**Official Minutes of the Oak Park Board of Education**

**Elementary District 97, Cook County, Illinois**

**CLOSED MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 13, 2019 TIME: 6:00 PM**

The Board convened in closed session at 6:00 PM. Answering present and attending in person were President Broy, Vice President Kim, Members Spurlock, Kearney, Moore, and Liebl. Member Breymaier was not in attendance.

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Carol Kelley, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Laurie Campbell, Senior Director of Human Resources Gina Herrmann, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier.

Summary discussion of the Board on all matters:

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**1) Personnel Employment - Amanda Siegfried (Director of Communications)**

Gina Herrmann, Senior Director for Human Resources explained that with the departure of Chris Jasculca, Senior Director of Communications, administration reviewed the duties assigned to that position, and decided to shift some of his work to Sheryl Marinier, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary. By making that shift, the communications position can be posted as a director position. The position was advertised as such and 21 applications were received. Out of those, four were chosen for interviews. Herrmann reported that Amanda Siegfried, the current Communications Coordinator, rose far above the other candidates, and it was recommended that Siegfried by given the positions. Herrmann told the board that this decision should make for a smooth transition.

Dr. Kelley explained that the District will need to replace Siegfried in the coordinator role, but the district should be able to save $30,000 to $40,000 with this change.

One Board member expressed concern about Siegfried being ready for the position, but Dr. Kelley assured the board that she feels very comfortable with this decision. She told the board that Siegfried already took the lead when Jasculca was on paternity leave, and created the D97 Profile, which just won an award. Siegfried creates all of the videos, and controls the YouTube channel. Siegfried is a reporter by trade and has been doing school communications for several years.

Herrmann reported that out of the 21 candidates, many did not have school experience. The diversity of the candidates included two Hispanics, and the rest of the candidates were Caucasian. Herrmann reported that Siegfried is Hispanic.

**3) Collective Negotiations – OPTA MOU (cited probable litigation)**

Herrmann shared a question regarding the OPTA memorandum of understanding (MOU) for special area teachers (music, art, PE, etc.) that requests standardized performances and compensation. Herrmann explained that this is a benign request.

**CONCLUSION OF CLOSED MEETING**

Liebl moved, seconded by Kearney that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 6:27 PM. All members of the Board were in agreement. The Board concluded the closed meeting and reconvened in Open Session at 7:02 PM.

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Board President