

MINUTES
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
April 27, 2005

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois, met in regular session on April 27, 2005, at approximately 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 West Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

- 1.0 Roll Call** Members present: Gail Ann Briggs, Meta Mickens-Baker, Martin O'Connor, John Puzauskas, Jay Reece, Steve Whittington, and Board President Scott Lay. Members absent: None.
- 2.0 Closed Session** Briggs moved, Reece seconded, to adjourn to closed session to consider the employment and compensation of specific employees, collective negotiating matters, pending litigation, and review of closed session minutes. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**
- Also present: Superintendent Dr. Alan Chapman, Assistant Superintendent of Operations/Human Resources John Pye, and Clerk of the Board Cindy Prescher.
- 3.0 Return to Public Session** At approximately 7:00 p.m., Briggs moved, Reece seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**
- Also present: Chapman, Pye, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Instruction Jim Braksick, Executive Director of Secondary Education Bruce Boswell, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer Tod Altenburg, Prescher, Meghan Leiseberg, Valerie Leichtenberg, Andy Kehl, Rick Percy, Janet Percy, Tom Ellsworth, Kay Ellsworth, Jerry Martoglio, Joan Martoglio, Jan Hood, Jeanette Nuckolls, Chuck Hartseil, Rich Schroeder, Zach Puzauskas, Mary Puzauskas, Alex Puzauskas, Sandra Puzauskas, Brenda Carter, Sonja and Jerry Reece, Pam Reece, Eric Reece, Alicia Reece, Tom and Cheryl Young, Julia Basting, Vickie Barbour, Becky Forrester, Randy Middleton, Bert Popejoy, Wes Caldwell, Karen O'Dea, Meg Chana, Michele Huber, Holly and Rex Presson, Stacy Ash, Jette Coward, Elaine Evans, Dee Bigger, Bernie Green, Joan Boesen, Julie Boesen, Lisa Preston, Jane Richter, Dave Richter, Dan Carpenter, Keith Baker, Cameron Baker, Christian Baker, Chuck Bartlett, Michelle Mollett, Jerry James, Kevin Heinkes from WJBC, Tom Eder, Fred Walk, Donna Lutkehaus, and others.
- 4.0 Pledge of Allegiance** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- 5.0 Recess for Reception** Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to recess for approximately 20 minutes for a reception to recognize board members completing terms of service and to welcome newly elected board members. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**
- Retired board members, Tom Ellsworth and Rick Percy, were recognized for their combined 25 years of service on the Unit 5 Board of Education. Cabinet members and current and former board members (Hood and Martoglio) commented on Ellsworth's and Percy's dedication, leadership, and positive impact on the District. In addition, they expressed appreciation and best wishes to them. Ellsworth and Percy offered positive comments regarding their terms on the Board, expressed thanks, and introduced their spouses who were also present.

Newly elected board members, Mickens-Baker, Puzauskas, and Reece, were welcomed to the Board. They indicated they were looking forward to serving the District and introduced their families who were present.

Following the recognitions and welcome, refreshments were served in the Meeting Room.

The recess ended at approximately 7:42 p.m.

**6.0 Focus on Students/
Good News Reports**

The following were recognized:

Focus on Students

- NCWHS Wind Ensemble
- International High School Initiative at NCHS

7.0 Public Comments

The following addressed the Board:

- | | <u>Topic</u> |
|------------------------|---|
| • Valerie Leichtenberg | Unit Five Teaching Assistants Association |

8.0 Action

8.1 Accept Bid for Life Safety Work

Randy Middleton of Middleton Associates, Inc. presented the recommended bid for Life Safety work to be done at Glenn and Oakdale Elementary Schools. He reported the receipt of five bids and recommended acceptance of the low bid in the amount \$83,721 from Bishops Brothers. In response to a board member question, Middleton commented that the contractor, who has completed work for the District in the past, has assured him he wants the project and is ready to begin the work. Mickens-Baker moved, Reece seconded, to accept the bid for Life Safety lighting and ceiling replacement at Glenn and Oakdale Elementary Schools as recommended. (Attachment #1) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

