

January 12, 2006

Board Meeting Summary

Regular Meeting . . .

The Unit 5 Board of Education, at its regular meeting on **January 11, 2006**, took the following action and received the following reports:

Action

- Accepted a bid on a three-year lease agreement from Jim's Mobile Offices in Marion, Illinois for two portable classroom units for Chiddix and Parkside Junior High Schools. The monthly payment amount bid was \$2,479.17
- Adopted the following board policy revisions: (1) Policy 2.40 Board Member Qualifications, (2) Policy 2.200 Types of Board Meetings, (3) Policy 2.220 Board Meeting Procedures, (4) Policy 4.170 Safety, (5) Policy 5.180 General Personnel – Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity, (6) Policy 6.60 Curriculum Content, (7) Policy 6.140 Education of Homeless Children, (8) Policy 6.340 Student Testing and Assessment Program, (9) 7.60 Residence, (10) Policy 7.100 Health/Dental Examinations, Immunizations and Exclusion of Students, (11) Policy 7.170 Vandalism, (12) Policy 8.30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

Reports/Discussion

Four students (Lance Bergmann, Tess Losada, Zach Parton, and Taylor Pauken) were recognized for presenting testimonies at the Illinois State Board of Education budget hearings in Springfield on their experiences in gifted education. Eight NCHS students (Andy Lowery, Chad Beier, Justin Devore, Franklin Dodson, Stephen Donovan, Jeff Gist, Josh Kemp, and Devin Miles) were recognized for awards they received in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Voice of Democracy Scholarship competition.

Cindy Behrens NCHS teacher, was recognized for receiving the Outstanding Teacher Award for 2005-2006 from the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary. Mrs. Behrens was also honored in the state level competition and is now a candidate for the VFW's National Citizenship Education Award. Cathy Greene, director of elementary education, was recognized for being selected by the Illinois State Board of Education to serve as a member of the Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children.

In addition, reports were received on student enrollment (11,770 students as of 12/31/05) and

energy conservation progress. Energy savings for the period August 1 to early December 2005 are projected at \$147,544.18. It was reported that the combined savings of 11.48 percent for electricity, natural gas, water and diesel fuel (for the two high school generators) has increased each month. Credit for the success went to the employees and students of the District who have worked to be more energy conscious. Plans are already being made to better reduce expenses during the summer months.

Consent Agenda

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

- Minutes of the December 14 regular board meeting
- Staffing needs – 1.0 FTE special education certified position at Northpoint (.5) and Pepper Ridge (.5)
- Resignations/retirements/terminations for 11 educational support personnel
- Employment of 5 teachers and 11 educational support personnel
- Contract revisions for 1 teacher, 3 educational support personnel, and Schedule B
- Overnight trip: (1) NCHS Girls Varsity Basketball team request for an overnight trip to Knightstown, Indiana on January 14-16, 2006, (2) KJHS Pom Pon Squad request to participate in the Illinois Regional Pom Pon Competition at Richwoods High School in Peoria, Illinois on Sunday, January 22, 2006 and the State Championship (if they qualify) on Sunday, February 19, 2006 at Illinois State University
- Other: NCWHS request for Normal Parks and Recreation Department's use of gyms on Sunday, February 19, 2006 for an annual 2-ball competition

Public Comments

Monika Cavanagh of Bloomington addressed the Board regarding the potential move of ESL students from Sugar Creek.

Closed Session

The Board met in closed session prior to the public session to review closed session minutes and to consider real property matters, the employment and compensation of specific employees, pending litigation, and collective negotiating matters.