

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
November 8, 2006

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on November 8, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. 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.

Also present: Superintendent Alan Chapman, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Human Resources John Pye, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Instruction Jim Braksick, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer Tod Altenburg, Director of Elementary Education Kurt Swearingen, Chuck Bartlett, Vickie Mahrt, Brandon Hedysperh, Jodi Sherman, Linda Eckman, Michelle Lamb, Cathy Weiss, Michele Steinbacher, Will Cooper, Ray Ahillen, Dominique Holder, Laura Baue, Chuck Baue, and others.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3.0 Public Comments

Vickie Mahrt, Normal, Illinois

4.0 Focus on Students/Good News Reports

- 4.1 Good News Report ~ Phyllis Coulter and Michele Steinbacher
- 4.2 Good News Report ~ Laura Baue

5.0 Preliminary Tax Levy Report

- 5.1 Altenburg provided information on and discussed the following reports: (Attachment #1)
 - Historical trends in equalized assessed values 1976 through 2005
 - Schedule of estimated tax rates and extensions ~ 2006 Real Estate Tax Levy
 - 2006 estimated levy and tax rates vs. 2005 actual levy and tax rates
 - Estimated impact of the change in assessed values on the real estate tax levy extension
 - Tax rate limitations and 10-year taxes collected schedule

6.0 Action

6.1 Adopt Resolution for Estimated Amount Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2006

Briggs moved, Puzauskas seconded, to adopt the resolution for the estimated amount necessary to be levied for the year 2006 as presented. (Attachment #2) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Mickens-Baker, O'Connor, Puzauskas, Reece, Whittington, Lay. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

7.0 Consent Agenda

Chapman reviewed the Consent Agenda and recommended its approval. Reece moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

7.1 Approval of Minutes

- 7.1.1 October 11, 2006 ~ Closed Meeting
- 7.1.2 October 11, 2006 ~ Regular Meeting
- 7.1.3 October 19, 2006 ~ Special Meeting
- 7.1.4 October 25, 2006 ~ Regular Meeting
- 7.1.5 October 30, 2006 ~ Special Meeting
- 7.1.6 November 6, 2006 ~ Special Meeting

7.2 Personnel Matters (Attachment #3)

7.3 Payment of Bills and Payrolls Summary (Attachment #4)

7.4 Statement of Expenditures by Operating Fund (Attachment #5)

7.5 Treasurer's Report (Attachment #6)

7.5 Other

7.5.1 NCWHS Request for Overnight Trip ~ Outdoor Adventure Club (Attachment #7)

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

Motion carried.

8.0 Reports/Discussion

8.2 Enrollment Report and Comparison Figures

Pye presented the latest enrollment report and comparison figures as of October 31, 2006. (Attachment #8) The total enrollment figures of October 2006 were 12,130. Pye noted that PJHS and KJHS enrollment was over 900 and that CJHS has had the greatest amount of growth from last year's figures. The comparison figures demonstrate steady growth for the District.

8.2 1st Reading: Proposed Board Policy Revisions

Briggs presented 28 board policies for revisions. She highlighted and commented on the proposed changes. Any comments, concerns, and/or suggestions should be addressed to Briggs by Tuesday, November 14. The policies will be scheduled for 2nd reading and approval at the November 29, 2006 meeting..

8.3 Elementary Report Card Task Force

Swearingen reported that the task force consists of twelve elementary staff members and one elementary principal and has at least one representative from every grade level. Swearingen noted that ten of the fifteen elementary buildings are represented. The task force has been meeting regularly since August, 2006. General goals included:

- Alignment of report cards with current state goals and standards
- Develop a report card that teachers can complete using a computer
- Integrate the use of report cards with the current Skyward Gradebook System

Swearingen reported that the task force has been gathering feedback from staff, parents and sample report cards from other schools across the state and country. The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 20. This session will include discussion on the input parents gave at a luncheon as well as feedback from grade level staff. Board members expressed support for incorporating state learning standards with the District's report card. Swearingen noted that the task force would like to incorporate its recommendations with the curriculum hearings scheduled in February 2007.

8.4 IASB Delegate Assembly

Puzauskas will represent the Unit 5 Board of Education at the Delegate Assembly on November 18, 2006 at the IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Convention in Chicago. Discussion included the proposed constitutional amendment and the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee. It was the consensus of the Board to agree with the recommendations of the Board of Directors and the Resolutions Committee.

8.5 Board Representatives Reports

- Citizens Advisory Council ~ Briggs reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15.
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ Briggs announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 9. The number of grants and total amount of money that have been awarded to educators in each of the schools for District 87 and Unit 5 is planned to be included in the December school newsletters.
- McLean County Regional Planning Commission ~ Lay announced that on November 29 there will be the first of two public meetings relative to the east side-main street corridors and future roadways. The Planning Commission is forming a group to combine and revamp the 5-year comprehensive plan which guides activities of the Bloomington and Normal municipalities. Lay will represent Unit 5 on this committee.
- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Committee ~ Reece reported that the next quarterly committee meeting is scheduled for sometime next month.

9.0 Announcements made included the following:

- Pye thanked the Board, administration, teaching staff, students and parents for their active participation in the Consortium for Educational Change systems audit. There will be a report regarding the audit scheduled for the November 29 Board meeting. Chapman also noted that

administration is working to schedule a time and place to hold a public meeting to present the CEC audit report.

- Whittington and Puzauskas will be presenters at the IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Convention scheduled for November 17 – 19, 2006 in Chicago. The presentation is titled, “Who Says You Can’t Run School Like a Business?”.
- Reece reported the Prairieland 2nd and 3rd grade music program will be presented Thursday, November 9.
- Briggs noted that she had attended the KJHS parent program on Tuesday, November 7. One concern raised by parents was the level of funding reserves the Board feels is appropriate to have available. It was suggested to add this discussion topic to a future Board meeting.
- Lay thanked Board members and administration for their efforts regarding the intergovernmental meeting held on October 30 with Bloomington, Normal, Towanda and County Board officials.

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

Meta Mickens-Baker, Board of Education Secretary

Approved Date: November 29, 2006