

**Minutes**  
**McLean County Unit District No. 5**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session**  
**October 27, 2010**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on October 27, 2010 at 6:30 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.

**Closed Session**

At 6:30 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)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired, and
- Section 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed

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

**Return to Public Session**

At 6:54 p.m., Reece moved, Briggs seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session.

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

**Return to Closed Session**

At 6:54 p.m. Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to return to closed session to discuss the following matter according to the exceptions provided in the "Open Meetings Act" and specified as follows:

- Section 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body

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

**Return to Public Session**

At 7:08 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, Reece, 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, Business Manager/Treasurer Erik Bush, Director of Operations Joe Adelman, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, Vickie Mahrt, Phyllis Coulter of *The Pantagraph*, Michelle Mantel of WJBC, Dayna Brown, Shelly Erickson, Bruce Weldy, Julia Schoonover, David Bollmann, Loren Baele, Carmen Bergmann, Leslie Hanson, Carol Frericks, Colin Fane, Kristen Larson, Laura Wright, Sandy Wilson, and others.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Focus on Students and Good News Reports**

- NCHS teacher Kelly Keogh

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

## Report

### Tax Levy

Bush reported on the proposed tax levy for 2010. (Attachment #1) The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2010 are \$100,718,307 which represents a 6.83% increase over the previous year. He noted a public hearing on the levy will be held on at 7:00 p.m. on December 8, 2010 at the District Office.

## Action

### Adopt Resolution for Estimated Amount Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2010

Maulson moved, Puzauskas seconded, to adopt the resolution for the estimated amount necessary to be levied for the year 2010 as presented. (Attachment #2) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Lay, Maulson, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

### Approve Public Notice of Truth in Taxation Hearing

Pritchett moved, Reece seconded, to set the date of December 8, 2010, 7:00 p.m. at the Unit 5 District Office, 1809 West Hovey Avenue, Normal for a public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase. (Attachment #3) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Lay, Maulson, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

## Consent Agenda

Niehaus reviewed and recommended approval of the Consent Agenda.

### Approval of Minutes

- October 8, 2010 Closed Session
- October 8, 2010 Special Session

### Payment of Bills and Payrolls (Summary Attachment #4)

- October 14, 2010
- October 22, 2010
- October 27, 2010

### Financial Reports (Attachment #5)

- Treasurer's Report
- Statement of Expenditures
- Investments Update

### Requests for Overnight Trips (Attachment #6)

- NCHS Drama Club Illinois High School Theatre Festival January 6-8, 2011

### Proclamation Designating November 14 – 20 as American Education Week and the month of November as Unit 5 Education Month (Attachment #7)

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

## Reports

### Unit 5 Summer School

Julia Schoonover, Director of Summer School, and Leslie Hanson, Early Learning Coordinator, reported on Unit 5 Summer School Programs 2010. (Attachment #8) Classes were held at Chiddix Jr. High School and Prairieland Elementary School serving a total of 396 students. It was noted that the program provided differentiated instructional opportunities in collaboration with the District's literacy plan.

### Illinois State Board of Education School Report Card

Braksick reported on the 2010 School Report Cards. (Attachment #9) The report will be available on the District website on Friday, October 29. Braksick noted that 13 schools met all targets for the year. PJHS and Pepper Ridge Elementary School achieved targets after falling short the previous year. Pepper Ridge and Fairview elementary schools are both currently in Choice status and 30 students have exercised the option to attend a different school. Discussion also included but was not limited to the following:

- Structure and processes for Professional Learning Communities
- Ongoing review of academic standards
- Student growth and achievement dashboards
- Common assessments and shared knowledge of standards and curriculum
- Interventions and support opportunities

1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Strategic Plan 2010-2015 ~ District Long Range Goals and Strategies for Action Planning  
Mickens-Baker provide information on the Strategic Plan 2010-2015 (Attachment #10) She noted that goals and planning will include student growth and achievement, community involvement, professional quality, growth and change, and fiscal responsibility.

Freedom of Information Requests

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

- Sandra Redente of MDR Data Collections Shelton, CT

Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- Board Policy Review Committee ~ The next committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 28. The committee will address Policy 2.150 Committees regarding Board and Superintendent committee designations.
- Community Connections Committee ~ The committee will meet on Friday, November 12.
- Facilities Review Committee ~ The committee is scheduled to meet on Friday, October 29.
- Wellness Committee ~ Briggs reported that at the Tuesday, October 19 meeting several new members were introduced including an 8th grade student, a representative from State Farm and a BroMenn dietitian. It was reported that Dayna Brown and Pat Powers, Director of Food Service, recently attended the Wellness Coalition in San Diego. It was noted that the trip was funded by the Bloomington-Normal YMCA. The next meeting of the committee will be Thursday, December 9.

**Announcements/Comments**

- Board members commented on Parent/Teacher conferences.
- Several Board members attended the Unit 5 Music Parents' annual spaghetti supper. The fundraiser was held at both NCHS and NCWHS.
- NCWHS and NCHS football teams were congratulated for qualifying for the IHSA playoffs.
- Nominating papers for candidates for the April 5, 2011 school board election must be filed at the District Office December 13 through December 20, 2010.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 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: December 8, 2010**