

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, District 28, Cook County, Illinois, was held in via ZOOM and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel for said district on Tuesday evening, March 16, 2021.

President Tracy Katz Muhl called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

Tony Forchetti
Jennifer Gallinson
Michael Gilmore
Louis Gross
Michelle Kohler
Mara Silver-Schack
Tracy Katz Muhl

Absent: none.

Also present were Dr. Larry Hewitt, Superintendent; Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official; Dr. Kelly Sculles, Director of Student Services; Michelle Jackson, Director of Learning; Terry Ryan, Communications Director; Ramsin Israel, District Computer Technician; and Matt Cassidy, Shweta Jinkala, and DeShawn Arms, Board members-in-waiting.

VISITORS' COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

A parent of a Northbrook Junior High student requested consideration for their student to return to in-person learning this spring, given the recent CDC guidelines revising the social distancing to 3-6 feet.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
(Board Calendar Review)

The Board reviewed scheduled topics and reports for upcoming board meetings.

(Enrollment)

The enrollment report for March was presented, and a corrected February report was included.

(Community Health Metrics)

Dr. Hewitt presented an overview of the Northfield Township COVID-19 Elementary School Public Health Dashboard and the Cook County Travel Quarantine map. He noted that of the families who responded to a recent travel survey, 349 are traveling, with 225 traveling to a state currently rated orange. The map will be updated March 23 and will be used to determine which students must quarantine upon return.

(Course Placement at GBN)

Dr. Hewitt reported that GBN course placement information for this year's 8th grade class was shared in the weekly NBJH newsletter and posted on the website. The process for placing the 8th grade class was similar to previous years, except that the PSAT was not administered due to the pandemic. MAP data for English language arts and math was used instead.

(8th Grade Graduation)

Dr. Hewitt shared that NBJH Principal Dr. Meek recently held an informational Zoom meeting with 8th grade parents to discuss the options for holding this year's graduation ceremony. One option is to have an outdoor event at Glenbrook North football field on May 30. The other option is to hold a drive-up event similar to last year's at NBJH on June 1, with a rain date of June 2. Dr. Meek will follow up with a survey of parents.

(ISBE/IDPH Updated Guidance)

In response to the public comment/parent request, Dr. Hewitt indicated that there are issues and challenges with moving students at this late stage of the school year. He identified three reasons for not adjusting this year's educational model:

1. When parents made their second-semester choice of either five days per week in-person or five days per week remote learning, the district stated it would adhere to 6-foot physical distancing as a way to mitigate the risk of spread of COVID-19.
2. If social distancing is reduced to less than 6 feet and a student tests positive for COVID-19, then all of the students sitting near that child would have to quarantine a minimum of 10 days.
3. Any student who would switch from remote to in-person now would have new teachers, which is not educationally sound with only eight weeks of school remaining. It takes several weeks for a teacher to get to know new students, including their learning styles and abilities.

Dr. Hewitt provided an overview of the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health revised guidance for schools that was released earlier this month. Principals are evaluating social distancing for

classroom space to determine how many students can safely fit in each classroom. The guidance reinforces essential mitigation strategies currently in place while easing social distancing for in-person learning from 6 feet at all times to a minimum of 3 feet for students and fully vaccinated staff. At this time, school districts must provide a remote learning option during the 2021-22 school year for families of students who are at increased risk of severe illness or who live with people at increased risk. The township districts are exploring a partnership to provide services if districts have only a small number of remote learners at each grade. As plans for next school year take shape, communication will be shared with parents.

(Resolution for the Honorable Dismissal of Teachers)

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Gilmore that the Board approve the Resolution for the Honorable Dismissal of Teachers.

**RESOLUTION FOR HONORABLE
DISMISSAL OF TEACHERS**

WHEREAS, the teachers listed below were employed for the 2020-21 school term; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that these teachers shall be honorably dismissed from their positions as of the end of the 2020-21 school term pursuant to Section 24-12 of The School Code of Illinois (105 ILCS 5/24-12). The reasons for these dismissals are 1) a decision by the Board of Education to decrease the number of teachers employed by the Board, and 2) to discontinue a particular type of teaching service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Northbrook School District 28, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: That the following teachers are hereby honorably dismissed effective as of the end of the 2020-21 school term:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Michelle Lee	Young Explorers Teacher
Cailin Melka	SEL Coach

Section 2: That the President and Secretary of the Board of Education are hereby

authorized and directed to give said teachers the attached written Notice of Dismissal, including the specific reason for the dismissal as noted above, by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least forty-five (45) calendar days before the end of the 2020-21 school term.

Section 3: That the Superintendent, or designee, shall also e-mail a copy of this notice to the teachers listed.

Section 4: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect forthwith upon its adoption.

Member Silver-Schack moved adoption of this Resolution and Member Gilmore seconded it. Upon roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYES: Members Silver-Schack, Gilmore, Forchetti, Kohler, Gross, Gallinson and Katz Muhl.

NAYS: none.

ABSENT: none.

ADOPTED this 16th day of March, 2021.

Tracy Katz Muhl
President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

Larry A. Hewitt
Secretary, Board of Education

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Silver-Schack, Gilmore, Forchetti, Kohler, Gross, Gallinson and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried

(Resolution of Non-renewal of Probationary Teachers)

It was moved by Member Gross and seconded by Member Forchetti that the Board of Education approve the Resolution for Non-renewal of First, Second and Third Year Probationary Teachers.

