

# **Illinois Open Meetings Act** **(5 ILCS 120/1 etseq.)**

The Illinois Open Meetings Act provides public access to the meetings of public bodies. Public bodies shall act and deliberate openly, with several statutory exceptions, as follows: (not an exhaustive list, but most common topics)

- collective negotiating matters;
- appointment, employment and dismissal of employees; including compensation, discipline and performance of employees or legal counsel;
- purchase or lease of real property;
- litigation;
- consider the appointment of a member to fill a vacancy on the public body;
- student discipline;
- placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students;
- consider security procedures;
- consider self evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics;
- discussion of minutes of Closed Meetings.

Illinois public School Boards many conduct Closed Meetings in order to discuss subjects covered by one or more exception. No final action is allowed in Closed Meetings.

# **MOKENA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**DISTRICT 159**



*"Where Children Are The First Priority"*

**BOARD OF EDUCA-  
TION  
INFORMATION**

## Mokena School District 159

### **JOHN TROY, Board President**

21349 Prestancia troyj@mokena159.org Term Expires: 2013  
815-469-6144  
John and his wife Eileen have resided in Mokena since 2007 and have one young daughter who attends Mokena Public Schools. John has a Bachelors Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois, an MBA from De Paul University, and a JD from John Marshall Law School. He is a licensed real estate broker and a partner in a real estate development and property management company.

### **JOSEPH SPALLA, Board Vice-President**

11400 Stratford Road spallaj@mokena159.org Term Expires: 2015  
815-806-3083  
Joe and his wife Marie have resided in Mokena since 1990 with their two daughters Mary and Catherine. Mary attended Mokena Public Schools and Lincoln Way East and is currently studying computer Graphics Technology at Purdue University. Joe has a bachelor degree in Computer Science and MBA from the Illinois Institute of Technology. Joe currently serves as the Director of Infrastructure and Operations at Sun-times Media productions.

### **PATRICK MARKHAM, Board Secretary**

1877 Wren Circle markhamp@mokena159.org Term Expires: 2015  
708-326-4103  
Patrick and his wife have resided in Mokena for 8 years and have two sons. Patrick is a small business owner. His wife also owns a small business in counseling for Will County Domestic services. He is a Veteran of the United States Marine Corp. He is also actively involved with the Knights of Columbus and a Board member for LWSRA and a member of Marine One.Org. Patrick is also a committeeman for Frankfort Township.

### **MICHAEL FORD, Board Member**

111607 Jennyglenn Drive fordm@mokena159.org Term Expires: 2015  
708-326-4727  
Mike and his wife Laurie have resided in Mokena since 2003 and have twin sons. He is a licensed civil engineer and project manager for Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. Mike received his Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame and Bachelor of Science in Engineering from the University of Illinois of Chicago. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Southwest Suburban Home Builders Assoc. and the Green Building Council as a LEED accredited professional.

### **MARK FRANCESCHINI, Board Member**

11754 W. 194th Street franceschinim@mokena159.org Term Expires: 2013  
708-479-5464  
Mark and his wife Julie have resided in Mokena since 1995 with their three daughters Dana, Jennifer and Lauren. All three children have spent their entire grade school careers enrolled in the Mokena Public Schools. Dana is a sophomore attending Lincoln-Way East; Jennifer and Lauren attend Mokena Junior High. Mark has a bachelor degree in Management Information Systems from the University of St. Francis. Mark currently works as a Business Systems Analyst with Southern Wine and Spirits of Ill.

### **KATHERINE MOORE, Board Member**

10301 Austen Court moorek@mokena159.org Term Expires: 2013  
708-479-8447  
Kathy has been a resident of Mokena since 1993. She has been a member of the Board of Education for ten years, serving as president for two of those years and serving as vice-president for two years. She was a member of the committee to build Mokena Junior High and has been an active member of the PTA for eight years. Kathy is a member of the LWSE 843 Board and the Illinois School District Association Board. Kathy has a Bachelors of Science in Math from St. Bonaventure University and an MBA from Long Island University, NY. Kathy and her husband Joe have one son.

### **SCOTT PETERS, Board Member**

18917 Meadowview peters@mokena159.org Term Expires: 2013  
708-478-0078  
Scott and his wife Lisa have been residents of Mokena since 2003 and they have three daughters. He is a Vice President at Bridgeview Bank where he manages the Bookkeeping and Cash Management Operations areas. Scott received his Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Northern Illinois University. Scott has been a member of District 159's Finance Committee since 2005; also served as Board secretary for two years.

## Public Participation at Board Meetings

The Board of Education, as a representative body of citizens residing in Mokena School District 159, holds regular meetings to carry on the business of the schools. Such meetings are held in accordance with Chapter 2, Section 2.200 and Section 2.230 of Board Policy. The agendas for the Mokena School District 159 meetings of the Board of Education are posted on the District website ([www.mokena159.org](http://www.mokena159.org)) or are available at the District Office. The public is cordially invited to attend Board meetings in order for any citizen to express his/her interest and/or concerns for the school.

Individuals appearing before the Board must be residents of the district and are expected to follow these guidelines:

1. Any person seeking to make comments at a Board meeting shall notify the Secretary of the Board by completing a Request-to-Comment registration card and submitting the card to the Secretary immediately prior to the meeting at which they seek to comment. Public comment registration begins one-half hour before the scheduled opening of the meeting and closes when the meeting is called to order.
2. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board President.
3. Identify oneself and be brief. Ordinarily, such comments shall be limited to three minutes.
4. If a number of the public desire to comment at any meeting, the President of the Board, at his/her discretion, may appoint members of the public to act as representatives or spokespersons.
5. The President may also deny an individual the opportunity if the individual has previously addressed the Board on the same subject within the past two months.
6. The Board President shall have the authority to determine procedural matters regarding public participation not otherwise defined in Board of Education policy.
7. Any person wanting to address the Board regarding an "Action Requests," **may do so, once the motion is made and seconded.**
8. If a person brings a topic before the Board that results in open deliberation by the Board, the outcome will be discernable by the public. In the case of statutory exceptions, the Board may vote to conduct a Closed Meeting and direct the Superintendent to respond in writing within a reasonable period of time.
9. Conduct oneself with respect and civility toward others, and otherwise abide by Board policy, 8:30, *Visitors to and Conduct on School Property.*