

**REAVIS HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 220
6034 WEST 77th STREET, BURBANK, ILLINOIS 60459
COOK COUNTY**

SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

**TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020, AT 6:30 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING BY CHROMEBOOK**

MINUTES

1. OPEN MEETING, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

Time: 6:38 p.m.

The following Board Members were present via web-conference:

Ted Arnold
Gerardo Ayala
James Brodinski
Andrea Creger, Vice President
Russell McKinley, President
Ruben Moreno
Linda O'Dowd, Secretary

Also present via web-conference:

Daniel J. Riordan, Ed.D., Superintendent
Eric Novak, Chief School Business Official
Julie A. Schultz, Principal
Donald P. Erickson, NBCT, Information & Educational Technology Director
Erin Nelligan, Recording Secretary

2. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ms. Nelligan stated that she did not receive any emails for audience participation prior to the meeting.

3. PERSONNEL

- A. Consider the resignation of Dr. Heather McCurdy, Director of Curriculum, at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion: R. Moreno
Second: R. McKinley

Dr. Riordan shared that Dr. McCurdy has been Director of Curriculum for the past 7 years. He personally thanked Dr. McCurdy for her commitment to Reavis. He also stated that he does not

see her resignation as a loss but as a gain of a great teacher. Dr. McCurdy was and will continue to be one of the best teachers Reavis has ever had so it is a win for the students. She is returning to her passion of teaching students. Dr. Riordan once again thanked Dr. McCurdy for all the service she has provided to the administrative team, the Board of Education and the Reavis students.

Aye: G. Ayala, J. Brodinski, A. Creger, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold
Nay: None
Vote: 7-0

- B. Consider the hire of Dr. Heather McCurdy, Teacher, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion: A. Creger
Second: G. Ayala
Aye: J. Brodinski, A. Creger, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala
Nay: None
Vote: 7-0

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Consider approval of 1-Year Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Board of Education of Reavis High School District No. 220 and the Reavis High School Federation of Teachers, Local 1951, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO.

Motion: R. McKinley
Second: J. Brodinski

Dr. Riordan thanked Mr. Craig Hickey and Mr. Cameron Sweeney, IFT Representative, for working to get this 1-year agreement passed. As the Board is aware, there was good progress being made on the contract negotiations. Because of Covid-19 and the pandemic situation has brought a lot of uncertainty moving forward and the teachers understand that. It only took a few meetings to decide on what Dr. Riordan considers a nominal raise. Dr. Riordan appreciates the work the teacher's union put in and the teachers as a whole who voted to pass this 1-year extension. Everyone will receive a \$1,500.00 raise. So that will range from a 1% - 3% raise and anyone who does not receive longevity pay will receive an additional \$300.00 which constitutes about 80 teachers. So that will boost the low-end beginning salary teachers to a 3.5% raise. The average raise is 1.8%. Dr. Riordan stated that looking at surrounding districts this is in line or just below what is being done.

Mr. Ayala asked for the total cost of the raises. Dr. Riordan stated it is approximately \$200,000.00. But that does not include any teachers putting in for retirement or educational advancement.

Aye: A. Creger, R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, J. Brodinski
Nay: None
Vote: 7-0

- B. Consider resolution for new graduation guidelines and requirements for class of 2020.

Motion: L. O'Dowd
Second: R. McKinley

Dr. Riordan explained that most high schools across the state will be passing this resolution. It is guidance for seniors this year only to allow them to graduate without having to have the same requirements as passed years. For example, physical education is being waived. English requirement is 3.5 instead of 4.0. The state requirements are a lot less than what most high schools require. Additional requirements that schools have is community service, attend municipality meetings, art, foreign language etc. The good news is very few students will be passing without the normal requirements to graduate from Reavis. Ms. Schultz stated that approximately 10 students will not be graduating with 22 credits. Dr. Riordan added that the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent are urging schools to be very flexible with students.

Mr. Ayala asked if the students graduating below the normal requirements if their names will be of public record. Dr. Riordan stated there would be no indicator of what students graduated without the usual credit requirement. Mr. McKinley asked if the e-Learning was considered for grades. Dr. Riordan explained that it is counted for most students. That state was clear that student's grades could not be negatively affected by e-Learning. Mr. McKinley then asked if there were any students not graduating. Dr. Riordan responded that there are students that will not be graduating but that number is a little lower this year.

Aye: R. McKinley, R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala, J. Brodinski, A. Creger
Nay: None
Vote: 7-0

Dr. Riordan shared that this week is Graduation week leading up to Graduation Day on Saturday. Dr. Riordan acknowledged that there were some students and parents starting a petition to not have graduation on Saturday. They wanted to wait until July. Dr. Riordan commended Principal Schultz for responding to the student, Mr. Matt Diaz, regarding the situation. Mr. Diaz is the valedictorian. A great student, athlete and all-around wonderful student. Dr. Riordan said if you read the petition, he was very respectful. He did not have to be convinced to take down the petition. It was an organic conversation and he decided to take it down once he was given more information. Dr. Riordan stated that the July date is being left on the calendar and if the requirements get lifted and a celebration is feasible, something will be planned. The worry in the last few weeks has been that it did not appear that restrictions were going to be lifted. So, the Administrative team discussed the possibility of having to put together a last minute virtual graduation in July. Then the discussion began of holding something on the actual graduation day. The students will come 20-24 at a time in half hour increments. Dr. Riordan commended the work of the Maintenance Staff on the preparation. Students will drive into the driver's education lot where there is an outline for them to follow leading them directly to the stage. It will be right under the entrance to the visitor's side of the stadium. Parents will be allowed to take pictures or video from their car. There will not be hand shaking or distributing of diplomas. Students will take a diploma from a table then a professional photographer will take their picture. When the student exits the stage, they will be given a gift bag with the graduation program, a note from Principal Schultz and a Reavis mask. Dr. Riordan added that the graduation will be live streamed, there will be music playing, Ms. Erika Banick will announce the student's names and a drone will be flying around the campus. A week or two following graduation the speeches from Principal Schultz, the valedictorian and the salutatorian will be added to the live stream so anyone will be able to view the graduation. Dr. Riordan invited the entire Board to attend the graduation. Adding there will be space for the Board members on the bleachers were social distancing can be observed.

Mr. McKinley took this opportunity to thank the administrative team for giving these students something memorable during this very difficult situation. Dr. Riordan added that he would like to give special thanks to Mr. Tom Witting for his efforts to make this graduation special during such unprecedented times. His creativity and determination to make this a memorable day for the Reavis Class of 2020 should be commended.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Time: 7:23 p.m.
Motion: T. Arnold
Second: G. Ayala
Aye: R. Moreno, L. O'Dowd, T. Arnold, G. Ayala J. Brodinski, A. Creger, R. McKinley
Nay: None
Vote: 7-0