

## **Board of Trustees Policy Committee Meeting – October 31, 2019**

The Policy Committee of Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a Special Meeting on October 31, 2019 at 12:00 noon in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Justin Oswald, Dawn Blain and Kathy Grewell. Also present were Felicia Smith, District Clerk/Business Manager and Mary Duncan. Visitors in attendance were Melvin Stene, Robert Reed and Russell Evertz.

Justin Oswald called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Oswald welcomed guests, explained procedure and asked for public comment.

### **III. New Business**

- a. **Receipt and Review of Investigator's Report Regarding Complaints Made by Hallie Spoklie-Luoma** – Ms. Duncan reviewed the tenants for the special meeting. She referenced the original complaint by Ms. Spoklie-Luoma, the subsequent investigation by Sarah Brockel and communications with Ms. Spoklie-Luoma's counsel of record. Ms. Duncan received a rebuttal from Ms. Spoklie-Luoma and shared copies with the committee members. The purpose of this meeting is for the Committee to take action on the investigation by: a) adopting the findings of the investigation as written; b) asking for more clarification from the investigator; c) moving for a review of the investigation by the full Board; or d) rejecting the findings of the investigation.

Dawn Blain made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the report of Sarah Brockel and the rebuttal of Ms. Spoklie-Luoma. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

The committee reviewed the report and rebuttal. Mr. Evertz asked if the rebuttal was a public document, Ms. Duncan confirmed that it was; then Mr. Evertz asked to review a copy of the rebuttal and it was provided to him.

Dawn Blain made a motion to accept the findings of the report as written. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. Discussion and public comment followed.

After the committee reviewed the report and rebuttal, Ms. Duncan explained the process of the investigation and summary report provided to them. She addressed Ms. Spoklie-Luoma's claim in the rebuttal about witnesses that were not interviewed, and the claim that documentation was not attached to the report.

Trustee Grewell asked questions regarding the absence of an interview with a witness that Ms. Spoklie-Luoma believes has pertinent information. Ms. Duncan addressed the question with the process of the investigation and the duty of the investigator to determine if a witness has pertinent information and should be interviewed.

Russell Evertz asked if documentation was provided with the initial complaint and subsequent rebuttal. No documentation was provided with either communication from Ms. Spoklie-Luoma.

Trustee Grewell asked about the Plan of Improvement information Ms. Spoklie-Luoma addressed in her rebuttal. Information was provided to the committee on the circumstances involving the Plan of Improvement.

Trustee Grewell asked about item #3 in the report regarding parental communication. Information was provided regarding the general circumstances, but no detail was offered, in order to protect privacy rights of individuals not present.

The motion was unanimously carried.

Justin Oswald informed the committee that a recommendation will be made to the Board to ratify the findings under the consent agenda for the November 11, 2019 Board meeting.

**V. Adjournment**

Kathy Grewell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:48 p.m. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved 11/11/2019

Vice-Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_