

**Minutes**  
**McLean County Unit District No. 5**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session**  
**May 28, 2008**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on May 28, 2008 at approximately 4:35 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Gail Ann Briggs, Wendy Cannell, Meta Mickens-Baker, Mark Pritchett, John Puzauskas, and President Jay Reece. Members absent: Scott Lay.

**Closed Session**

At approximately 4:35 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
- Section 2(c)(9) Student disciplinary cases, and
- Section 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed.

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

**Return to Public Session**

At 5:01 p.m., Pritchett moved, Puzauskas seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Action From Closed Session**

Mickens-Baker moved, Pritchett seconded, that student #1003409 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, distribution, and/or sale of a controlled substance at the Normal Community High West School campus on May 21, 2008. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Return to Closed Session**

At approximately 5:03 p.m., Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to return to Closed Session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Return to Public Session**

At 5:13 p.m., Briggs moved, Cannell seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Action From Closed Session**

Mickens-Baker moved, Briggs seconded, that student #1003409 discussed in closed session be expelled from McLean County Unit District No. 5 for 1 year effective June 2, 2008 and continuing through the 2008-2009 school year.

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

**Return to Closed Session**

At approximately 5:15 p.m., Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to return to Closed Session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Return to Public Session**

At 6:07 p.m., Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Action From Closed Session**

Briggs moved, Cannell seconded, that student #201012353 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, distribution, and/or sale of a controlled substance at the Normal Community High West School campus on May 21, 2008. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Return to Closed Session**

At approximately 6:08 p.m., Mickens-Baker moved, Briggs seconded, to return to Closed Session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Return to Public Session**

At 6:24 p.m., Briggs moved, Puzauskas seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Action From Closed Session**

Mickens-Baker moved, Briggs seconded, that student #201012353 discussed in closed session be expelled from McLean County Unit District No. 5 for 1 year effective June 2, 2008 and continuing through the 2008-2009 school year.

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

**Return to Closed Session**

At 6:27 p.m., Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to return to Closed Session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

**Return to Public Session**

At 7:20 p.m., Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, 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, Chuck Bartlett, Suzanne Fitzgerald of YouthBuild McLean County, NCHS Principal Jeanette Nuckolls, Micki Lahr, Nancy Braun, Jason Hummel, Director of Special Education Chuck Hartsel, Margie Jobe, Keith Baker, Cameron Baker, Christian Baker, Alicia Lenard, Kareema Conda, Jazzmen Anderson, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Noel Perez, Brian Gerike, David Harris, Michael Donnelly, Jim Fitzpatrick of WJBC, Assistant Director of Special Education Bambi Bethel, Jon Butler, Phyllis Coulter of *The Pantagraph*, Loren Baele, Bob Kohlhase, and others.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Good News Reports**

- Unit 5 Website ~ Brian Gerike, David Harris, Deb DeMont, Mary Aper, Tim Franz, Michelle Glatt, Gloria Jameson, Joe Jelinek, and Meghan Leiseberg.
- 2008 YWCA Woman of Distinction in the Field of Education ~ NCHS Principal Dr. Jeanette Nuckolls

## Public Comments

Public comments were made by the following:

- Jason Hummel, Normal ~ Topic: Fairview Elementary School enrollment and portable classrooms

## Action

### Approve Regional Office of Education Building Permits for Model Classrooms at Brigham, Carlock, Hudson, and Fairview Elementary Schools

Niehaus provided information from Middleton Associates, Inc. for building permits for Brigham, Carlock, Hudson, and Fairview Elementary Schools and recommended their approval. (Attachment #1) Puzauskas moved, Mickens-Baker seconded to approve Regional Office of Education building permits for the model classrooms at Brigham, Carlock, Hudson, and Fairview Elementary Schools as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

## Action

### Approve Life Safety Service Amendment for Eugene Field Special Services Center

Niehaus presented information and recommended the approval of the Certification of Need for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds from Middleton Associates, Inc. for Eugene Field Special Services Center. (Attachment #2) Mickens-Baker moved, Briggs seconded, to approve the life safety service amendment for Eugene Field Special Services Center as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Action

### Adoption of Board Policy Revision

Briggs presented Board Policy No. 6.310 for 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and adoption. Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to approve the policy as revised. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Action

### Approve Contract Agreement between Unit 5 and Turner Construction

Niehaus discussed the agreement between Unit 5 and Turner Construction. Puzauskas moved, Briggs seconded, to approve the contract agreement between Community Unit School District No. 5 McLean and Woodford Counties, IL and Turner Construction as presented. (Attachment #3) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Action

### Resolution to Designate Hazardous Busing Areas

Pye reported on the areas in Unit 5 requiring free transportation due to hazardous conditions. It was his recommendation to approve this Resolution. (Attachment #4) Pritchett moved, Cannell seconded, to approve the Resolution to Designate Hazardous Busing Areas as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Action

It was the consensus of the Board to remove Item 7.7 Approve Contract Agreement between Unit 5, District 87, and Integrity Technology for Data Warehouse and Educator Portal Development.

