

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
May 12, 2010

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on May 12, 2010 at 5:34 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

Roll Call

Members present: Gail Ann Briggs, Scott Lay, Wendy Maulson (entered at 5:38 p.m.), Mark Pritchett, John Puzauskas, and Board President Meta Mickens-Baker. Members absent: Jay Reece.

Closed Session

At 5:34 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)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees,
- Section 2(c)(9) Student disciplinary cases,
- 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 imminent, and
- Section 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed.

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

Return to Public Session

At 7:04 p.m., Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session.

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

Also present: Superintendent Gary Niehaus, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Nate Cunningham, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Jim Braksick, Director of Operations Joe Adelman, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, Vickie Mahrt, Carol Frericks, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Julia Schoonover, Geoff Schoonover, Anna Schoonover, Ken Lee, Dayna Brown, Director of Special Education Chuck Hartseil, Peggy Kennedy, Nick Schoonover, Jackie O'Brien, Richard Ach, Tom Parton, GERALYN Miskulin, Jon Miskulin, Erik Bush, Ericka Jensen, Candice Adams, Amy Yacucci, Ron Kennedy, Jeff Monahan, Tom Anderson, Justin Debo, Assistant Director of Special Education Michelle Lamboley, Connor Kennedy, Benjamin Nielsen, Tim O'Brien, Jessica Alt, Lynette Mehall, and others.

Focus on Students and Good News Reports

- PJHS Chess Team ~ Thomas Anderson, Justin DeBo, Reid Henry, Trevin Kafer, Connor Kennedy, Brycen Kirklin, Benjamin Nielsen, Bailey Nielsen, and Timmy O'Brien
- Unit 5 Speech and Language Pathologists ~ Candice Adams, Heather Anderson, Patti Anderson, Melissa Blaum, Chasity Bogay, Lisa Bova, Sonya Cail, Cindy Diekhoff, Erin Fabish, Rachel Gannaway, Anna Gomez, Amy Hohulin, Carolyn Howald, Cally Hutson, Amy Johnson, Natalie Karr, Jana Kelly, Vickie Mahrt, Kristi Menestrina, Angie Mier, Peg Modglin, Jaime Moore, Stacy Munsell, Carla Orr, Stacey Panizo, Tom Parton, Christine Peterson, Jamie Schlipf, Brandy Sherrick, Karen Showalter, Melissa Soluri, Sara Thompson, Doug Valverde, Jeanna Walker, Amy Yacucci, and Laura Yost
- KJHS Environment Club ~ Hayley Shields (student), Ericka Jensen (teacher), and GERALYN Miskulin (teaching assistant)

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Action

Authorize Superintendent Niehaus to Sign Memorandum of Understanding for ISBE's Reform Program "Race to the Top"

Niehaus provided information on the "Race to the Top" application. (Attachment #1) One state will be selected to receive the federally funded grant of \$400 million. It was noted that if Illinois were to receive this grant, \$45 million of it would be designated to Illini Data. Reform areas include alignment with national standards and assessment. It was also noted that evaluations for teachers and principals will tie in to the student achievement data. School districts will participate in the program by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the State. The Memorandum of Understanding will include signatures from Superintendent Niehaus, the Board of Education and the Unit Five Education Association. Maulson moved, Lay seconded, to grant Superintendent Niehaus the authority to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with support of the Board of Education and Unit Five Education Association for application to participate in phase two of the Illinois State Board of Education's reform program "Race to the Top" as recommended. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Lay, Maulson, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. **Motion carried.** Niehaus added that Unit 5 recently submitted an application for the federally funded I-3 grant. It was noted that if Unit 5 were selected to receive this grant, a total of \$30 million would be awarded directly to the District.

Consent Agenda

Niehaus reviewed and recommended approval of the Consent Agenda.

