



Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
www.oak-park.us

Meeting Minutes

President and Board of Trustees

Thursday, November 29, 2018

7:00 PM

OPRF High School Room South Cafeteria
201 N Scoville Ave, Oak Park

Joint Board Meeting of District 97, District 200 and the Village Board with the Early Childhood Collaboration. The meeting will be held at Oak Park and River Forest High School - Room 293E, 201 N. Scoville Ave, Oak Park, IL.

I. Call to Order

President Abu-Taleb called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Roll Call - Oak Park Elementary District #97

Present: Board members Robert Spatz, Katherine Murray-Liebl, Jim O'Connor, Rob Breymaier, and Rupa Datta (arrived after roll call)

Also present: Superintendent Dr. Carol Kelley, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

Roll Call - Oak Park and River Forest District #200

Present: Board members Fred Arkin, Tom Cofsky, Sara Spivy, Craig Iseli, Jackie Moore, Jennifer Cassell, and Matt Baron

Also present: Superintendent Joylynn Pruitt-Adams

Roll Call - Village of Oak Park

Present: Trustees Andrews, Boutet, Moroney, Taglia, Tucker, and President Abu-Taleb

Absent: Trustee Button

Also Present: Village Manager Cara Pavlicek , and Village Clerk Vicki Scaman

II. Review and Approval of Agenda

[ID 18-1044](#) Review and Approval of Agenda.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

III. Public Comment

There was none.

IV. Introduction of John Borrero

Amy McCormick, Chairperson for the Early Childhood Collaboration introduced John Borrero as the new Executive Director, appointed on October 1, 2018.

Mr. Borrero expressed gratitude from his recent appointment and shared from his background as an early childhood teacher and experience working with other related organizations. He congratulated the work of the Early Childhood Collaboration as an example for other communities.

V. Special Presentation

[ID 18-1045](#)

Special Presentation by Geoff Nagle, President & CEO of Erikson Institute, on the Early Development Instrument (EDI) and A Community-Wide Look at Early Childhood

Geoff Nagle spoke to the early childhood experience as crucial to brain development. He identified the seven stages of brain development, with the most critical being the early years. He explained the negative effects stress has on the brain and how that interrupts learning.

Mr. Nagle explained how the Early Development Instrument (EDI) data assesses how all kindergarten children are doing in each neighborhood of Oak Park from a survey that covers physical health, social competence, emotional maturity, language development, and communication skills.

Jaclyn Vasquez from Erickson Institute explained the process of conducting the survey and reviewed survey results. She shared that overall children are on track in most areas of growth. She noted that the area of concern is emotional growth with 26 percent of children not on track. Ms. Vasquez explained how a community can use this data to address concerns. It was noted that identifying strategies to address weaknesses requires further assessment conducted by members of the community who presumably understand the community landscape and climate that may be contributing to weaknesses better than an outside evaluator.

Ms. Vasquez and Mr. Nagle continued to explain how the data is broken down, how the process was conducted to ensure fidelity, and responded to questions of various board members. Teachers were trained in the

process with attention to eliminating teacher bias.

VI. Finance Report

[ID 18-1046](#)

Finance Report

FY 2017-2018 Financial Statements

Gordon Hellwig, Early Childhood Collaboration Board Treasurer, reported on tax returns and the fiscal year audit. He noted that the Collaboration received a Grade A rating indicating no weaknesses or findings. He offered to share an electronic copy with members of each board. Mr. Hellwig shared that the Collaboration used a new auditor this year, consistent with best practices, and it went very smoothly.

Mr. Hellwig reported that the Collaboration is behind in spending to achieve the desired outcome and is getting ready to implement two large programs which will bring them closer to their budget proposal. The collaboration is actively looking for additional grants to support programs with a professional grant writer.

Mr. Hellwig shared the need for additional insurance to protect funds in the bank. Trustee Boutet expressed confusion on why the Early Childhood Collaboration would maintain a large fund balance. It was recommended that Hellwig meet with Trustee Boutet to clarify the process for funding the Collaboration.

FY 2018-2019 October Year to Date Reports: Balance sheet, profit and loss administrative agent report, and IGA administrative fund

Robert Spatz, D97 Board member, reported that all governmental partners were billed and paid on time. He explained that D97 bills six times a year to limit the amount of necessary transfers.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Village Clerk, Vicki Scaman

VIII. Informational Items

[ID 18-1048](#)

Informational Items