

**Minutes**  
**McLean County Unit District No. 5**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session**  
**April 9, 2008**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on April 9, 2008 at approximately 6:02 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Gail Ann Briggs, Wendy Cannell, Scott Lay, Meta Mickens-Baker, Mark Pritchett, John Puzauskas, and President Jay Reece. Members absent: None.

**Closed Session**

At approximately 6:02 p.m., Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to adjourn to closed session to discuss the following matter according to the exceptions provided in the "Open Meetings Act" and specified as follows:

- Section 2(c)(11) Litigation against, affecting or on behalf of McLean County Unit district No. 5 which has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or is probable or is imminent,
- Section 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters with employees or their representatives, and
- Section 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed.

Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

**Return to Public Session**

At 7:11 p.m., Briggs moved, Puzauskas seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Also present: Superintendent Gary Niehaus, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Human Resources John Pye, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Jim Braksick, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, Chief Financial Officer James Gillmeister, Meghan Leiseberg, Phyllis Coulter of *The Pantagraph*, District Energy Educator/Manager Bruce Boswell, Gary Hill, Adam Kimball, Justin Krall, Debbie Krall, Abbey Krall, Bethany Salm, Ruth Kenney, Emily Stockweather, Breanne Henebry, Nina Dismuke, Jessica Umen, Caiti Kopp, Heather Holz, Jessica Wanthal, Hannah Endrizzi, Carianna Cottone, Lindsay Miner, Sara Miner, Logan Dresnahan, Kirsten Boesen, Keith Schlink, Lori Schlink, Teresa Kenney, Joan Boesen, John Starr, Tom Patten, Amy Scott, Cathy Thomas, Mike Consolzie, Alyson Meyer, Mara Weaver, Sarah Roberts, Scott Smith of PMA Financial Network, Bob Lewis of PMA Financial Network, Jennifer Baugh, Erin Smith, Amber Schlink, Ellie Marvin, Chuck Bartlett, Jim Fitzpatrick of WJBC, Jon Butler, Timothy Reeves, Theresa Sanders, Nicole Moore, Katie Watt, Karala Nichols, Dave Schippert, Don Whitman, Jim Buth, Sara Manochelle, Haleigh Abeling, Becca Fenton, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Becky Ayers, Lindsey Carney, Hilda Endrizzi, Ken Endrizzi, Connie Horvath, Jane Moore, Dawn Green, Cathy Weiss, Cora Newman, CAC president Kevin Burke, Mark Lewis, Tom Eder, and others.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Good News Reports**

- Amber Schlink ~ NCWHS Student
- Project Lead The Way ~ Dave Schippert, Don Whitman, David Weber, Ashlee Johnson, and Dan Higby

**Public Comments**

The following people addressed the Board regarding the cross country coaching position at NCWHS:

- Karen Kenney, NCWHS student
- Tom Patten, Normal
- Nathan Stark, NCWHS student

## Action

### Organization of the Board ~ Appointment of Temporary Chair and Election of Board Officers

Briggs moved, Lay seconded to appoint Superintendent Niehaus to serve as temporary chair until election of a new Board president. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

### Election of President

Niehaus called for nominations for Board president. Mickens-Baker nominated Reece. Niehaus declared nominations to be closed and took a vote on the nominee. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Reece was elected president.**

### Election of Vice President

Reece called for nominations for Board vice-president. Briggs nominated Mickens-Baker. Reece declared nominations to be closed. Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded to elect Meta Mickens-Baker as Board vice-president. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

### Election of Secretary

Reece called for nominations for Board secretary. Mickens-Baker nominated Puzauskas. Reece declared nominations to be closed. Cannell moved, Briggs seconded to elect Puzauskas as Board secretary. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Reece declared the Board officially organized and ready to consider matters which may come before it.

### Selection of Day, Hour, and Place for Board Meetings

Lay moved, Puzauskas seconded to set the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month as the official board meeting days, with meetings to begin at 7:00 p.m., and the official meeting place to be the District office, 1809 West Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Report

### CAC Study Topic Committee Reports

CAC president Kevin Burke presented an executive summary of the following CAC Study Topic Committee Reports: (Attachment #1)

- Alternative Educational Structures In-Depth ~ Attendance Centers
- Citizens Advisory Council Information Sharing ~ Organizational Dynamics
- Current and Future Technology Analysis
- School Safety and Security

## Action

### Accept CAC Study Topic Committee Report

With appreciation from the Board of Education Pritchett moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to accept the study topic committee reports as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Action

### Approve Construction Management Services Provider

Niehaus reported on the process for the selection of the Construction Management firm. The District received proposals from Gilbane/Felmley Dickerson, Skillman-JCI Team, Turner Construction, and CORE Construction. Interviews and review of proposals were conducted by members of the Architectural Services Executive Committee. The interview team consisted of Briggs, Puzauskas, Niehaus, Pye, Gillmeister, Mark Jolicoeur, David Henebry, Jeff Monahan, and Jerry Martoglio. Puzauskas moved, Briggs seconded, to approve Superintendent Niehaus to proceed with contract negotiations with Turner Construction as the District's Construction Management firm for the \$96.7 million construction project including two new elementary schools, the renovation and additions to Sugar Creek Elementary School, and a new middle school. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Consent Agenda

