

Minutes
McLean County Unit District No. 5
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session
October 12, 2011

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois met in regular session on October 12, 2011 p.m. at 6:26 p.m. the District Office, 1809 W. Hovey Avenue, Normal, Illinois.

Roll Call

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

Recess

The Board took a short recess for the purpose of having photographs taken for the Normal Community and Normal Community West High School yearbooks.

Closed Session

At 6:26 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,
- Section 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, and
- Section 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act.

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

Motion carried.

Return to Public Session

At 7:01 p.m., Briggs moved, Trask 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, 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, Susy Dees, Tom Dixon, Ryan Denham of WJBC, Vickie Mahrt, Steve Robinson of the *Normalite*, Dianne Fazio, Marty Hickman, Bruce Boswell, Colin Theis, Sarah Breeden, Ellen Main, Paul Dees, Steve Imes, Ron Goben, Jeff Gordon, Kathy Starkey, Steven Zimmerman, Carolyn Sunkel, Hope Wheeler of Clifton Gunderson, Debra Meyer, Ryan Kimbrell, Bruce Kimbrell, Phyllis Coulter of *The Pantagraph*, and others.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comments

Tom Dixon, 1212 N. Timber Ridge, Normal IL ~ Contract for emergency transportation services
Susy Dees, 708 E. Ironwood CC Dr., Normal IL ~ Transportation issues involving special education students

Reports

2010-2011 Financial Audit Report for Unit 5 and Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association

Bush and Hope Wheeler of Clifton Gunderson, LLP provided a summary of the 2010-2011 audit reports. This report is an annual requirement of the Illinois State Board of Education. Wheeler noted that the 2010-2011 report was very positive in comparison with the previous year and thanked the Unit 5 Finance Department for their cooperation and preparation for the audit. Wheeler also reported that in regard to audit findings there has been a significant improvement by the District for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The complete report can be found on the District website at www.unit5.org/departments/finance.

Actions

Accept Financial Audit Report for McLean County Unit District No. 5 for fiscal year 2010-2011

Maulson moved, Briggs seconded to accept the Financial Audit Report for Community Unit School District No. 5 McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois for fiscal year 2010-2011 as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Reece, Trask, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Accept Financial Audit Report for Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association for fiscal year 2010-2011

Pritchett moved, Trask seconded, to accept the Financial Audit Report for Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association for fiscal year 2010-2011 as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Reece, Trask, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Adopt Resolution Withdrawing from the Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association

Niehaus provided an update on the Resolution noting that the Board had reviewed this information at the September 28, 2011 regular meeting. (Attachment #1) He reported that discussion has been ongoing since the spring of 2011 and that the El Paso school district supported the withdrawal. Bush commented that this was also a recommendation as part of the audit findings from Clifton Gunderson and that withdrawing from the Association would simplify the accounting process. Trask moved, Briggs seconded, to adopt the Resolution of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois, Withdrawing from the Mackinaw Valley Special Education Association. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Reece, Trask, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Adopt Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Superintendent to Contract with a Third Party for the Purpose of Augmenting the Current Transportation Work Force in an Emergency Situation

Niehaus reported on the issues involving the Transportation Department including the addition of new bus routes, excessive bus driver absenteeism, and the time involved in training and maintaining new drivers. Pritchett moved, Reece seconded, to adopt the Resolution of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District no. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois, Authorizing and Directing the Superintendent to Contract with a Third Party for the Purpose of Augmenting the Current Transportation Workforce in an Emergency Situation. (Attachment #2) It was noted that the contract would expire in three months. Bush will post a Request for Proposals for Emergency Student Transportation Services on Thursday, October 13, 2011. Contracts will be presented to the Board at the October 26, 2011 regular meeting. Roll call: Ayes: Briggs, Maulson, Mickens-Baker, Pritchett, Reece, Trask, Puzauskas. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

Consent Agenda

Niehaus reviewed and recommended approval of the Consent Agenda.

Approval of Minutes

- September 14, 2011
- September 14, 2011

Personnel Matters (Attachment #3)

Payment of Bills and Payrolls (Attachment #4)

- October 4, 2011
- October 12, 2011

Letter of Understanding for Elementary Professional Development School Coordinator (Attachment #5)

Request for Donation (Attachment # 6)

- Donation from Wells Fargo to PJHS
- NCWHS Baseball Scoreboard
- Northpoint Elementary School Playground

Overnight Trip for NCWHS Cheerleading Competition in Buffalo Grove, IL January 7-8, 2012 (Attachment #7)

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

Reports

Energy Savings Update

Bruce Boswell reported on the 72-month energy conservation and savings report. (Attachment #8) Boswell noted Unit 5 has seen consistent savings over the past six years. It was noted that the District spent

less total money in 2010-2011 on basic utilities even though there has been an increase in facilities, students, and energy prices.

Enrollment Update

Cunningham reported on enrollment figures. (Attachment #9) Total enrollment on September 30 was 13,255. He noted that the September enrollment figures will be used on the Fall Housing Report submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education.

Board Representative Committee Meeting Reports

- Board Policy Review Committee ~ The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 17.
- Facilities Review Committee ~ The committee met on Friday, September 30. Discussion included the NCWHS baseball scoreboard and the Northpoint Elementary School playground donation. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 28.
- District Core Team ~ The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18.
- Strategic Planning and Finance Committee ~ The committee met on Friday, October 7. Agenda items included the audit report.
- Insurance Review Committee ~ The committee met on Thursday, October 6.

Announcements/Comments

- The Board proclaimed the week of October 10-14, 2011 as National School Lunch Week. Unit 5 Food Service Department employees will be recognized at each facility.
- Board members and administrators attended the 100 Best Communities for Young People presentation at Cedar Ridge Elementary School on Wednesday, October 12, 2011.
- The NCWHS homecoming program and parade will be Friday, October 14, 2011.
- Mickens-Baker reported that she had recently attended a presentation on bullying at the Delta Kappa Gamma meeting. She also noted that the District has several specific policies and programs related to this topic. Niehaus noted that the District PBIS Coordinator, Nancy Braun, will provide a report to the Board in the near future.
- The first music concert at EJHS was held on Tuesday, October 11, 2011. The school song was presented at that time.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 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: December 14, 2011**