

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Session
September 10, 2007

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in special session on September 10, 2007 at approximately 7:15 a.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

1.0 Roll Call

Members present: Gail Ann Briggs, Wendy Cannell, Meta Mickens-Baker (exited 8:07 a.m.), Mark Pritchett, and Board President Jay Reece. Members absent: Scott Lay and John Puzauskas.

Also present: Superintendent Gary Niehaus, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Jim Braksick, and Chief Financial Officer James Gillmeister.

2.0 Continental Breakfast and Introductions

Former members of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois attending the breakfast discussion represented service to the district inclusive of the years 1963-2003: Robert Hopkins (1963-66), Kenneth Uphoff (1964-73), Roland Block (1971-1980), Harriet O'Daffer (1978-85), Alan Washburn (1980-83), William Sendlak (1980-91), Mary Caisley (1985-89), Douglass Reeves (1991-99), and Kathy Beal (1999-2003).

3.0 General Discussion and Idea Sharing

Reece welcomed everyone and introduced new administrators Niehaus and Gillmeister. Superintendent Niehaus distributed a handout concerning "Unit 5: Our Growing Community". He discussed the current state of the district in terms of student growth, facility needs, and financial projections. Possible scenarios for the February 5, 2008 referenda were discussed, including but not limited to building bonds, working cash bonds, educational fund, operations and maintenance fund referenda.

Former board members asked questions and shared observations regarding tax rates, EAV, status of current debt, building sites, renovation of existing schools and other information provided in the materials.

4.0 Announcements

Niehaus offered to meet with anyone who wanted more information. Reece asked everyone to continue to stay involved with the district, and extended appreciation for their participation in the discussion.

5.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 a.m.

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

ATTEST:

Meta Mickens-Baker, Board of Education Vice President

Approved Date: September 26, 2007