8.2 Accept Proposal for General ASP On-Line Application System

Pye recommended approval of the General ASP On-Line Application (OLA) System for the District. He felt the system would be more user friendly, would more effectively and efficiently process applications, and facilitate the sharing of administrator comments and reviews on applicants. Reece moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to accept the proposal for the GSA On-Line Application System as recommended. (Attachment #2) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

8.3 Accept Proposal for Lease of Additional Buses for 2005-2006

Pye recommended the lease/purchase of 20 additional buses for the 2005-2006 school year. Interim transportation director, Bert Popejoy, and Wes Caldwell were present at the meeting to address questions. Pye stated that Popejoy and Caldwell had worked diligently to refine bus routes for the coming school year to reduce student ride/wait times and provide full-day programming for special education and ESL students. To accomplish these charges, he reported that 12 additional regular education routes and 6 additional special education routes would be needed. In addition, he reported that the added routes would necessitate the lease/purchase of 20 more buses. Annual lease cost of the additional buses would be \$239,438.48. Pye noted that more parking spaces to accommodate the additional buses would need to be added at the District's transportation facility or some buses could be stored at the District's former transportation facility to make room for the new buses. The estimated cost of fueling, maintaining, and insuring the new buses was reported to be \$106,051.59. Pye reported that as a result of scheduling adjustments, it is anticipated that less than 1 full-time additional staff member would be needed. Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to accept the proposal for the lease of additional buses for 2005-2006 as recommended. (Attachment #3) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

8.4 Approve Athletic Code Revision

Boswell presented the revised Athletic Code for the Board's approval. Since the first reading of the proposed revision on April 13, Boswell stated that there had been some discussion among the coaches regarding the provision that defines dismissal. He indicated that at issue had been whether dismissal would mean not practicing with the team. After discussion of the issue by the Committee that worked to revise the Code, Boswell remarked that the revised Athletic Code as presented was still the Committee's recommendation. O'Connor asked questions about the voting by head and assistant coaches at both high schools on the dismissal issue to which Boswell responded with total votes information. Puzauskas moved, Briggs seconded, to approve the Athletic Code revision as recommended. (Attachment #4) O'Connor noted that information had been received from one of the head coaches regarding the dismissal issue and voiced concern about whether it would really help children. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: O'Connor. **Motion carried.**

8.5 Approve Student Fees, Student Insurance and Lunch Prices for 2005-2006

Boswell presented the recommended student fees, student insurance and lunch prices for the coming school year. It was recommended that student fees not be increased for 2005-2006; however, increases were proposed for student insurance and lunch prices. Mickens-Baker moved, O'Connor seconded, to approve student fees, student insurance and lunch prices for 2005-2006 as recommended. (Attachment #5) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

9.0 Consent Agenda

Chapman presented the Consent Agenda and recommended its approval. Puzauskas moved, Reece seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

9.1 Approval of the Minutes

- April 11, 2005 Public Meeting
- April 20, 2005 Special Meeting

9.2 Other

- KJHS request for East White Oak Church to use Neuman Gym for a Back-to-School Night on Sunday, August 21, 2005
- Cooperative paper bid for 2005-2006 (Attachment #6)
- Renew Illinois High School Association memberships for NCHS and NCWHS
- Renew Illinois Elementary School Association memberships for CJHS, KJHS, and PJHS

Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

10.0 Reports/Discussion

10.1 Board Representative Reports

Beyond the Books Educational Foundation (BTBEF) (Briggs) – Briggs reported that the Foundation had determined grant awards for the coming school year. She stated that Unit 5 grant recipients at the elementary school level would be recognized at the May 11 board meeting and recipients at the secondary school level would be recognized at the May 25 board meeting. Briggs noted that the grant winners would be presented with their awards at their individual schools beginning this Friday. She added that 23 (15 elementary and 8 secondary) grants totaling \$13,009 had been awarded in Unit 5.

