

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
November 10, 2010

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on November 10, 2010 at 6:01 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 6:01 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" and specified as follows:

- Section 2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body,
- 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)(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)(9) Student disciplinary matters.

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

Return to Public Session

At 7:06 p.m., Briggs moved, Puzauskas 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, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Dayna Brown, Michelle Mantel of WJBC, Jeff Monahan, Mary Ahlers, Michael Gourley, Scott Smith of PMA Financial Network, Laura O'Donnell, Dianne Fazio, Geoff Schoonover, Richard Ach of Turner Construction Company, Hope Wheeler of Clifton Gunderson, LLP, Carla Paschall of Clifton Gunderson, LLP., Alyssa Zuravel, Mike Trask, Mary Jones, Rich Fela, Rich Wherley, Helen Barrick of Clifton Gunderson, LLP., and others.

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Good News Report

Recognition of Unit 5 Board of Education ~ Gail Ann Briggs, Scott Lay, Wendy Maulson, Meta Mickens-Baker, Mark Pritchett, John Puzauskas, and Jay Reece

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Report

Financial Audit Report

Hope Wheeler of Clifton Gunderson, LLP presented a summary of the annual audit reports for Unit 5 and Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association. Discussion included a breakdown of revenue and expenditures in the Educational and Operations and Maintenance funds. (Attachment #1) The reports

included financial statement findings, auditor's recommendations, and District administration's responses. The financial audits will also be posted on the Unit 5 website.

Actions

Accept the Financial Audit Report for McLean County Unit District No. 5

Lay moved, Pritchett seconded, to accept the Financial Audit Report for Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois for fiscal year 2009-2010 as presented. (Attachment #2) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Lay, Maulson, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

Accept the Financial Audit Report for Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association

Maulson moved, Briggs seconded, to accept the Financial Audit Report for Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association for fiscal year 2009-2010 as presented. (Attachment #3) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Lay, Maulson, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

Report

General Obligation Taxable School Refunding Bonds

Scott Smith of PMA Financial Network provided information on the refunding of General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2000, dated June 1, 2000. It was his recommendation to the Board to authorize the issuance of refunding bonds. He noted that taking advantage of low interest rates would provide considerable savings to the District. Smith reported that he anticipates the refunding process would take place in January 2011. Mesriow Financial and First Midstate will be underwriters for the bonds. Bush reported that savings to the District will go back to the public in the form of abatement. The resolutions will authorize the Board president and Superintendent to move forward with the sale of the bonds.

Action

Consideration of a Resolution Providing for the Issue of Not to Exceed \$18,000,000 Refunding Bonds of the District

Briggs moved, Reece seconded, to approve the Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$18,000,000 General Obligation Taxable School Refunding Bonds, Series 2010, of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois, and for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds as presented. (Attachment #4) Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Lay, Maulson, Pritchett, Puzauskas, Reece, Mickens-Baker. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement in Connection with the Issue of Refunding Bonds of the District

Pritchett moved, Puzauskas seconded, to adopt the Resolution authorizing and directing the execution of an Escrow Agreement in connection with the issue of General Obligation Taxable School Refunding Bonds, Series 2010, of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois, as presented. (Attachment #5) 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.

Personnel Matters (Attachment #6)

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

Payment of Bills and Payrolls (Summary Attachment #7)

- November 3, 2010
- November 10, 2010

Approve Strategic Plan 2010-2015 ~ District Long Range Goals and Strategies for Action Planning (Attachment #8)

Approve Requests for Overnight Trips (Attachment #9)

- PJHS Band All State Music Conference January 28-29, 2011
- NCWHS FFA Made for Excellence Leadership Conference January 28-29, 2011
- NCWHS FFA Farm Bureau Leadership Youth Conference March 28-30, 2011
- NCWHS FFA Illinois Convention in Springfield June 7-9, 2011

- NCWHS Drama Team State Tournament March 24-26, 2011
- NCWHS Speech Team Varsity Tournament January 21-22, 2011
- NCWHS Speech Team State Tournament February 18-19, 2011
- NCWHS Speech Team National Tournament June 12-19, 2011

Request for Donation Approval ~ KJHS Donnie Hampton Memorial Tree (Attachment #10)
Request for Establishment of Student Activity Fund (Attachment #11)

Pritchett 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

Quarterly Budget Update

Bush presented the first quarter budget review for 2010-2011. (Attachment #12) The summary focused on the Education Fund revenues and expenditures including the federal jobs bill funds and general state aid calculations.

Construction Update

Richard Ach of Turner Construction Company provided an update on current construction projects. (Attachment #13) Ach noted that Benjamin Elementary School had been turned over officially to Unit 5. Niehaus noted that the monthly report for December will include an update on the status of safety and security projects throughout the District.

Report on Enrollment and Staff Numbers

Cunningham reported on enrollment figures including elementary section ranges, and staff numbers as of October 31, 2010. (Attachment #14) Included in the report were average class sizes for English, Math, Science, and Social Studies at the secondary level. Current enrollment is at 13,056.

Freedom of Information Requests

Niehaus reported that the District had received and processed two requests for information (Attachment #15)

- Kathy Robinson, AFSME Council Springfield IL

1st Reading Board Policies, Administrative Procedures, and Exhibits

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

- Policy 7.30 Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer
- Policy 7.70 Attendance and Truancy
- Policy 7.150 Agency and Police Interviews
- Policy 7.180 Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
- Policy 7.190 Student Discipline
- Policy 7.210 Expulsion Procedures
- Administrative Procedure 7.30-AP1 Attendance Exception
- Administrative Procedure 7.50-AP1 Student Admissions and Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
- Administrative Procedure 7.150-AP1 Agency and Police Interviews
- Delete Administrative Procedure 7.30-AP2 High School Redistricting Attendance Exception

Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- Board Policy Review Committee ~ Briggs reported that the committee will begin full review of section 7. Discussion will also include the District's procedures regarding the administration of medication. Any comments on the policies discussed this evening should be addressed to Briggs by Monday, November 15. The committee is scheduled to meet Thursday, November 11.
- McLean County Regional Planning Commission ~ It was reported that the meeting scheduled in November was cancelled.
- Facilities Review Committee ~ The committee will meet on Friday, November 19. Discussion will include District safety and security projects.

Announcements/Comments

- Several Board members attended the Unit 5 Music Parents annual spaghetti dinner at NCHS.

- Board members and administrators attended the Waiting for Superman movie.
- Congratulations were given to the NCHS and NCWHS football teams for their participation in the IHSA playoff games.
- November 14 – 20 is American Education Week. Fairview Elementary School will host a family reading night on Thursday, November 18. Other projects for the week include invitations to Board members to speak and participate in various classrooms throughout the District.
- A special Veterans Day program will be held at Towanda Elementary School on Thursday, November 11.
- Cunningham and representatives from the Unit Five Education Association recently attended the Teachers Union Reform Network conference. Topics discussed at the conference included appraisal and evaluation of teaching staff.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 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: December 8, 2010**