

**Minutes**  
**McLean County Unit District No. 5**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session**  
**September 8, 2010**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on September 8, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

**Roll Call**

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

Also present: Superintendent Gary Niehaus, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Nate Cunningham, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Jim Braksick, Business Manager/Treasurer Erik Bush, Director of Operations Joe Adelman, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, Vickie Mahrt, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Dayna Brown, Kirsten Kooten, Therese Kunze, George Clay, Lance Meadows, Richard Ach of Turner Construction Company, and others.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Consent Agenda**

Niehaus reviewed and recommended approval of the Consent Agenda.

Approval of Minutes

- August 25, 2010 Regular Session

Personnel Matters (Attachment #1)

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

Payment of Bills and Payrolls (Summary Attachment #2)

- August 27, 2010
- August 31, 2010
- September 8, 2010

Certification of Need for Fire Prevention and Safety Funds for Northpoint, Parkside, and Prairieland Elementary Schools

Approve Notice of Filing Period for 2011 school board election (Attachment #3)

Appoint Donna Evans and Michele Lemek to receive nominating petitions for the 2011 school board election

Approve Requests for Overnight Trips (Attachment #4)

- KJHS Dance Team Competition in Orlando Florida for February 4-6, 2011
- NCHS Marching Ironmen Trip to Florida Citrus Bowl for December 26, 2010- January 2, 2011

Approve Board Administrative Procedure and Exhibit (Attachment #5)

- Administrative Procedure 6.120-AP3 Service Animal Requests
- Exhibit 6.120-AP3,E1 Request for a Service Animal to Accompany a Student in School Facilities

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

**Reports**

Enrollment Update

Cunningham reported on preliminary enrollment figures. (Attachment #6) Current enrollment is at 13,076. Cunningham reported that there are 31 elementary sections over the range noting that the additional staffing recently put in place at Cedar Ridge Elementary School is not reflected in this report. Discussion also included providing junior high and high school class averages for future enrollment updates.

Freedom of Information Requests

Niehaus reported that the District had received and processed two requests for information (Attachment #7)

- Larry Levery ~ Illinois Department of Labor Washington, IL
- Edith Brady-Lunny ~ *The Pantagraph* Bloomington, IL

#### Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 9. Briggs reported that there had been 21 applications for the Beyond the Box grant.
- IASB Corn Belt Division ~ The next meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 14 at Indian Creek Country Club in Fairbury. The keynote speaker will be Illinois State Superintendent Christopher Koch.
- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council ~ The council will meet on Wednesday, September 15.
- McLean County Regional Planning Commission ~ The commission met on Wednesday, September 1.
- Board Policy Review Committee ~ Information on policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits will be provided to Board members for 1<sup>st</sup> reading at the September 22 meeting.
- Community Connections Committee ~ The next meeting is scheduled for September 17.
- District Core Team ~ The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 12.

#### Construction Update

Turner Construction Company senior project manager Richard Ach provided an update on construction projects at Evans Jr. High School, Benjamin and Cedar Ridge elementary schools (Attachment #8)

#### **Announcements/Comments**

- The Citizens Advisory Council will meet at 7:00 p.m. on September 15 at Hudson Elementary School. There will be an orientation for new members at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting.
- The dedication ceremonies for the new elementary schools will be held on Sunday, September 19. Benjamin Elementary School's program will be held at 1:30 p.m. and Cedar Ridge Elementary School's program will be held at 3:30 p.m. Board members were asked to notify Briggs if they will be attending.
- Bush reported that an exit meeting was recently held with representatives of Clifton Gunderson LLP regarding the District's annual audit.
- Bush and Cunningham attended the Governor's Conference at Illinois State University Wednesday, September 8 where it was announced that a \$100 million broadband project for improvements to high-speed internet was approved for central Illinois.
- Normal Community West athletic boosters will host a steak fry on Friday, September 10.
- It was announced that Unit 5 is searching for a name for its new staff newsletter. Suggestions should be submitted to Dayna Brown.
- Niehaus attended meetings with the Economic Development Council and the City of Bloomington. It was noted that Unit 5 intergovernmental agreements with the City of Bloomington and the Town of Normal were in the process of being updated.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

---

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

**ATTEST:**

---

**Gail Ann Briggs, Board of Education Secretary  
Approved Date: September 22, 2010**