

MINUTES
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
August 25, 2004

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois, met in regular session on August 25, 2004, 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, Tom Ellsworth, Meta Mickens-Baker, Martin O'Connor, Steve Whittington, and Board President Rick Percy. Members absent: Scott Lay.

2.0 Closed Session Briggs moved, O'Connor seconded, to adjourn to closed session to consider the employment and compensation of specific employees, collective negotiating matters, and review of closed session minutes. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Ellsworth, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Whittington, Percy. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Also present: Superintendent Dr. Alan Chapman, Assistant Superintendent of Operations/Human Resources John Pye, Attorney Dennis Triggs, and Clerk of the Board Cindy Prescher.

3.0 Return to Public Session At approximately 7:10 p.m., Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Ellsworth, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Whittington, Percy. 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, Rebecca Loda from The Pantagraph, Kevin Heinkes from WJBC, Fred Walk, Barb McLaughlin-Olson, Rich Schroeder, John Puzauskas, Rebecca Pabst, Ashley Dillon, Ashleigh Addicks, Tracy Bains, Terri Reiser, Kim and Jerry Turner, Gwen Newcomer, Kristy Lykkebak, Samantha Reiser, Diana Blickensderfer, Brittany Newcomer, Kari Turner, Jessica Bains, Amanda Williams, Rita Piercy, Kalie Tommerdahl, Jeff Tommerdahl, Tamy Bains, Dave Gibson, and others.

4.0 Pledge of Allegiance The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**5.0 Focus on Students/
Good News Reports** The following were recognized:
Good News Report

- Fred Walk, NCHS Teacher

6.0 Public Comments The following addressed the Board:

	<u>Topic</u>
• Barb McLaughlin-Olson, 7 Buckingham Ct., Bloomington	Busing
• Tracy Bains, 910 S. Linden, Normal	Swimming/Diving
• Tamy Bains, NCHS Student	Swimming/Diving
• Samantha Reiser, NCHS Student	Swimming/Diving
• Diana Blickensderfer, NCHS Student	Swimming/Diving
• Brittany Newcomer, NCHS Student	Swimming/Diving
• Kari Turner, NCHS Student	Swimming/Diving
• Kalie Tommerdahl, NCHS Student	Swimming/Diving
• Jessica Bains, NCHS Student	Swimming/Diving

- Amanda Williams, NCHS Student Swimming/Diving
- Rita Piercy, 1908 Kennedy Ln., Bloomington Swimming/Diving
- Jeff Tommerdahl, 3412 Stephanie Rd., Bloomington Swimming/Diving
- Dave Gibson, 2 Raspberry Rd., Bloomington Swimming/Diving

7.0 Reports/Discussion

7.1 Enrollment Update

Pye reported the District's first day of student enrollment (today) to be 11,118. He reported the addition of four classrooms and the reduction of two classrooms at various schools. Pye remarked that the concepts of open attendance areas and attendance exceptions have allowed the Administration to more effectively balance class size across the District. Classrooms over/under established enrollment ranges were also noted. A comparison of student enrollment of September 30, 2003 to the enrollment of August 25, 2004 was presented. A total increase of 1.67 percent was reported.

8.0 Action

8.1 Grant Water Line Easement to Towanda Township

Chapman recommended granting a water line easement to Towanda Township. He indicated the proposed easement involved the edge of the Towanda Elementary School property and would not impact the District's use of the property. Chapman remarked that the District's attorney, Robert Fleming, had prepared the easement document. O'Connor moved, Ellsworth seconded, to grant a water line easement to Towanda Township as presented. (Attachment #1) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Ellsworth, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Whittington, Percy. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

8.2 Accept Quote for the Lease/Repurchase Agreement for Two Station Wagons

Altenburg noted that the District had over the past several years reduced the amount budgeted for mileage reimbursement to employees for professional travel. Due to the expiration of two leases for autos used by staff for professional travel, Altenburg commented that the previous chief financial officer/treasurer had obtained three lease quotes for two station wagons to replace the expired leases. He recommended acceptance of the lowest quote from Dennison Ford of Bloomington for the lease/repurchase agreement for two 2005 Ford Taurus SE station wagons for the price of \$32,914.50 or \$985.36 per month. O'Connor moved, Briggs seconded, to accept the quote for the lease/repurchase agreement for two 2005 Ford Taurus SE station wagons as recommended. In response to a board member question about the length of the agreement, it was reported that it was for 36 months. (Attachment #2) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Ellsworth, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Whittington, Percy. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

