



**Oak Park District 97 Board of Education  
December 12, 2007**

*Betty Johnson, Observer*

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. with all Board members present and 19 persons from the community observing.

Three visitors used Public Comment time to urge further consideration before making a final decision about "flexible ability grouping."

Financial Officer Don Robinson presented the 2007 levy as it will be submitted to the County Clerk along with rationale and procedures. The budget amount as used in the request represented a 4.99% increase.

A Special Report, by a consultant, gave 5-year financial planning projections. Based on a review of gathered research for the past five years, a budget for 2008 was prepared with a total amount of \$58,909,072. This will be presented for vote at the January 29 Board Meeting.

Dr. Kevin Anderson presented the quarterly review of the Strategic Plan in order to assess where they are on the plan and how well the plan is working. Board response was positive about the planning that has been put into practice.

Consideration is being given to the establishment of a full day Kindergarten. Plans allow for 20 students per classroom; there are just under 500 children who would be age-eligible.

There was lengthy discussion about the possibility of flexible scheduling for students. Discussion revolved around the keeping of records, the possibility of disruption in the classroom, how children not being moved would react; keeping parents informed; and monitoring the outcomes statistically. It was emphasized that the plan must fit into the Master Plan.

Superintendent Collins reported that a brochure has been developed outlining procedures for parental contact of staff and the line of authority to follow.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40.