth in MAP tests.
X. **Consent Agenda – District 142**
President Derman asked if there were any items to be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion. No additional items were identified to be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

President Derman then asked for a Motion to Approve the January 21, 2020 Consent Agenda, as printed and publicly posted in the Board Meeting Agenda.

A. **Minutes**
1. Approval of the Minutes of Regular and Closed Meetings held December 17, 2019

B. **Finance**
1. Approval of the Listed Bills in the following Amounts
   - Education Fund $372,689.70
   - Operations and Maintenance Fund $95,735.17
   - Debt Service $550.00
   - Transportation $78,444.55
   - TORT Immunity $2,900.00
   - **Total All Funds**: $550,319.42

   2. Approval of the Automatic Payroll
   3. Treasurer’s Report

C. **Operations**
1. Approval of the donation of 29 iPods, from 2009 and prior, to Aishling Companion Home Care in Orland Park, Illinois

D. **Personnel**
1. Approval of the hiring of Cathleen Paullin as a Part-Time School Psychologist at Foster Elementary School via The Stepping Stones Group, effective January 7, 2020
2. Acceptance of the Resignation of Taya Benson, Paraprofessional at Hille Middle School, effective December 20, 2019

First Motion: Member Hille
Seconded: Member Hullinger
Discussion: No discussion.

Vote: The motion was declared carried on the following roll call: **AYES:** Members Hille, Hullinger, Doff, Banialis, Senesac, and Derman  **NAYS:** None  **ABSENT:** Mensing

XI. **Consent Agenda – Ratification of the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association**
President Derman asked for a Motion to Ratify the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association’s regularly scheduled Board Meeting of January 15, 2020.

First Motion: Member Doff
Seconded: Member Banialis
Discussion: No discussion.

Vote: The motion was declared carried on the following roll call: **AYES:** Doff, Banialis, Hille, Hullinger, Senesac, and Derman  **NAYS:** None  **ABSENT:** Mensing
XII. Superintendent’s Report
Dr. McDermott asked if any Board Members had questions about Administrator’s Reports. No questions were raised.

Dr. McDermott reviewed the current enrollment for the District. He stated that Preschool continued to rise. Dr. McDermott stated that he and that Administrative team were looking closely at the class sizes moving forward to determine staffing needs. It was determined that 1st Grade classes would go from four to three at Kerkstra and three to four classes at Foster.

Dr. McDermott stated that the first Registration date for Kindergarten would be taking place in February.

Dr. McDermott stated that the Administrative team will be reviewing a draft Site Map for the new District 142 website. Dr. McDermott stated that when the redesigned web site was completed, including the professional development portal and videos, The Blueprint Strategic Plan 2015-2020 will be completed.

Dr. McDermott stated he looked forward to seeing Board Members join the upcoming Staff Holiday Party.

XIII. New/Old/Unfinished Business

1. Community Calendar
   Member Hille reviewed several upcoming community activities.

XIV. Adjournment
President Derman asked for a Motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of District 142 for January 21, 2020.

First Motion: Member Hullinger
Seconded: Member Hille
Discussion: No discussion.

Vote: The motion was declared carried on the following roll call: AYES: Members Hullinger, Hille, Banialis, Senesac, Derman, and Doff  NAYS: None

Time: 7:25 PM

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President Derman                                          Secretary Hille