Board Policy Review Committee (Briggs) – Briggs reported that 5 policies would be presented for first reading at the May 11 board meeting and 2 policies would be presented for first reading at the May 25 board meeting.

Community Connections Committee (Mickens-Baker/Briggs) – Briggs reported that the committee had evaluated the April 11 "Community Conversation" meeting held at Sugar Creek Elementary School and made suggestions to consider for the future. The suggestions included a different format, focus groups, identification of key

communicators within the community, and possibly holding some board meetings at schools with allowance for an open dialogue time. She stated that suggestions have also been made by the Committee regarding the District's website. The next meeting of the Community Connections Committee will be held on June 6 at 4:30 p.m. at the District Office.

Area Vocational Center (AVC) (Whittington) – Whittington reported that he and Boswell recently attended the next to the last AVC Administrative Council meeting for this school year. Boswell stated that a brief meeting remained to approve the budget for 2005-2006.

McLean County Regional Planning Commission (Lay) – Lay reported that he recently attended an Executive Committee meeting of the Commission to review the proposed budget. Plans for the coming six months include holding a community forum on growth and development and seeking ways to best deal with it.

10.2 Technology Implementation

Braksick and Donna Lutkehaus, director of technology/IMC, reported on the current status of technology in the District, areas of need, data obtained from other school districts throughout the state, and recommended technology changes. Lutkehaus provided background information on the history of technology in Unit 5. She noted the previous implementation of a Zone Integration System in the District and requested to examine *Skyward*, an integrated student and financial management system, in order to meet present and future District needs. Lutkehaus reviewed key benefits of the system and reported that *Skyward* had expressed interest in utilizing Unit 5 as a pilot/showcase site, which would offset some District costs. Further, she stated that existing budgeted line items could be utilized to offset some of the investment cost. Additional modules could be added to meet long-term District needs. Lutkehaus remarked that a commitment to the technology implementation plan would allow Unit 5 to meet several objectives of its Strategic Plan and would enhance current and future District operations.

Braksick sought direction from the Board in regard to *Skyward* and asked the Board to consider a timeframe for implementing the proposed plan. He suggested a demonstration of the *Skyward* system and pointed out that costs could be wide-ranging dependent upon desired modules. In response to a board member concern, Lutkehaus reported that the current technology infrastructure in the District was in good shape to support the proposed plan. Staff involvement in the examination process was encouraged. Braksick cautioned that finding a product to perfectly meet everyone's needs would be unlikely. He felt there would be a need to adapt in some areas. Board members generally favored moving ahead with the plan and requested additional information as soon as possible.

10.3 1st Reading: Resolution and Agreed Protocol for Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting By and Between Unit 5 and DCFS

Chapman presented for first reading a resolution and agreed protocol for child abuse and neglect reporting by and between Unit 5 and the Department of Children and Family Services. He indicated that the resolution and protocol was the product of an effort that began last fall and was led by McLean County State's Attorney Bill Yoder. Others involved in the effort were representatives of DCFS, Children's Advocacy Center, Unit 5 and District 87. Chapman remarked that the resolution and protocol would not change mandated reporting obligations under the law, but suggests a change in approach for the District in respect to allowing DCFS investigators, under limited circumstances, more access to students in Unit 5 schools than is currently provided. He reported that the District's legal counsel had reviewed the resolution and protocol, and he felt it was an appropriate shift in District practice. Approval of the proposed resolution and protocol is scheduled for the May 11 regular board meeting.

11.0 Announcements

Announcements made at the meeting:

- Briggs commented that she appreciated the good discussion at the meeting.
- President Lay remarked that he hoped to finalize the appointment of board representatives to committees, councils, and commissions within the next several weeks.
- Chapman acknowledged the death of Hesteen Gray, a fifth grader at Oakdale Elementary School, during the past week. He expressed sympathy to her family and asked everyone to keep them in their thoughts and prayers.

12.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Scott Lay, Board of Education President
Community Unit School District No. 5
McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois

ATTEST:

Steve Whittington, Board of Education Secretary

Approved: _____
(Date)