9.0 Consent Agenda

Chapman reviewed the Consent Agenda for Board approval. Concerning staffing needs included in Personnel Matters, Pye recommended approval of the Administration's request to hire sufficient certified staff to accommodate the addition of three classrooms and up to fifteen teaching assistants to meet enrollment needs. The request was amended to include four instead of three additional classrooms. He also noted that the salaries for some of the staff recommended for employment would be paid through approved grants. Briggs moved, Ellsworth seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

9.1 Approval of the Minutes

- August 11, 2004 Regular Meeting

9.2 Personnel Matters (Attachment #3)

9.3 Overnight Trips

- NCHS Marching Ironmen permission to participate in the 2004-2005 Fiesta Bowl Parade and Pageant of Bands in Phoenix, Arizona on December 27, 2004-January 2, 2005
- NCHS Pom Pon Squad permission to participate in the 2005 National Dance Championship at Walt Disney World Resort on February 4-8, 2005

9.4 Other

- Adopted Board Policy revisions:
 - Board Policy 4.90 (Attachment #4)
 - Board Policy 4.170 (Attachment #5)

- Board Policy 6.65 (Attachment #6) (new policy)
- Board Policy 6.90 (Attachment #7)
- Board Policy 7.250 (Attachment #8)
- Request from Victory Academy to use the NCWHS Gymnasiums on Sunday, December 5, 2004 for cheerleading competition
- Request from Sounds of Illinois Chorus to use the NCWHS Auditorium for performances on Saturday, February 26 and Sunday, February 27, 2005

Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Ellsworth, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Whittington, Percy.
Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

10.0 Reports/Discussion

10.1 Board Representative Report

Community Connections Committee (Briggs, Mickens-Baker) – Briggs reported the committee had reviewed Administrative Procedure and Exhibit 8.25 concerning distribution and posting of materials from outside agencies. She noted that Chapman had been asked to include the procedure/exhibit with the Weekly Update for the Board's review. Briggs remarked that the District had received over 100 distribution requests, and the agencies are awaiting direction.

In regard to Unit 5 Citizens Advisory Topics for 2004-2005, Briggs reported topics would be proposed to the CAC officers and then presented to the Board for approval on September 8.

Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council (Ellsworth/O'Connor) – Ellsworth indicated he would be unable to attend the Council meetings during the fall semester as the Council meetings would be held at a time when he teaches. Percy indicated he would try to cover the meetings if the representatives were unavailable. It was also suggested to change the meeting time.

10.2 1st Reading: Proposed Board Policy Revisions

- Board Policy 1.20
- Board Policy 1.30
- Board Policy 4.30
- Board Policy 5.35

Briggs reviewed four board policy revisions proposed for adoption on September 8. She remarked that changes to Policy 1.20 reflect the current organizational chart approved February 25, 2004; in Policy 1.30 the Mission Statement adopted August 11, 2004 replaces the former statement; and that Policy 4.30 contains format changes and optional language under Selection of Depositories that have been reviewed and are recommended by Mr. Altenburg. She stated that Policy 5.35 is a new policy required by legislation and following review by the District's counsel it will be included for adoption on an upcoming agenda. Briggs requested any board member input on the policies prior to agenda preparation for the 8th.

11.0 Announcements

Announcements made at the meeting:

- Ellsworth commented on his receipt of a letter of thanks from the Illinois Association of School Boards regarding the resolution submitted by the Board for Delegate Assembly consideration as a belief statement.
- Briggs commented that several staff members had indicated they appreciated the content and brevity of O'Connor's remarks made at the Opening Institute on August 23. She added that she had received positive comments regarding the Board/Cabinet presentations to staff at the District's schools on the Unit 5 Strategic Plan.
- Briggs also made positive comments about Mickens-Baker's recent presentation given at KJHS on diversity.
- Chapman reported he had arranged two meetings that would be posted as special board meetings so that available board members may attend. One will be an informal breakfast meeting with the mayors of Carlock, Hudson, and Towanda on

September 14 at 7:00 a.m. The second one will be an informal breakfast meeting with former Unit 5 board members on September 28 at 7:00 a.m.

- Chapman commented that while the first day of school was not perfect, he felt on the whole the District had a successful start to the school year. He noted that Cabinet members visited most all schools today, and staff and students were enthusiastic. It was reported that most transportation routes ran close to on time. He added that the goal is to resolve any transportation issues as quickly as possible. Other Cabinet members also made positive comments about the start of the school year.
- Percy expressed appreciation to Whittington, O'Connor, and Mickens-Baker who recently made special presentations in the District. He also thanked the Board for doing presentations at the District's schools on the Unit 5 Strategic Plan. He concurred with Chapman's remarks on the successful start of the school year and quick resolution of any transportation issues.

12.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Richard B. Percy, Board of Education President
Community Unit School District No. 5
McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois

ATTEST:

Martin L. O'Connor, Board of Education Secretary