



THE JOSEPH SEARS SCHOOL

Kenilworth School District No. 38 Board of Education

542 Abbotsford Road • Kenilworth, IL 60043 • 847.256.5006 • kenilworth38.org

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
KENILWORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 38, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
APRIL 8, 2020**

The Education Committee of the Board of Education of Kenilworth School District No. 38, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 8th day of April 2020, at 1:00 p.m. remotely due to the COVID 19 global pandemic. Members of the Education Committee, administration and community attended virtually through the Zoom platform.

Dr. Lisa Metzger-Mugg called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. The following Board members were present: Mr. Evan Lukasik, Mrs. Suzanne Nelson and Mrs. Mia Sachs. Also present: Dr. Lisa Leali, Chief Education Officer, Dr. Stephanie Helfand, Interim Assistant Principal.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Strategic Topic: Sears Educator: Professional Collaboration

Dr. Lisa Leali began by introducing that professional collaboration supports all areas of a successful school house. She outlined the framework of Professional Learning Communities including the 4 questions that teams of teachers ask each other as they discuss student achievement and growth, as well as, best practices. She talked about how this kind of discussion is best utilized in a district that is working to be innovative and try new ideas so that there are many areas for teams to discuss. She outlined that Sears has not had large-scale professional development on this framework but that some teams have begun working this way as administrators have tried to guide the discussion. She also talked about how students can be part of this collaboration and planning and how she has witnessed that in place at Sears in the past year and a half. In terms of how embedded this work is in the landscape of education in the United States, Dr. Leali indicated that PLCs have been in place for almost 20 years in some districts and that this is an area where Sears should focus in order to keep moving toward a more student-centered culture.

Dr. Helfand emphasized that she would like to see a smaller scale, focused start next year through her continued meetings with teams and conversations on best practices and a student focus. She also talked about how trust and relationships are important for this type of work.

The committee asked questions regarding how Sears can move forward in this area and how the contract moving forward can better support Professional Learning Communities. The administrators talked about the importance of investing in time for teachers to engage in these conversations. They also asked where Sears can go to see schools that are doing this well, and Dr. Leali and Dr. Helfand mentioned Stevenson High School as well as their feeder districts as pioneers in this work.



THE JOSEPH SEARS SCHOOL

Kenilworth School District No. 38 Board of Education

542 Abbotsford Road • Kenilworth, IL 60043 • 847.256.5006 • kenilworth38.org

B. Legislative/Procedural Update: Update on Remote Learning

Dr. Leali gave an overview of Remote Learning at Sears including some of the challenges the schoolhouse has been facing in light of the current pandemic and shifting to an entirely remote process for education. She talked about how new schedules and supports will be put into place next week so that there is more live-learning support for our students, and more pre-recorded direct instruction. She also talked about a helpline where instructional assistants and other teachers would be able to support when families request more live support for their students. All of this would be included in guidance for parents and teachers that would be released the next day.

Dr. Metzger-Mugg asked specifically about how the schoolhouse will be handling grading and report cards during this time period. While Dr. Leali indicated that we would be following the “no educational harm” directive from the state, she is still working with township districts to determine how final grades and report cards should look in order to reflect this very unique time period. Dr. Metzger-Mugg asked for the guidance on this to come out sooner than later as students and families are feeling stressed about this particular issue.

The committee thanked Dr. Leali, the rest of the administrative team and teachers for all of their hard work during this time on behalf of students and families.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENT

One community member did comment and thanked the entire faculty and staff for their hard work, and recognized how difficult it must be to balance the needs of the entire community.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Metzger-Mugg entertained a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Suzanne Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:04 p.m. Mr. Evan Lukasik seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Attest for Distribution: ^{DocuSigned by:} Deborah Keegan
B317E35A3BE94E1 Deborah Keegan, Secretary

Approved: ^{DocuSigned by:} Lisa Metzger-Mugg
8D18D6A5932449 Dr. Lisa Metzger-Mugg, Committee Chairperson

ATTEST: ^{DocuSigned by:} Deborah Keegan
Deborah Keegan, Secretary