## Action

### Approve Agreement for Replacement/Purchase for Computers at Normal Community High School and Normal Community West High School

Gillmeister reported on the 2008-2009 Technology Refresh regarding replacement of District computers. (Attachment #5) Vendors considered included Partstock, Hewlett Packard, and Dell Computers. It was Gillmeister's recommendation that the Board approve purchasing the computers from Hewlett Packard and lease financing through either Commerce Bank or Hewlett Packard. The lease financing terms will be provided at a later date. Pritchett moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to approve the contract agreement for replacement purchase for computers at Normal Community High School and Normal Community West High School as recommended. Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded to amend the motion to allow Mr. Gillmeister to negotiate the lease financing with either Commerce Bank or Hewlett Packard. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Roll call on the motion as amended: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece.  
Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

#### **Action**

##### Approve Application for Charter School with YouthBuild McLean County

Suzanne Fitzgerald addressed the Board about the possibility of accepting an application for a charter school with YouthBuild of McLean County. (Attachment #6) Tom Kennedy, Michael Donnelly, Alicia Lenard, and Kareema Conda discussed their experiences with YouthBuild and offered their support of the application. Fitzgerald provided information on the application process. Niehaus offered support of this proposal and recommended the Board's approval. Cannell moved, Mickens-Baker seconded to approve the application for a Charter School with YouthBuild of McLean County as presented. Roll call: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

#### **Action**

##### Approve Recommendation from the Insurance Committee for Changes to the Benefits and Premium Amounts for 2008-2009

Gillmeister reported that the Insurance Committee is recommending benefit enhancements to include an increase in wellness benefits to be unlimited for all plan participants, decrease the co-pay amounts on prescription cards, reduce the office visit copay, and update the vision benefit schedule. (Attachment #7) Cannell moved, Briggs seconded, to postpone Action Item 7.10 Approve Recommendation from the Insurance Committee for Changes to the Benefits and Premium Amounts for 2008-2009 until the June 18, 2008 special board meeting. Roll call: Briggs, Cannell, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

#### **Consent Agenda**

Niehaus reviewed and recommended approval of the Consent Agenda. Briggs moved, Puzauskas seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

##### Payment of Bills (Summary Attachment #8)

##### Treasurer's Report (April) (Attachment #9)

##### Approval of Minutes

- April 23, 2008 Closed Session
- April 23, 2008 Regular Session

##### Other

- Approve Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes
- Approve destruction of audio tapes for Closed Session Minutes dated April 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006
- Approve Recommended Courses for Curriculum Study and/or Textbook Adoption for 2009 (Attachment #10)
- Approve Annual Department Reports (Attachment #11)
- Request for Donation Approval for NCWHS Soccer Press Box (Attachment #12)

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

**Motion carried**

#### **Reports/Discussion**

##### Special Education Department Reports

- CARES ~ Collaborative Action and Resources for Educational Success. Chuck Hartseil, Director of Special Education, and Margie Jobe, consultant for the District, provided a summary of the CARES Task Force and program evaluation guidelines. (Attachment #13)
- Inclusion ~ Hartseil and Jobe discussed the District's implementation for full inclusion by the 2009-2010 school year. (Attachment #14)
- PBIS ~ Bambi Bethel, Assistant Director of Special Education, and Nancy Braun provided an update on the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program. (Attachment #15)

##### Update on Middle School Language Arts

Braksick reported that building chairs had met to discuss potential changes at the middle school focusing on the increase in the amount of language arts instruction for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. (Attachment #16) He noted that other priorities included:

- Decrease/eliminate the time students are scheduled for study hall
- Opportunities for Response to Intervention
- Provide smoother transition from elementary through middle school to the high school

#### Investment Bonds Proceeds

Charles Czachor and Laura Pauli of PMA Financial Network reported on the District's 2008 bond proceeds. (Attachment #17) Items discussed included but were not limited to the following:

- Investment earnings detail
- Potential interest on balances
- Actual vs. projected expenditures
- Future maturities vs. projected expenditures
- Portfolio arbitrage status

#### Freedom of Information Report

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

- Jim Vodak, Modern Energy Management (Attachment #18)

#### Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council ~ Cannell reported that the council met on May 21. One topic of discussion included "least restrictive environment".
- District Continuous Improvement Team ~ The next meeting is scheduled for June 9.
- Architectural Services Executive Committee ~ The committee continues to meet and is close to completing the schematic design. The ASEC meeting on June 17 will include an invitation to all Board members and representatives of the referendum steering committee.
- Community Connections Committee ~ The committee met with incoming and outgoing parents organization presidents. The group was asked to help with the solicitation of CAC members.
- Facilities Review Committee ~ The committee met last week. Discussion included the donation of items for the NCWHS Soccer Club. This item was approved on the consent agenda this evening.

#### **Announcements/Comments**

- Saturday, May 30 will be Commencement ceremonies for Normal Community and Normal Community West High School. Congratulations were offered to all graduates.
- Briggs reported on the success of the recent Staff Appreciation program.
- Briggs and Niehaus met on Tuesday, May 27 with members of the Transportation department.
- Niehaus noted that two representatives from Cropper and McKibben will present a report to the Board on GIS at the June 18 Board meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 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: July 9, 2008**