Niehaus reviewed the Consent Agenda. There was a special notation of the resignation of Meghan Leiseberg, Community Relations Specialist. Board members and administration offered congratulations and appreciation for her contributions to the District. Cannell moved, Pritchett seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

### Personnel Matters (Attachment #2)

- Resignations/Retirements/Terminations
- Employment
- Contract Revisions
- Leave Requests

### Approval of Minutes

- February 27, 2008 Closed Session
- February 27, 2008 Regular Session

### Payment of Bills and Payrolls

- Bill Listing
- Payroll Report
- Summary of Bills and Payrolls by Operating Fund (Attachment #3)

### Treasurer's Report (Attachment #4)

### Other

- Staff Appreciation Proclamation (Attachment #5)
- Request for Approval of Overnight Trips
  - NCHS Family Career Community Leaders of America (Attachment #6)
  - NCHS Marching Band (Attachment #7)
  - NCWHS Wind Ensemble (Attachment #8)
  - NCWHS Student Council (Attachment #9)
  - CJHS Team Quest (Attachment #10)
  - PJHS Student Council (Attachment #11)
- Designate May 30, 2008 as the Last Day of School for 2007-2008
- Accept Bids
  - Cooperative Paper Bid (Attachment #12)
  - PE Uniforms (Attachment #13)
- Membership Renewal
  - IESA for CJHS, KJHS, and PJHS (Attachment #14)
  - IHSA for NCHS and NCWHS (Attachment #15)

Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

## Reports/Discussion

### PMA Report on Bond Services

Bob Lewis and Scott Smith of PMA Securities, Inc. presented information on the Series 2008 Bonds sales and provided a summary of the Bonds Pricing Book. Discussion included but was not limited to the following:

- Retail sales totaled \$8.84 million
- Local institutions purchasing bonds included State Farm (\$36.5 million) and Country Companies (\$5.3 million)
- Interest rates trends and market factors
- Underwriting team ~ First Midstate Inc. and Wachovia Securities
- Explanation of bond rating scale by Moody's Investors Service and Standard and Poors
- Summary of bond insurance bids and current trends – FSA and Assured Guaranty
- Impact of tax levy (fiscal year 2003-2028)
- Outstanding debt, existing and proposed debt service
- Bond/interest tax rate and comparison with growth rates – achievement of tax rate goal
- Report on recent comparable issues and sales

### 30 Month Energy Conservation/Savings Progress Report

Bruce Boswell, District Energy Educator-Manager, reported on the 30-month Energy Conservation/Savings Progress Report. (Attachment #16) Boswell noted the comparison of student population and square footage with energy demands. He reported that District savings after expenses totaled \$2,196,632.00 which is a reduction equal to the removal of over 7000 cars from roads or planting over 15,000 acres of trees. Boswell provided a cost savings summary for August 1, 2005 through January 31, 2008 noting that all sites in the District showed positive data. Boswell also provided information on the Energy Star Recognition program and noted that several Unit 5 schools may be in line to qualify for this recognition.

#### Freedom of Information Request

Niehaus reported that since the last Board meeting the District had received and processed the following Freedom of Information Requests:

- Scott Reeder, Springfield IL (Attachment #17)
- Colleen Reynolds (WJBC), Bloomington IL (Attachment #18)

#### Enrollment Report and Comparison Figures

Pye provided the enrollment report with comparison figures as of March 31, 2008. (Attachment #19) Pye noted that in May Board members will receive the initial report on kindergarten registration and enrollment.

#### Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- Community Connections Committee ~ Briggs reported that the committee met Friday, April 4.
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ Briggs reported that readers met on Wednesday, April 2. More information will be provided in subsequent meetings.
- Illinois Association of School Boards Corn Belt Division Representative ~ Briggs announced the next meeting will be May 13. Reservations should be submitted to Donna Evans.
- Consortium for Educational Change District Continuous Improvement Team ~ Mickens-Baker noted that the committee meeting was rescheduled for April 17 at 4:30 p.m. at the IEA office.
- Architectural Services Executive Committee ~ Puzauskas reported that the Elementary School and Middle School Planning Committees are continuing to meet to provide information to the architects for the first phase of schematic design.
- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council ~ Cannell reported that the committee met on March 19. Information discussed included the State compliance review and Response to Intervention assessments.
- Strategic Planning and Finance Committee ~ Cannell reported that the committee met on April 7. The committee will be working on specific financial goals for the District and putting together a timeline to achieve those goals.

#### **Announcements/Comments**

- Lay commented on the public comments portion of the meeting and requested additional information on the topic.
- Mickens-Baker and Niehaus visited Hudson Elementary staff on April 9.
- Briggs noted the recognition in the current IASB newsletter and reminded Board members to complete the IASB survey.
- Pritchett reported that he, Bloomington alderman Dave Sage, Lay, and Niehaus have had discussion on potential land development in the Fox Creek area. Pritchett noted that additional information will be provided at a later date.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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

**ATTEST:**

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**John Puzauskas, Board of Education Secretary  
Approved Date: April 23, 2008**