**RESOLUTION FOR NONRENEWAL
OF FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD YEAR
PROBATIONARY TEACHERS**

WHERE AS, the Board of Education of Northbrook School District No. 28, Cook County, Illinois, employed the following teachers during the 2020-21 school term as first, second, or third year probationary teachers: Morgan Adducci; Wendy Allen; Katherine deLoys; Paige Jespersen; Irene Koliopoulos; Alisa Kusnitzow; Molly Montes; Killeen Nass; Samantha Panther; Jennifer Remias; Karee Schwartz; Heather Sullivan; Rachel Wiegman; and Val Karabatsos; and

WHERE AS, the Board of Education has determined that these teachers will be dismissed as of the end of the 2020-21 school term and not employed for the 2021-22 school term, pursuant to Section 24-11 of the School Code of Illinois (105 ILCS 5/24-11).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Northbrook School District No. 28, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. That the following teachers are hereby dismissed effective as of the end of the 2020-21 school term and not employed as teachers in this School District for the 2021-22 school term: Morgan Adducci; Wendy Allen; Katherine deLoys; Paige Jespersen; Irene Koliopoulos; Alisa Kusnitzow; Molly Montes; Killeen Nass; Samantha Panther; Jennifer Remias; Karee Schwartz;

Heather Sullivan; Rachel Wiegman; and Val Karabatsos.

Section 2. That the President and Secretary of the Board of Education are hereby authorized and directed to give these teachers written Notices of Nonrenewal, in the form of attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and incorporated herein by this reference, by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least forty-five (45) days before the end of the 2020-21 school term.

Section 3. That the Superintendent, or designee, shall also e-mail a copy of this notice to the teachers listed.

Section 4. That this Resolution will be in full force and effect forthwith upon its adoption.

Member Gross moved for the adoption of the Resolution and Member Forchetti seconded it.

ADOPTED THIS 16th day of March, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Gross, Forchetti, Kohler, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Gilmore, and Katz Muhl.

NAYS: none.

ABSENT: none.

Tracy Katz Muhl
President, Board of Education

ATTTEST:

Larry A. Hewitt
Secretary, Board of Education

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Gross, Forchetti, Kohler, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Gilmore, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Kohler and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting minutes of February 23, 2021, since members had each previously been sent copies.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Kohler, Silver-Schack, Gross, Gallinson, Gilmore, Forchetti, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Kohler and seconded by Member Gallinson that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

(Payroll – last half of February 2021 and first half of March 2021)

the payment of employee salaries for the last half of February 2021, in the amount of \$1,245,910.38 and covered by check numbers 65195 through 65216, and deduction check numbers 65217 through 65234, inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated March 16, 2021;

the payment of employee salaries for the first half of March 2021, in the amount of \$1,211,551.08 and covered by check numbers 65235 through 65255, and deduction check numbers 65256 through 65264, inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated March 16, 2021;

(Bills)

vendor invoices totaling \$362,034.06 and Warrants listed as Numbers 56328 through 56405, with the following voids 44250, 56102 and 56293, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated March 16, 2021;

(Personnel Report: Contract Change, Employment of Staff, Leaves, Resignations, Dismissals Reduction in Force, and Job Share)

Leaves

Amy Hebel

NBJH

8th Grade Math Teacher

Resignations

Marissa Draniczarek	NBJH	7 th Grade Math Teacher
Spencer Herbert	WM	Special Education Teacher
Sara Shapiro	GB	Foundational Aide
Jill Silverman	NBJH	Social Worker

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Kohler, Gallinson, Gilmore, Forchetti, Gross, Silver-Schack, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

FINANCE **(Financial Report)**

Chief School Business Official Jessica Donato presented the financial report, including monthly financial reports, food service sales, the February 2021 natural gas invoice, a monetary donation for the gifted program from a District 28 family, as well as local, state and federal reporting requirements.

It was moved by Member Gilmore and seconded by Member Forchetti that the Board accept the District 28 Financial Report for the period ending February 2021.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Gilmore, Forchetti, Kohler, Gross, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

(Assistant Township Treasurer)

It was moved by Member Forchetti and seconded by Member Kohler that the Board approve Jessica Donato as the designated Assistant Township School Treasurer for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 fiscal years, starting July 1, 2021.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Forchetti, Kohler, Gross, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Gilmore, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

Northbrook Junior High and Greenbriar School will receive roofing repairs/replacement over the summer. Architects are preparing specifications for bids with contracts expected to be awarded at the April board meeting. Also proposals are also being gathered to update the security systems at all four schools this summer.

COMMUNICATION

Communications Director Terry Ryan reported that nearly 700 users have downloaded the mobile app since it launched February 21. Parents and staff can also request a unique user name and password to access student-specific information and school/district notifications. The 5Essentials survey closes April 2 and every school has met the required response rate benchmarks to receive results, which will be forthcoming in June and published for the public in October.

NSSSED

Member Gilmore reported that NSSSED is still studying ways to address the budget deficit related to COVID expenses and reduction in enrollment. A new recommendation is expected to be presented to the Leadership Council on April 14.

Standing Committees

(SAF)

The summary from the Superintendent's Advisory Forum (SAF) meeting, which was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, was provided as information.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

(In)

At 8:01 p.m., it was moved by Member Gilmore and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board of Education go into Closed Session to discuss the following:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation of specific employees of the District, including testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine the validity as authorized by 5ILCS 120/2 © (1. and
2. 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 as authorized by 5ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Gilmore, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Forchetti, Kohler, Gross, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

(Out)

At 8:34 p.m., it was moved by Member Gross and seconded by Member Forchetti that the Board return to Regular Session.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Gross, Forchetti, Kohler, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Gilmore, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:34 p.m., it was moved by Member Gross and seconded by Member Forchetti that the meeting adjourn.

All members present voted Aye. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Larry A. Hewitt, Secretary

Tracy Katz Muhl, President