

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
May 14, 2008

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on May 14, 2008 at approximately 5:03 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 (entered at 5:05 p.m.), 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 matters according to the exceptions provided in the "Open Meetings Act" and specified as follows:

- Section 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel,
- 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 or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees,
- Section 2(c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for use by McLean County Unit District No. 5, and
- Section 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed.

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

Return to Public Session

At 5:19 p.m., Pritchett moved, Briggs 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.**

Action From Closed Session

Mickens-Baker moved, Puzauskas seconded, that student #10000114 discussed in closed session is found to have violated the District's Policy No. 7.190 Student Discipline by gross disobedience and/or misconduct related to possession and sale of a controlled substance at the Normal Community High School campus on April 30, 2008. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Return to Closed Session

At approximately 5:25 p.m., Briggs moved, Lay seconded, to return to Closed Session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Return to Public Session

At 6:07 p.m., Pritchett moved, Briggs 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.**

Action From Closed Session

Pritchett moved, Briggs seconded, that student #10000114 be expelled through the end of the 2008-2009 school year. The expulsion shall be effective immediately unless the student's parent, no later than Thursday May 11, 2008 consents in writing to the following:

1. Expulsion shall not be effective until the first day following the last day of the 2007-2008 school year.
2. Student shall be suspended for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year during which period he
 - Shall receive home instruction

- Shall be barred from all school property and all school activities and
- Shall be afforded the opportunity to take finals and receive some credit.

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

Return to Closed Session

At approximately 6:14 p.m., Briggs moved, Cannell seconded, to return to Closed Session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Return to Public Session

At 7:14 p.m., Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker 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, Jim Fitzpatrick of WJBC, Barbara Skaggs, Donna Lutkehaus, Bruce Boswell, Jon Butler, Phyllis Coulter of *The Pantagraph*, Megan Novotney, Jenny Snyder, Michelle Kraft, Randy Middleton, Steve Robinson of *the Normalite*, Sandy Slingsby, Scott Peters, Jeff Monahan, Kathy Whitney, Dawn Green, Erin Bowen, Donna Sliney, Kathryn Troyer, Tara Bennett, and others.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Good News Reports

- Mentoring and Induction Grant ~ Kathy Smalley
- H.E.C.A. Grant ~ Megan Novotney, Vickie Buerkett, Michele Kraft, Jenny Snyder
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Grant Recipients ~ Amy Schumacher, Erin Bowman, Jennifer Gibson, Denise Holmes, Catherine Troyer, Kim Carlock, Susan Cantrell, Nancy Goelitz, Donna Sliney, Cindy Wagner, Camero Williams, Lora Boyd, Tara Bennit, Michelle Potthoff, Holly Tindall, Maureen Backe, Susan Hospelhorn, Lori Woodard, Barbara Skaggs, Lyndra Webb, Mary Aper, Tena Sprau, Meghan White, Britta Armstrong-Mitchell, Carrie Kieser, Amy Lucas, Kathy Mandros, Kelly Murray, Debra Foster, Carol Johnson, Katie Nelson, Stacie Finlen, Jason Nourie, Susan Steinbach, Shawn Schwerman, Jennifer Coppersmith, Connie DeBord, Lori Woodard, Berny Chiaro, Mary Jo Douglass, Megan Ernst, Peggy Modglin, and Kathy Whitney
- Energy Star Recognition ~ Eugene Field Special Services, Warehouse Office, Eagle Road Resource Center, and Brigham, Fairview, Fox Creek, Glenn, Grove, Oakdale, and Prairieland Elementary Schools

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Action

Accept Bids for Classroom and IMC Furnishings for Six Unit 5 Schools

Middleton reported that bids were received from Illini Supply, Inc. and School Specialty. (Attachment #1) It was recommended to award the contract to Illini Supply, Inc. for a total amount of \$377,410.48. Pritchett moved, Briggs seconded to accept bids for classroom and IMC furnishings for Carlock, Fairview, Glenn, Hudson, Oakdale, and Towanda Elementary Schools as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

Action

Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policy Revisions

Briggs presented Board Policy No. 7.100 for second reading and adoption. She noted that this policy will be reviewed again in the fall of 2009 to continue discussion about moving the date that all immunizations must be completed to the beginning of the school year rather than in October. Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to adopt the policy as amended. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Action

Approve Notice of Public Hearing on Amended Budget

Gillmeister reported that there will be a hearing on amendments to the budget for four District funds. Those funds are the Mackinaw Valley Special Education Fund, Education Fund, Site and Construction Fund, and Life Safety Fund. He noted that the District is legally obligated to amend the budget in a public hearing. Cannell moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to approve the notice of public hearing on the amended budget.

