

**Questions for Board from Public Participation at the August , 2013
Board of Education Meeting**

1) Rex Morioka:

a) Are there things that the Board is doing with the staff to increase morale?

i) Response from Board President Stachura: I was not notified by the Superintendent that any morale problem exists. I recently met with the leadership from the Union, and they did not indicate a problem with morale exists, either. The morale of the District rests mainly with the Superintendent and Administration, not with the Board.

2) Jeremy Hargus:

a) There is an endless list of correspondence between the lawyers and Dave Statura and Pat. Why is it that only board members are corresponding with the lawyers?

i) Response from Board President Stachura: Board members are not the only individuals corresponding with the lawyers. Past practice and our Board agreement stipulates that the Superintendent, Board President and/or his designees should communicate with the District attorneys.

b) Why are the lawyers present at the meeting?

i) Response from Board President Stachura: It is customary and prudent to have legal counsel present at a business meeting when legal matters are due to be discussed.

3) Diana Caffero:

a) Who recommended Ancel & Glink, and who does the law firm represent?

i) Response from Board President Stachura:The Board President, David C. Stachura, recommended the firm of Ancel & Glink. The firm represents the District 81 School Board on behalf of the District.

b) What will be done in the future to increase trust in the School Board?

i) Response from Board President Stachura: We are open to suggestion, but we are mainly concerned with providing a safe and effective educational environment for the children, good governance by prudent oversight of District finances, and accountability of the District Administration.

Additional Responses to Mr. Jeremy Hargus regarding his request at the November 20th BOE meeting to answer his questions from the August 21st BOE meeting:

1. Dr. Boryszewski have you turned in your resignation?

Kim responded at the meeting "No"

2. After reviewing the Ancel Glink bill on 6/6/2013 there was charge to review correspondence from Pat in regards to Superintendent resignation. Why is there this charge if the superintendent has not turned in her resignation?

3. Why continuous meeting with lawyers with only two board members and is the remainder of the board being informed?

4. Why is legal counsel present at the meeting if they are being contacted daily or even multiple times a day?

5. If you are stating you want to trim the fat, why have such high legal bills?

Dave -- answered there are legal problems that need to be taken care of. pending issues that need to be handled. I have also review the most recent bill which is about \$5,000 which \$3,000 of it is for FOIA.

1 & 2. Re: Dr. Boryszewski's resignation and legal advice: Personnel matters are not matters to be discussed in public session. The issue of Dr. Boryszewski's continued employment with the District is a personnel matter, therefore we are bound by law not to comment on this item in public or with the public. Any further concerns about Dr. Boryszewski's continued employment should be addressed to her personally rather than to the Board during a public Board meeting.

3. Re: Communication with attorneys: The generalization put forth in this question assumes that there are 'continuous meetings with lawyers.' We would not agree that there are 'continuous meetings,' rather that there are necessary conferences that need to take place for the protection of the District.

Board policy 2:160 Board Attorney: This policy states in part that "the Superintendent, his or her designee, or the Board President, or his or her designee, are authorized to confer with and /or seek the legal advice of the Board Attorney." We are following our Board policy with respect to who communicates with members of the District's legal counsel.

Re: Informing other Board members: Due to restrictions put forth in the Open Meetings Act, we cannot inform members outside of a legally convened meeting. Legal matters would not be discussed in open session, only in Executive session.

4. Re: Legal presence at Board meetings: The communications between the Superintendent or the Board President with legal counsel that occur outside of a public meeting may or may not prepare them to address issues that are on the agenda for the scheduled Board meeting. The matters discussed in Executive session often require legal advice which is why the Board attorney continues to be present at Board meetings.

5. Re: Cost of legal advice: This question was answered at the meeting.