MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education, Forest Ridge School District 142, held Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at Hille Middle School, 5800 West 151st Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452 from 7:10 – 9:02 PM

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

OTHERS PRESENT
Dr. Paul McDermott, Superintendent
Susan Arvesen, Board Recording Secretary
Darcy Kriha, Kriha Boucek Law

ABSENT
Nancy Hullinger

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, Mensing, and Senesac ABSENT: Nancy Hullinger

IV. Destination Excellence Award
Dr. Paul McDermott awarded the Destination Excellence Award to Parent Volunteer, Larry Kincade. Nominated by Teachers Laura Pasciak and Noelle Horbaczewski, and Principal Curt Beringer, Mr. Kincade was honored for his longtime commitment to volunteerism at Foster Elementary School. Mr. Kincade spearheaded the Foster PTA Art is Smart Program, bringing awareness and appreciation of many famous artists and art genres. Mr. Kincade took on the cumbersome task of transforming artwork into slideshows, organized by quarter, to help bring presentations into the 21st century. Mr. Kincade also organized the culminating activity of taking the 5th Grade students on a field trip to the Art Institute of Chicago. Whether it’s throwing impromptu class parties or participating in multiple events at carnival events — ensuring students and families are having fun, Mr. Kincade is sure to bring a smile to those around him. Through is efforts and kind nature, Mr. Kincade embodies the Destination Excellence Award ideals.

V. Focus on Hille Middle School – John Orth, Principal
Throughout the school year, the Board of Education highlights each school’s achievements and activities. Mr. Orth provided an overview of Hille Middle School highlights. Mr. Orth thanked Assistant Principal Ryan Nagle for all of his efforts over this school year. Being new to District 142 and Hille, Mr. Nagle has proven to be a great asset to teachers, students and families, particularly in the area of Special Education. Mr. Orth reviewed a variety of school activities, highlighting the difference the new flexible furniture has made in the classroom, the emphasis on teacher collaboration, and the measurable success of resuming a double block of English/Language Arts. Mr. Orth highlighted the various successes of school extra-curriculars and athletics. He also pointed out the continued positive trend of improved student behavior, with behavior referrals down by over 100 students from this year to the last. Academically, Mr. Orth stated that students are thriving, as evidenced by 90% of students placing in Spanish 2 or Honors Spanish 2 at Oak Forest High School, who recently took placement tests. Overall, Mr. Orth thanked his teachers and staff, as well as the Board of Education for continual support and collaboration to help make student’s experiences at Hille Middle School positive and productive.
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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. Curriculum & Instruction Committee – 2/18/2020 – 5:30 p.m.
Member Doff stated that the Curriculum & Instruction Committee met to review the middle school encore class offerings, the middle school assessment and grading guidelines, considering 1:1 Technology for Grades 3 and 4, as well as consideration of possibly launching K-5 S.T.E.A.M. classes. Another Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting was added to the Board Calendar for March 17, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

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 recent sales of Valentine’s Smencils and Brushes was highly successful, selling over 200. Mrs. Zerinskis stated that the recent sock hop on February 13th was fun and well-attended. Mrs. Zerinskis stated that Family Fun Night was scheduled for March 6 and the PTA was looking for volunteers; people could sign up to volunteer at www.frpta142.com.

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 teachers were looking forward to upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences; it’s always good to have one-on-one conversations with parents. Mrs. Curtis stated that teachers were looking forward to Professional Development at the upcoming Teacher Institute Day.

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 June 18, 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 January 21, 2020

B. Finance
1. Approval of the Listed Bills in the following Amounts
   - Education Fund $ 199,371.78
   - Operations and Maintenance Fund $ 43,369.31
   - Transportation $ 96,660.46
   - Capital Projects $ 16,999.50
   Total All Funds $ 356,401.05
2. Approval of the Automatic Payroll
3. Treasurer’s Report
4. Approval of the Great American Fund Raisers for Foster and Kerkstra Elementary Schools, effective the 2019-2020 School Year
5. Approval of Intent to Bid for the Kerkstra Elementary School bathroom remodels
C. Policy
1. First Reading of PressPlus #102 Policy Updates