Approval of Minutes

- April 14, 2010 Closed Session
- April 14, 2010 Regular Session
- April 28, 2010 Closed Session
- April 28, 2010 Special Session

Personnel Matters (Attachment #2)

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

Payment of Bills and Payrolls (Summary Attachment #3)

Appointment of Board Representatives to Committees, Councils, Commissions, and Boards (Attachment #4)

Dissolution of NCWHS Student Activity Funds (Attachment #5)

Adopt Resolution to Designate Hazardous Busing Areas for 2010-2011 (Attachment #6)

Puzauskas moved, Briggs seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as recommended. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Lay, Maulson, Puzauskas, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. Present: Pritchett. **Motion carried.** Julia Schoonover was recognized as the new principal for Glenn Elementary School.

Reports

Construction Update

Richard Ach presented a monthly update and aerial photographs of the District's current construction projects. (Attachment #7)

Facility Report on Brigham Elementary School

Lamboley and Hartseil presented a report on the renovations to Brigham Elementary School for the 2010-2011 school year. (Attachment #8) Discussion included but was not limited to the following:

- Programs for Early Childhood Special Education and Blended Pre-K at Risk students
- Security
- Renovated classrooms
- Head Start programs
- Lamboley will serve as administrator/principal for the building
- Sensory and play-based assessment rooms
- Reading Recovery program, training room, and tutoring
- Need for addition of a Special Education administrator to work with programs at Sugar Creek and Brigham schools

Transportation Update

Niehaus reported that start times for schools will remain the same for the 2010-2011 school year. Previous discussion had included the possibility of changing the start times at the junior high schools. There will be additional data gathered on cost comparisons, attendance and student achievement. Niehaus also stated a

survey will be sent out to high school students for input on the early start times that were implemented this year.

1st Reading Board Policies, Administrative Procedures, and Exhibits

Briggs presented the following policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits for first reading:

Policies (amended)

- Policy 6.235 Access to Electronic Networks

Administrative Procedure (new)

- Administrative Procedure 6.235-AP1 Student Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks

Exhibit (new)

- Exhibit 6.235-E1 Letter to Parents/Guardians Regarding Student Use of the District's Electronic Networks
- Exhibit 6.235-E2 Student Authorization of Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks
- Exhibit 6.235-E3 Online Privacy Statement
- Exhibit 6.235-E4 Keeping Yourself and your Kids Safe on Social Networks

Enrollment Update and Staff Numbers

Cunningham reported on current enrollment and staff numbers. (Attachment # 10) Enrollment as of April 30 was 12,859.

Freedom of Information Requests

Niehaus reported that the District had received and processed three requests for information (Attachment # 11)

- Sophia Monell, Online Data Service, LLC Decatur, IL
- Stacy Pflugmacher, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Springfield, IL
- Luke Mangan, Polsinelli Shughart PC, St. Louis, MO

Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- District Core Team ~ The team will meet on Wednesday, June 2.
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ Briggs reported that there were a total of 67 applicants for grant awards. Award winners will be posted on the Unit 5, District 87, and Beyond the Books Educational Foundation websites. Unit 5 recipients will be recognized at the May 26 Board meeting. It was reported that "Beyond the Box" grant applications are now available on the website. Application deadline is August 30. This grant will be a single grant for up to \$10,000. The announcement of the grant recipient will be in September.
- Community Connections Committee ~ The committee met on Friday, May 7. Discussion included the District website and the changes to the CAC constitution. The committee is also working on the CAC schedule for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Facilities Review Committee ~ The committee will meet Friday, May 14 at Cedar Ridge Elementary School.
- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council ~ The council will meet on Wednesday, May 19.

Announcements/Comments

- There will be a special Board work session on the District's financial status on May 26 at 5:00 p.m. prior to the regular scheduled Board meeting.
- A special training session was held on Friday, April 30 for support professionals. The topic of the presentation was new FOIA guidelines. Attorney for the District Curt Richardson was the featured speaker.
- Board members and administrators were invited to participate in the Towanda 4th of July Parade.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

**Community Unit School District No. 5
McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois**

ATTEST:

Gail Ann Briggs, Board of Education Secretary
Approved Date: May 26, 2010