

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
September 28, 2011

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on September 28, 2011 p.m. at 5:32 p.m. the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

Roll Call

Members present: Gail Ann Briggs, Wendy Maulson (entered at 5:38p.m.), Meta Mickens-Baker, Mark Pritchett, Jay Reece, Mike Trask, and President John Puzauskas. Members absent: None.

Closed Session

At 5:32 p.m., Briggs moved, Trask 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,
- Section 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives,
- Section 2(c)(9) Student disciplinary cases,
- Section 2(c)(11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, and
- Section 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act.

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

Return to Public Session

At 6:55 p.m., Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to come out of closed session and return to public session. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Reece, Trask, Puzauskas. Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Also present: Superintendent Gary Niehaus, Superintendent of Human Resources Nate Cunningham, Clerk of the Board Donna Evans, and Attorney for the District Curt Richardson.

Trask moved, Pritchett seconded, to find student #1018759 engaged in gross disobedience or misconduct under Section 10-22.6 of the Illinois School Code and the Evans Jr. High School Student Handbook by refusing to follow directions, restraining, assaulting, and battering his teacher, Ms. Blaine, in violation of Board Policy 7.190. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Briggs moved, Mickens-Baker seconded, to expel student #1018759 from McLean County Unit School District No. 5 effective immediately and continuing for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year and the entire 2012-2013 school year. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Trask moved, Briggs seconded, to find student #771163268 engaged in gross disobedience or misconduct under Section 10-22.6 of the Illinois School Code and the Normal Community High School Student Handbook by knowingly possessing drug paraphernalia and a knife and smoking tobacco at the Normal Community High School football game, in violation of Board Policy 7.190. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to expel student #771163268 from McLean County Unit School District No. 5 effective immediately and continuing for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year and the entire 2012-2013 school year. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Trask moved, Pritchett seconded, to find student #001009694 engaged in gross disobedience or misconduct under Section 10-22.6 of the Illinois School Code and the Normal Community High School Student Handbook by possessing marijuana, drug paraphernalia, a knife, tobacco, and a stolen lunch tray at Normal Community High School, in violation of Board Policy 7.190. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to expel student #001009694 from McLean County Unit School District No. 5 effective immediately and continuing for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year and the entire 2012-2013 school year. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Trask moved, Pritchett seconded, to find student #13000073 engaged in gross disobedience or misconduct under Section 10-22.6 of the Illinois School Code and the Normal Community High School Student Handbook by knowingly possessing a knife at Normal Community High School, in violation of Board Policy 7.190. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

Briggs moved, Pritchett seconded, to expel student #13000073 from McLean County Unit School District No. 5 effective immediately and continuing for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year and the entire 2012-2013 school year. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried**

The Board took a short recess.

At approximately 7:07 p.m., the Board resumed public session. 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, Dayna Brown, Ryan Denham of WJBC, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Phyllis Coulter of *The Pantagraph*, Perry Soldwedel of the Consortium for Educational Change, Craig Montgomery, Vickie Mahrt, Jim Stonecipher, Marty Hickman, and others.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing on the 2011-2012 Budgets for McLean County Unit District No. 5 and Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association

A public hearing was held on the proposed 2011-2012 budgets for Community Unit School District No. 5 McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois and Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association. Bush reported that the Unit 5 budget as presented is balanced. He noted that the Unit 5 budget demonstrates three main priorities. Those priorities are literacy, class size, and professional development. The operating budget for Unit 5 for fiscal year 2011-2012 amounts to \$137,305,544. There were no public comments regarding the budget.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Actions

Adopt the Budget Resolution for McLean County Unit District No. 5

Maulson moved, Briggs seconded, to adopt the Budget Resolution for Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012 as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.** A copy of the 2011-2012 Budget is available for public view on the District's website at www.unit5.org.

Adopt the Budget Resolution for Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association

Maulson moved, Trask seconded, to adopt the Budget Resolution for Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012 as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Trask, Reece, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.** A copy of the 2011-2012 Budget is available for public view on the District's website at www.unit5.org.