Lay moved, Briggs seconded to amend the notice of public hearing date to June 18, 2008.

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

A roll call vote was taken on the motion to approve the notice of public hearing as amended. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Action

Approve Contract Agreement between Unit 5 and Architects

Niehaus discussed the agreement between Unit 5 and LZT Associates, Inc. for design of a new 140,000 square foot middle school, two new 78,000 square foot elementary schools, and renovations to Sugar Creek Elementary School. Puzauskas moved, Briggs seconded, approve the contract agreement between Community Unit School District No. 5 McLean and Woodford Counties, IL and the architects LZT Associates, Inc. and Perkins + Will as presented. (Attachment #3) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Action

It was the consensus of the Board to remove Item 7.5 Approve Contract Agreement between Unit 5 and Turner Construction from the agenda.

Action

Approve Contract Agreement between Unit 5 and HRC Consulting

Niehaus reported on the agreement with Joe Tomlinson of HRC Consulting Services. (Attachment #4) Niehaus noted that Tomlinson will assist with the implementation of the processes needed to improve the District's hiring practices including screening candidates, establishing interview guidelines and consulting references. The contract will be for the 2008-2009 school year. Puzauskas moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to approve the contract agreement between Unit 5 and Joe Tomlinson of HRC Consulting as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Action

Approve Annual Contract Salary Amendment with Superintendent

Reece noted that the Superintendent Evaluation Committee consisted of Lay and Puzauskas. Lay and Puzauskas discussed the process to determine and approve Niehaus' compensation for the 2008-2009 school year. It was noted that Board members and District administrators were asked to complete a survey regarding Niehaus' strengths and areas of improvement (Attachment #5) Lay commented that the rate of salary increase is consistent with all other District employee groups and that the increase will be inclusive of salary increase and benefits. Lay moved, Briggs seconded, to approve the annual contract salary amendment for 2008-2009 between McLean County Unit District No. 5 and Dr. Gary Niehaus as presented. Roll call: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Consent Agenda

Niehaus reviewed the Consent Agenda. Briggs moved, Puzauskas seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Personnel Matters (Attachment #6)

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

Payment of Bills and Payrolls (Summary Attachment #7)

Other

- 2008-2009 Student-Parent Handbook Revisions for Normal Community and Normal Community West High Schools (Attachment #8)
- Appointment of Board Representatives to Committees/Councils/Commissions/Boards
- Request for Sunday Use of Building ~ KJHS/Normal Parks and Recreation Department (Attachment #9)
- Request for Approval of Donation ~ NCWHS Soccer Team (Attachment #10)

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

Motion carried

Reports/Discussion

Enrollment Report, Comparison Report, and Kindergarten Pre-registration

Pye presented the enrollment report as of April 30. (Attachment #11) Total enrollment was 12440. Pye commented on the 2008 kindergarten pre-registration and provided a comparison report from last year.

Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- Architectural Services Executive Committee ~ The committee met Thursday, May 8 for discussion of design work. The next meeting will be May 22.
- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council ~ Pritchett reported that the next meeting will be Wednesday, May 21 during the lunch hour.
- Facilities Review Committee ~ Pritchett reported that the committee will meet Friday, May 16 at 7:00 a.m.
- Community Connections Committee ~ Briggs, Pritchett, and Niehaus will attend the Parent Organizations Presidents' Luncheon meeting on May 22 at the IEA office.
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ Briggs noted that all of the 2008 grant award winners are listed in the agenda packet. Only Unit 5 recipients were recognized in the Good News Report. The next meeting which is the organization's Annual Meeting will be held on June 11.
- District Continuous Improvement Team ~ Mickens-Baker reported that the committee met on May 1. Meetings will be held the second Monday of each month beginning June 9.
- Regional Planning Committee ~ Reece noted the last meeting was held Wednesday, May 7.
- District Insurance Committee ~ Cannell reported that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 21. Lay and Cannell will serve as Board appointed representatives on the committee.

Announcements/Comments

- Several Board members commented on their visits to various Unit 5 classrooms.
- Niehaus reported that parents continue to have positive comments about the School Reach communication system, specifically as it relates to the school lunch program. Attendance staff continues to use the system as well.
- Niehaus will provide a presentation to the Board at a future meeting on the GSI system and how it might possibly help with redistricting plans.
- Mickens-Baker reported that the Glenn playground fundraiser and dinner was very successful.
- The Unit 5 Staff Appreciation dinner will be on Thursday, May 21 at Bone Student Center, ISU.
- Graduation ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 31 at the Coliseum. Board members were asked to notify Briggs if they plan to attend.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

John Puzauskas, Board of Education Secretary

Approved Date: June 11, 2008