D. Operations
1. Approval of the hiring of Kristine Warning as a Part-Time School Psychologist at Foster Elementary and Hille Middle School, effective February 5, 2020
2. Approval of the hiring of Sydney Beck as a Paraprofessional at Foster Elementary School, effective February 10, 2020
3. Approval of the hiring of Gulnara Dawdy as a Paraprofessional at Hille Middle School, effective February 13, 2020
4. Approval of the hiring of Emilie Harris as a School Counselor at Hille Middle School, effective the 2020-2021 School Year
5. Approval of the hiring of Margarita Sanchez as an EL Teacher, effective the 2020-2021 School Year
6. Approval of the transfer of Jacqueline Lang, 1st Grade Teacher at Kerkstra Elementary School, to Math Interventionist at a location to be determined, effective the 2020-2021 School Year
7. Acceptance of the resignation of Graciela Hawkins, Building Secretary at Kerkstra Elementary School, effective February 7, 2020
8. Approval of the Intermittent FMLA Leave Request for Eileen Spagnola, Operations Coordinator, effective approximately May 11, 2020

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

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

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 February 12, 2020.

First Motion: Member Senesac
Seconded: Member Mensing

Discussion: No discussion.

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

XII. Board Action

1. Student Fees for the 2020-2021 School Year
President Derman asked for a Motion to approve the Student Fees for the 2020-2021 School Year

First Motion: Member Doff
Seconded: Member Senesac

Discussion: Member Senesac asked if there would be any increase in Technology fees if it was decided to go 1:1 Technology in Grades 3 and 4. Dr. McDermott stated that if there were any changes, the Board would approve any amended fees at a future Board Meeting.
Vote: The motion was declared carried on the following roll call: AYES: Doff, Senesac, Banialis, Mensing, Derman, and Hille NAYS: None ABSENT: Hullinger

2. **2020-2021 Substitute Teacher Rates**

President Derman asked for a Motion to approve the Substitute Teacher Rates for the 2020-2021 School Year

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

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

3. **Bid/Contract for District Office Demolition**

President Derman asked for a Motion to approve the bid/contract from Bechstein Construction Group, Tinley Park, Illinois, for the demolition of the previous District Office at 15000 Laramie Avenue, Oak Forest, Illinois 60452

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

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

XIII. **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; there were only slight fluctuations in enrollment. Dr. McDermott stated that the average class size for Grades 1 – 5 was 22.9 students per classroom. Dr. McDermott stated that the Blueprint Strategic Plan 2015-2020 was on track for completion. Dr. McDermott stated that a few final items were being worked on such as the redesigned website and professional development portal. Additionally, Dr. McDermott stated, that based on the Curriculum & Instruction Committee’s discussion, there would be a further consideration of S.T.E.A.M. classes for Grades 1-5. Dr. McDermott highlighted several FOIAs that had recently been fulfilled by the District.

XIV. **New/Old/Unfinished Business**

1. **Community Calendar**

Member Hille reviewed several upcoming community activities, including an upcoming Rotary Club Blood Drive and the Fleadh Parade.

2. **2020-2021 School Year Draft Calendar – Discussion**

Dr. McDermott provided the Board Members a copy of the current District 142 School Calendar, the District 228 2020-2021 School Calendar, and a draft of a 2020-2021 School Calendar for District 142. A discussion ensued regarding start dates, dates for winter and spring breaks, Teacher Institute and School Improvement Days, MAP Testing and other scheduled mandatory student testing, the federal General Election in November, 2020, alignment with District 228’s Calendar in light of many District 142 families having students in both districts, and options to be presented to the FREA (Forest Ridge
Education Association) in the form of a survey. Dr. McDermott stated that a survey would be given to the FREA. Based upon those results and the Board’s discussion, he would present a draft 2020-2021 School Calendar for consideration and approval at the March 17, 2020 Regular School Board Meeting.

XIV. **Adjournment to Closed Session – 8:15 p.m.**
President Derman asked for a Motion to adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting for February 18, 2020 to enter Closed Session for February 18, 2020 for the following reason:

1. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)

**First Motion:** Member Doff  
**Seconded:** Member Hille

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

*Returned to Open Session at 9:00 p.m.*

XV. **Adjournment**
President Derman asked for a Motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of District 142 for February 18, 2020.

**First Motion:** Member Senesac  
**Seconded:** Member Doff

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

*Time: 9:02 p.m.*

_________________________________________  
President Derman  
_________________________________________  
Secretary Hille