

**Minutes**  
**McLean County Unit District No. 5**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session**  
**May 27, 2009**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on May 27, 2009 at approximately 6:01 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Gail Ann Briggs, Wendy Cannell, Scott Lay (entered at 7:02 p.m.), Mark Pritchett, John Puzauskas, Jay Reece, and President Meta Mickens-Baker. Members absent: None.

**Closed Session**

At approximately 6:01 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" specified as follows:

- Section 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel,
- Section 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters with employees or their representative or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees,
- 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, and
- Section 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed.

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

**Return to Public Session**

At approximately 7:02 p.m., Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Also present: Superintendent Gary Niehaus, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources John Pye, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Jim Braksick, Chief Financial Officer James Gillmeister, Director of Operations Joe Adelman, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, Dayna Brown, Karrah Jensen, Bob Thompson, Karen Dahlstrom, David Thompson, James Shaw, Sukumar Lagadapati, Esha Wang, Makendra Reddy, Alexander Schlehuder, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Jeff Christopherson, Lotus Hershberger, Chris Culbertson, Sara Roper, Tom Frazier, Lauren Touma, Sharla Brown-Ajayi, Director of Technology Loren Baele, Tom Laxton, Jon Butler, and others.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Focus on Students and Good News Reports**

- **NCHS Student ~ Sara Roper** *Bloomington Area Career Center State Skills USA Conference*
- **Fairview Elementary School ~ Chris Culbertson and Lotus Hershberger** *~ Math Club Sponsors*
- **Colene Hoose Elementary Students Julia Herrman, Aditi Mutagi, Cassie Parent, and Anjali Toly** *~ National Chess Championship Team*
- **NCHS Students ~ Chris Baldwin, Blake Cecil, Raj Kadiyala, Sukumar Lagadapati, Sam Lee, Grace Leighton, Mahendra Reddy, Alexander Schlehuder, Shoba Sridhar, David Thompson, Esha Wang, Matthew Ware, Sam Wylde** *~ University of Illinois Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE)*
- **Achievement Matters State Farm Representative ~ Tom Laxton**

## Public Comments

There were no public comments.

## Action

There were no items requiring Board action.

## Consent Agenda

Niehaus reviewed and recommended approval of the Consent Agenda. Special recognition was given to Karrah Jensen who will be the new principal at Towanda Elementary School.

### Personnel Matters (Attachment #1)

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

### Payment of Bills (Attachment #2)

#### Financial Reports

- Treasurer's Report (Attachment #3)
- Statement of Expenditures (Attachment #4)
- Investment Update (Attachment #5)

#### Other

- Approve Student Insurance Fees for 2009-2010 (Attachment #6)
- Approve School Lunch Fees for 2009-2010 (Attachment #6)
- Approve Curriculum Revision Task Forces for 2009-2010 (Attachment #7)
- Approve Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes
- Approve Destruction of Audio Recordings of Closed Session Meetings dated April 1, 2007 through October 31, 2007

Pritchett moved, Reece seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Cannell, Lay, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Reports

### District Records Management Program

Braksick reported on the District Records Management Program. He noted that the District will work with Midwest Records Storage Inc. to transfer all of the records currently stored at Eagle Road to the Midwest Records Storage facility in Lincoln. Steve Whitlow, archivist for the State of Illinois, and Margie Jobe, District consultant, will formulate a plan for District records management, storage, and training. (Attachment #8)

### IlliniData Presentation

Loren Baele provided information on the IlliniData project with State Farm Insurance, District 87, and Integrity Schools. (Attachment #9) Information provided included but was not limited to the following topics:

- Explanation of student profile information
- Gathering and reviewing students' standardized test data, grades, extra-curricular activities, and other records
- IlliniData hardware will be housed at the District 87 data center
- Administrators, teachers, and support personnel will be able to access data through internet explorer
- Skyward database will be used to gather data for the IlliniData project
- The project will consolidate records for teachers to have a quicker overview of information such as special education requirements, grades, discipline needs, and emergency contact information
- IlliniData will allow for student achievement summary reports based on different groups of information including socioeconomic status, diversity, sex, individual needs, and special education

### Freedom of Information Request

Niehaus reported that the District had received and processed two requests for information.

- Keith Macleod ~ District Management Council, Cambridge Massachusetts (Attachment #10)
- Lidia Downs ~ Family Taxpayers Foundation, Carpentersville, Illinois (Attachment #11)

Board Representatives Committee Meeting Report

- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council ~ It was noted that the committee met last week. Discussion included the federal stimulus funding.
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ Briggs reported that the coordinating committee met and has completed their evaluation of how grants are awarded. More information will be provided at the June meeting.
- Illinois Association of School Board Corn Belt Division ~ Briggs noted that IASB has requested input on potential topics for future meetings.
- Board Policy Review Committee ~ The committee will meet on May 28. Policies will be presented for 1<sup>st</sup> reading at the June Board meeting.
- Community Connections Committee ~ The committee will meet on Friday, June 26.

**Announcements/Comments**

- Collective bargaining with UFEA was completed and a ratification vote on the proposed contract will be held on June 1.
- The graduation ceremony for NCHS will be held at 2:00 p.m. and NCWHS will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 30.
- Board members and administrators were invited to participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade in Towanda. Participants should notify Mickens-Baker.
- There will be a community open house on June 5 at the Grove on Kickapoo Creek.
- Board members recently attended Unit 5 band concerts and congratulated the music department on their programs
- Board members thanked District staff involved in the recent District groundbreaking ceremonies for the three new schools.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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**Meta Mickens-Baker, Board of Education President  
Community Unit School District No. 5  
McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois**

**ATTEST:**

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**Gail Ann Briggs, Board of Education Secretary  
Approved Date: July 8, 2009**