Reports

District Core Team

Perry Soldwedel, a consultant with the Consortium for Educational Change, presented a report on the District Core Team's work regarding the District scorecard and monitoring student progress relative to the Strategic Plan. (Attachment #1) Discussion included long range goals, family and community partnerships, professional development for staff, change in student growth and demographics, and the need for closing the achievement gap. Soldwedel noted a need to align scorecard reports with Board of Education meetings. The District Core Team will continue to review data on a month to month basis. Niehaus reported that Unit 5 and District 87 were selected to participate in a pilot with the Gates Foundation regarding Illini Data and the use of measurements of data compiled by the State. The pilot is scheduled to begin the first part of June for the 2011-2012 school year.

Consent Agenda

Niehaus reviewed and recommended approval of the Consent Agenda.

Approval of Minutes

- September 7, 2011 Closed Session
- September 7, 2011 Special Session

Payment of Bills and Payrolls (Attachment # 2)

- September 21, 2011
- September 28, 2011

Financial Reports (Attachment #3)

- Treasurer's Report
- Statement of Expenditures by Operating Fund
- Statement of Revenues by Operating Fund
- Investments Update

Approve ISBE Annual Application for Recognition of Schools (Attachment #4)

Accept Administrator's Compensation Report for 2011-2012

Overnight Trips NCWHS FFA (Attachment #5)

- NCWHS Wind Ensemble for March 9-10, 2012 in Chicago, IL
- NCWHS Jazz Band for February 3-4, 2012 in Winnetka, IL

Request for Establishment of Student Activity Funds

- NCHS Future Business Leaders of America
- Prairieland Elementary School Hockey Club

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

Reports

1st Reading of Resolution of the Unit 5 Board of Education Withdrawing from the Mackinaw Valley

Special Education Association

Cunningham reported that the Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council had begun discussion regarding the dissolution at their spring 2011 meeting. Niehaus reported that the resolution was also presented to the El Paso School District Board of Education meeting held on Tuesday, September 27. It was noted that resolution should be corrected to read the Board approves the withdrawal of the District from the Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association effective June 30, 2013 prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year. The wording of the resolution will be revised for Board approval at the October 12, 2011 regular meeting.

Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- Facilities Review Committee ~ The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 30.
- Beyond the Books Educational Foundation Board of Directors ~ Beyond the Box grant award recipients will be recognized at a future Board meeting.
- Board Policy Review Committee ~ Policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits will be presented to the Board for 1st reading at the October 12, 2011 regular meeting.
- Strategic Planning and Finance Committee ~ The committee met on Friday, September 23. The topic of discussion was the 2011-2012 budget and possible refunding opportunities for the 2008 bonds.
- Regional Planning Commission ~ The meeting for Wednesday, October 5 has been cancelled.

- Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association Council ~ The Council met on Wednesday, September 21. Discussion including the resolution presented this evening regarding the District withdrawing from the Association.
- Community Connections Committee ~ The Committee met on Monday, September 26. Discussion included the District website, individual school websites, and the EJHS dedication held on Sunday, September 18. The Citizens Advisory Council met on Wednesday, September 21 at NCHS. The next meeting agenda will include planning for future community conversations.
- District Core Team ~ Mickens-Baker recently attended the steering committee meeting of the Consortium for Educational Change. She noted that dues to the CEC include such presentations as the one presented this evening by Perry Soldwedel.

Announcements/Comments

- Niehaus provided an update on recent issues with the District's bus service. Niehaus and Pritchett met with transportation department staff and administrators on Saturday, September 24. Discussion included but was not limited to topics on technology and software systems, supervision of staff, employee training, moving to a full three-tier transportation system, community perception, the transportation call center, and customer service.
- CJHS recently hosted the Illinois state junior high school softball tournament.
- Donna Evans was recognized for her work with the Illinois Association of School Boards regarding information published in the IASB annual legal calendar.
- The NCWHS homecoming parade and activities will be held on Friday, October 14.
- Congressman Adam Kinzinger will visit NCWHS on Friday, September 30. Kinzinger is a former NCWHS graduate.
- Niehaus reported that the next Consortium for Educational Change Great Lakes Turn Conference is scheduled for November 3-4, 2011. Administrators and Board members are invited to attend.
- The NCHS and NCWHS football game will be held Friday, September 30 at NCHS.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

**John Puzauskas, Board of Education President
Community Unit School District No. 5
McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois**

ATTEST:

**Mark Pritchett, Board of Education Secretary
Approved Date: October 26, 2011**