

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
August 8, 2007

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on August 8, 2007 at approximately 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

1.0 Roll Call

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

2.0 Closed Session

At approximately 6:03 p.m., Briggs moved, Cannell 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)(2) Deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees, and
- Section 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters with employees or their representatives.

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

The closed session was exited at approximately 7:01 p.m.

3.0 Return to Public Session

At 7:10 p.m., Briggs moved, Puzauskas seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, 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, State Representative Dan Brady, Meghan Leiseberg, Ben Matthews, Director of Secondary Education Dawn Green, Director of Elementary Education Kurt Swearingen, Cathy Weiss, Andy Turner, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Michelle Steinbacher of *The Pantagraph*, Tom Eder, and others.

4.0 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Focus on Students/Good News Reports

- Recognition of the NCHS Softball State Champions.

5.0 Public Comments

Representative Dan Brady, Bloomington ~ Topic: State budget stalemate.

6.0 Action

6.1 Approve Extension of Professional Development School Partnership Agreement between Unit 5 and Illinois State University

Pye provided information regarding the Professional Development School Partnership contract with Illinois State University for the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years. (Attachment #1) Cannell moved, Briggs seconded, to approve the extension of the Professional Development School Partnership agreement between Unit 5 and Illinois State University for 2008-2009 as presented. The program has just completed its first year with the District. Pye also noted that seven of the thirteen interns who participated in the partnership indicated an interest in positions with Unit 5. The approval of this extension will give the District the opportunity to begin selecting interns for the 2008-2009 year. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

6.2 Action From Closed Session

Pye recommended the Board's approval of one motion discussed in closed session prior to the public session. Pritchett moved, Puzauskas seconded, to approve the personnel salaries and benefits for 2007-2008 for the specific classes of employees as discussed in closed session and listed below:

- Homebound teachers
- Noon-hour supervisors

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

7.0 Consent Agenda

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

7.1 Personnel Matters (Attachment #2)

- 7.1.1 Staffing Request
- 7.1.2 Resignations/Retirements/Terminations
- 7.1.3 Employment
- 7.1.4 Contract Revisions
- 7.1.5 Leave Requests

7.2 Treasurer's Report ~ June 2007 (Amended) and Year End 2007 (Attachment #3)

7.3 Other

- 7.3.1 Request for Overnight Athletic Department Activities (Attachment #4)
 - NCWHS
 - NCHS
- 7.3.2 Appointment of I.M.R.F. Authorized Agent ~ James Gillmeister

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

8.0 Reports/Discussion

8.1 1st Reading of Board Policy Additions/Revisions/Deletions and Summary of Policy Changes

- Board Policy 2.90 ~ Procurement of Architectural Engineering and Land Surveying Services
- Board Policy 4.10 ~ Fiscal and Business Management
- Board Policy 4.40 ~ Incurring Debt
- Board Policy 4.120 ~ Food Service
- Board Policy 6.60 ~ Curriculum Content
- Board Policy 6.145 ~ Migrant Students
- Board Policy 6.160 ~ Limited English Proficient Students
- Board Policy 6.340 ~ Student Testing and Assessment Program
- Board Policy 7.130 ~ Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Board Policy 7.190 ~ Student Discipline
- Board Policy 7.270 ~ Administering Medicines to Students
- Board Policy 8.30 ~ Visitors to and Conduct on School Property
- Board Policy 8.60 ~ Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent (Delete)
- Board Policy 8.85 ~ Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

Briggs presented fourteen board policies for revision/deletion. She highlighted and commented on the proposed changes. Any comments and/or suggestions should be addressed to Briggs. The policies will be scheduled for 2nd reading and approval at the August 22, 2007 meeting.

8.2 Architectural Services Executive Committee Update

Puzauskas reported that the committee met on Tuesday, August 7. Two key points of discussion at the meeting were building capacity and focusing on the District's facilities as a whole. He noted that the committee has scheduled four workshops to be held between late August and October. The intent of the workshops is to involve parents, community members and the Unit 5 community in a discussion about what we envision education to be like in the future. Invitations have been mailed. It was noted that Supervisor of Maintenance Services Jeff Monahan and Principal Scott Peters are joining the committee which consists of Niehaus, Puzauskas, Briggs, Pye, Braksick, Gillmeister, Principals Marlys Bennington and Tim Green, UFEA President Ben Matthews, and architectural firm representatives Mark Jolicoeur and David Henebry. The next ASEC meeting is scheduled for August 17.

8.3 Discussion ~ Proposed Northbridge Elementary School Site and Addition to Sugar Creek Elementary School

Discussion of the proposed Northbridge elementary school site and the addition to Sugar Creek Elementary School was postponed until a future date.

8.4 Board Representative Reports

- Consortium for Education Change Continuous Improvement Team ~ Cannell reported that the committee met on July 23. The committee continues to explore the focus of the group. The next meeting is scheduled for September 6.
- Strategic Planning and Finance Committee ~ Cannell reported that the committee met on Tuesday, August 7. Discussion involved committee expectations and issues such as the budget, the annual audit, and planning.
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ Briggs noted that the Foundation has a number of projects they are working on. Additional information will be provided at the August 22 Board meeting.
- Community Connections Committee ~ Pritchett announced that the committee will be meeting with Citizens Advisory Council officers regarding planning for the year on Wednesday, August 15. A CCC meeting will be scheduled in the near future.
- Facilities Review Committee ~ Pritchett reported that the next committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 10. Pritchett will be touring District facilities with Jeff Monahan. Other Board members were invited to tour facilities also.

9.0 Announcements

- Pritchett reported that he, as past President, had attended the recent CAC officer transition meeting.
- Pritchett reported that he would be meeting with Loren Baele, Director of Technology to participate in general discussion involving the Technology Department.
- Reece noted that the July 25 special PMA Financial Network, Inc. presentation was excellent and very well attended.
- Reece noted that the Board will hold a special meeting on Saturday, August 11 at 8:00 a.m. Niehaus noted that this Board retreat will focus on the future of the District and expectations of the Board.
- Niehaus commented on the excellent start to the 2007-2008 year in relation to the District's custodial/maintenance and transportation departments. He noted that the custodial/maintenance staff has done an excellent job of maintaining all facilities.
- Niehaus noted that he had several excellent meetings with community organizations. He reported that he had attended the Kiwanis and Rotary Club meetings and was interviewed by WGLT radio.
- Niehaus reported that the Bloomington Police Department, District 87 and Unit 5 Drug Task Force met today.
- Niehaus reported that the Administrative Team held a three day Pacific Institute Leadership Retreat last week. The Retreat also included two State Farm Insurance representatives, Tom Laxton and Stan Otto.
- Braksick invited Board members to the District's opening institute activities on August 21 at NCWHS. He noted that there will be two sessions. Sessions are at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 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