

Board Meeting Summary

December 11, 2003

*Working Together for Quality
Public Education*

McLean County Unit District No. 5
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Regular Meeting . . .

December 10, 2003

The Unit 5 Board of Education, at its regular meeting on December 10, 2003, took the following action and received the following reports:

Action

- The Board adopted a Resolution to employ Dr. Alan Chapman as interim superintendent effective January 5, 2004. A press release regarding Dr. Chapman's appointment is available on the Unit 5 website.
- The Certificate of Tax Levy for the Year 2003 was adopted. Estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2003 are \$66,335,000. The total estimated tax rate is \$4.40.
- A Resolution was adopted to abate property taxes for the Bond and Interest Fund by the amount of \$1,725,000. The District will utilize Capital Development Board proceeds within the Site and Construction Fund II to abate the taxes.
- New Language Arts resources for Grades 1-5 were adopted. Harcourt was chosen by the Unit 5 Language Arts Task Force as the series that most closely aligns with state standards and with the district's revised curriculum. While all materials will be ordered at this time, delayed billing will allow for a portion of the cost to come from next year's budget.

Reports

Good News Reports were received regarding Laura Furman, school nurse, and seven NCHS and NCWHS teachers who received National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification (Anne Libert, Gretchen Snow, Ruth Wantland, Lee Ann Thompson, Kate Pavlou, Megan Novotney, and Barb Bush).

It was reported that State School Report Cards were received from the Illinois State Board of Education on November 25. Copies of each school's report as well as the district report card are expected to be posted to the district's website on December 19. The report of the Educational Task Force to the Board of Education was received regarding cost containments and revenue enhancements for 2004-2005. The Board will review the Task Force's recommendations at a study session scheduled for December 17 at 6:00 p.m. Board representative reports were received, in addition

to a report on the November 7 parent-teacher conference day.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

- Minutes of the November 12 regular board meeting and November 25 special board meeting
- Enrollment update – 11,060 as of 11/30/03
- Accepted the resignations for 1 certified and 11 educational support personnel.
- Employed 2 teachers, 2 social worker, 7 noon hour supervisors, 4 teaching assistants, 1 administrative assistant, 1 technology specialist, and 12 bus drivers/assistants.
- Approved contract revisions for 3 educational support personnel.
- Approved Schedule B changes for 16 certified personnel.
- Approved a leave request for 2 educational support personnel
- Approved the Treasurer's Report of November 30, 2003.
- Granted permission to NCWHS to accept donations from the Normal West Soccer Parents to build a canopy onto the existing concession stand (\$1,500) and to build a press box/filming stand on the soccer field (\$10,000).
- Approved a request from the Evangelical Free Church to use the NCWHS Auditorium on Sunday, April 11, 2004 for an Easter Sunday Service.
- Approved a request from the Illinois Juniors Volleyball to use the NCWHS gyms on Sunday, March 21, 2004 for a League Tournament.

Public Comments

Six individuals addressed the Board regarding all-day kindergarten, outsourcing, the middle school concept, and the future of Unit 5.

Closed Session

The Board met in closed session before the public session to review closed session minutes and to consider the employment of specific individuals.

Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Levy

The Board held a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on the proposed tax levy for 2003. Only one individual in the audience asked questions regarding the levy.

