

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
July 11, 2007

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on July 11, 2007 at approximately 6:30 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

1.0 Roll Call

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

2.0 Closed Session

At approximately 6:30 p.m., Briggs moved, Lay 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)(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.**

The closed session was exited at approximately 7:03 p.m.

3.0 Return to Public Session

At 7:08 p.m., Briggs moved, Cannell 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, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, Chief Financial Officer James Gillmeister, Chuck Bartlett, Meghan Leiseberg, Director of Food Service Pat Powers, Lynette Mehall, Cathy Weiss, Chuck Hartseil, Matt Harr, Margarita Alvarez, George Galindo, Brian Taylor, Maggie Taylor, Mary Jefferson, and others.

4.0 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5.0 Focus on Students/Good News Reports

- Recognition of the NCHS Softball State Champions was postponed until the August 8, 2007 Board meeting.

6.0 Public Comments

There were no public comments.

7.0 Reports

7.1 Diversity Plan Progress Report and Proposed Revisions

Leiseberg provided an overview of the content and intent of the proposed revisions and highlighted portions of the Diversity Plan. (Attachment #1) Leiseberg stated that the proposed revisions reflect the input of the DAC and administrative team members as well as information received from community feedback. Committee Chairman Mary Jefferson thanked the Board for their support of the Diversity Advisory Committee.

8.0 Action

8.1 Approve Diversity Plan Revisions for 2007-2008

Pritchett moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to approve the proposed revisions to the Unit 5 Diversity Plan for 2007-2008 as presented. Niehaus thanked the Diversity Advisory Committee for their work in promoting appreciation of diversity throughout the District and community. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

8.2 Approve Expansion of School Breakfast Program

Pye provided an explanation of the Unit 5 school breakfast program noting that this program was established under the Child Nutrition Act. (Attachment #2) The program is being expanded to include Sugar Creek and Carlock Elementary Schools and the two high schools. Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to expand the breakfast program at Unit 5 to include Sugar Creek Elementary, Carlock Elementary, NCHS, and NCWHS beginning fall, 2007. Pat Powers, Director of Food Service, addressed questions from the Board. She noted that the breakfast program will be available to all students and those qualifying for free or reduced price lunch will also qualify for the reduced or free breakfasts. Pye noted that increased staffing will be determined by the number of students participating in the program at Sugar Creek; however, no additional staff will be needed for Carlock, NCHS, or NCWHS. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

9.0 **Consent Agenda**

Niehaus reviewed the Consent Agenda. Lynette Mehall, introduced Matt Harr, new Assistant Principal for KJHS. Mickens-Baker moved, Puzauskas seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

9.1 Approval of Minutes

- May 23, 2007 Closed Session
- June 13, 2007 Closed Session
- June 13, 2007 Regular Session

9.2 Personnel Matters (Attachment #3)

- 9.2.1 Resignations/Retirements/Terminations
- 9.2.2 Employment
- 9.2.3 Contract Revisions
- 9.2.4 Leave Requests

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

- 9.3.1 Bill Listing
- 9.3.2 Payroll Report
- 9.3.3 Statement of Expenditures by Operating Fund Summary (Attachment #5)

9.4 Treasurer's Report ~ June 2007 (Attachment #6)

9.5 Other

- 9.5.1 Appoint John Puzauskas as Delegate and Gail Ann Briggs as Alternate to the 2007 IASB Delegate Assembly
- 9.5.2 Request for Donation Approval ~ KJHS Smart Board (Attachment #7)
- 9.5.3 Request for Donation Approval ~ Northpoint sign and computers (Attachment #8)
- 9.5.4 Request for Sunday Use of Facility ~ NCWHS (Attachment #9)

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

10.0 **Reports/Discussion**

10.1 Architectural Services Executive Committee Update

Niehaus noted that the Committee will meet on Thursday, July 12 at 8:30 a.m. Puzauskas provided an update on committee discussion specific to planning a series of workshops to include community, faculty and staff. Workshops will be held in August, September and two in October to gather information to assist the architects in putting together building proposals. Niehaus noted that he had recently met with officials from Town of Normal and City of Bloomington as well as local developers to discuss current developments and potential growth areas.

10.2 Soil Boring and Drilling Estimates

Niehaus reported on the pre-referendum soil borings and structural soil analysis estimates. (Attachment #10)

10.3 Preliminary Budget Report

Gillmeister noted that the Preliminary Budget Report will be postponed until a later date. Niehaus noted that he and Gillmeister continue to meet with PMA Financial Network, Inc. with regard to the District's investment strategies.

10.4 Freedom of Information Requests

Pye reported that one written request for public information accessible under the Freedom of Information Act was received and processed. (Attachment #11)

10.6 Board Representative Reports

- Consortium for Education Change Committee ~ Cannell reported that the committee met on June 25. She noted that the committee is now called the Consortium for Educational Change Continuous Improvement Team. Mickens-Baker noted that committee continues to discuss the purpose and mission of the team. Additional administrators and faculty have been added to this group. The next meeting is scheduled for July 23 at 3:30 p.m.
- Strategic Planning and Finance Committee ~ Lay noted that he, Cannell and Gillmeister will meet prior to the next Board meeting to outline goals and expectations for the 2007-2008 year.
- Facilities Review Committee ~ Puzauskas and Pritchett reported that they had attended the committee meeting approximately two weeks ago. Items of discussion included KJHS Smart Board donation and Northpoint sign and computer donations. These items were scheduled for approval on this evening's consent agenda.
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ Briggs provided the minutes from the June 14 Annual meeting. Also provided were the revised bylaws and the newly adopted standing rules. (Attachment #12) The Foundation will meet at the Unit 5 office during the 2007-08 school year. Briggs noted that the Foundation will hold a major fundraiser at Bloomington Country Club in October.
- Board Policy Review Committee ~ Briggs noted that she and Leiseberg will meet on Thursday, July 19 to review District policies.
- District Wellness Committee ~ Briggs noted that she met with the committee of administrators, teachers, parents, students and McLean County Health Department representatives recently and reviewed the District's policy and procedures on Wellness.
- IASB Corn Belt Division Representative ~ Briggs commented on current legislature and asked Board members to remain diligent and to contact legislators in support of a foundation increase.
- Community Connections Committee ~ Pritchett announced that the committee will be scheduling their next meeting in the near future.
- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council ~ Pritchett noted that the committee will meet in September.
- Bloomington Area Vocational Center Administrative Council ~ Pritchett reported that the council will hold it's first meeting in September.

12.0 **Announcements**

- Niehaus and Reece thanked Briggs for the invitation to participate in the Fourth of July Parade in Towanda.
- Cannell announced that she and Briggs had recently attended a three day IASB Workshop in Springfield. Topics of the workshop included discussion on the basics of school district governance and school law and finance.
- Mickens-Baker announced that she had attended the District's band/percussion camp on June 15 and thanked the Unit 5 faculty for their support of the camp.
- Reece, Pritchett, Niehaus and Gillmeister were in attendance at the Town of Normal and Bank of Illinois Open House Reception held this evening.
- Briggs provided information to the Board regarding the Towanda Area Historical Society. She noted that the Society website will include a link to Unit 5.
- Niehaus announced that PMA Financial Network, Inc. will provide an overview of Unit 5's financial future at a special meeting on July 25.
- Niehaus announced that he will be organizing a Board retreat and requested input from Board members regarding a date for the event.
- Board members welcomed Niehaus and Gillmeister.

13.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 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: August 22, 2007