

Minutes of the REGULAR Meeting of the Board of Education  
Community Unit School District No. 4, Champaign County, Illinois  
Mellon Administrative Center, 703 S. New Street, Champaign, Illinois  
April 12, 2010 Within the Boundaries of Said District

Regular Meeting

Board President Dave Tomlinson called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:33 p.m.

**Board Members Present**

Kristine Chalifoux, Sue Grey, Stig Lanesskog, Tom Lockman, Scott MacAdam, Greg Novak, Dave Tomlinson

**Staff Members Present**

Superintendent Arthur Culver, Deputy Superintendent Dorland Norris, Assistant Superintendent Beth Shepperd, Assistant Superintendent Michael McFarland, Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas

**Guests**

Representatives from CFT, and local media and other interested persons

**Approval of Agenda**

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to approve the agenda. The motion carried on voice vote.

**Executive Session**

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member MacAdam, to adjourn into *Closed Session* in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) to consider Personnel related to employee appointments, employments, compensation, dismissals, complaints, staffing allocations 120/2(c)(1), Negotiations 120/2(c)(2), Property Acquisition/Lease/Purchase 120/2(c)(5), Student Discipline 120/2(c)(9), and Actual/Potential Litigation related to the BTW Project 120/2(c)(11). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 6:34 p.m.

**Open Session**

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 7:06 p.m.

**Public Comment**

Imani Bazzell congratulated Dr. Michael McFarland on his recent appointment as Superintendent in Lancaster, Texas. She praised him on his work and his leadership.

**PTA Council**

Vice President Ruth Mininger thanked Superintendent Culver for sharing the State of the District at the April 1, 2010 PTA Council meeting. She also spoke in support of the Nurtured Heart Approach.

**Reports****Academic Spotlight: Academic Academy – Graduates (Post Secondary Plans)**

Principal Rhonda Howard shared great work they are doing at the Academic Academy. The Academy is a small, comprehensive alternative program designed to meet the needs of non-traditional students in a nurturing environment. The Academy meets this goal by offering a highly qualified staff, low student/teacher ratio, and an individualized learning plan.

The Academy opened its doors in August 2008 with a projected enrollment of 60 students. In its first year, 25 students met graduation requirements by successfully completing the Academy program. For the 2009-2010 school year, the Academy has enrolled more than 100 students.

The Academic Academy provides a principal, six classroom teachers, social worker, guidance counselor, and a career services placement liaison. The facility houses a twenty-five station computer lab as well as four traditional classrooms with computer access.

The Academic Academy offers rigorous learning in a supportive environment. The Academy offers a full range of academic course work and electives. Students, staff, and parents/guardians will develop educational plans at the time of orientation and intake that will meet the Champaign Unit #4 graduation requirements. Students will have the opportunity to receive instruction through teacher-led courses, on-line learning with teacher support, or project-based learning.

The Academic Academy has continued its focus on preparing students for post-secondary success. To date, nineteen students have already met graduation requirements. An additional fourteen students are projected to complete graduation requirements by end of the school year. The Academy has utilized District programs including ECP (Education to Careers and Professions Program), college visits, community speakers, and community agency involvement to prepare students after graduation.

Several parents and students spoke about the benefits of the Academy.

**C-U Scholars Program**

CUSF Executive Director Gail Rost, along with Victor Mullins, Co-Chair of the program, provided a brief overview of the program. The CU Schools Foundation presented a program called CU Scholars that is designed to increase the college/workforce readiness of students in Champaign and Urbana Schools. Components of the program include the identification of a college /workforce preparatory program that is available in both districts, having business leaders introduce the curriculum through eighth grade presentations, and a spring recognition ceremony for graduating seniors from both districts. Community service and physical fitness are also part of the program. A steering team from the community, the University of Illinois, the City of Champaign, and both school districts has been working with the CU Schools Foundation on program design. Staff members from curriculum, counseling, community relations, as well as middle and high school principals will need to be involved in planning and implementation of the program. Five hundred dollars have been reserved in the Community Relations budget to support the Business/Education Summit scheduled for May 5. Community/business donors are expected to fund the program costs. The program will be evaluated by the number of students who graduate as CU Scholars. The administration recommended that the District participate in the CU Scholars program sponsored by the CU Schools Foundation. Superintendent Culver will provide a letter of support for the CU Scholars program.

Middle School Schedule Proposal for 2010/11

Director Judy Wiegand provided an update on the 2010/11 Middle School Schedule Proposal. A review of the District's current middle school schedules indicated that the time devoted to teaching in English/Language Arts and Mathematics is lower than the average reported by the State. Unit 4 middle schools devote 85 minutes in English/Language Arts instruction compared to 92 minutes at the State, and in mathematics, Unit 4 devotes 42 minutes compared to 51 minutes for State average (Illinois District Report Card 2009). Additionally, consultant Elliot Merenbloom, recommended that 80% of the day should be devoted to core instruction.

The middle school principals were provided the following parameters and requested to bring forward draft schedules. A draft schedule was shared from each of the three middle schools for the 2010-11 school year. Sample student schedules that reflect the current schedule and the proposed schedule were provided.

## Parameters:

- A minimum of 60 minutes for math instruction
- A minimum of 90 minutes for an English/Language Arts block
- Eighty percent of the day devoted to core instruction

The English/Language Arts block was piloted this year at Jefferson Middle School. In preparation for this pilot, summer writing was conducted in 2009. On-going staff development will need to occur at all middle schools for teaching in a block. Also, the science and social science teachers will have an opportunity to block instruction and create interdisciplinary units. Secondary curriculum coordinators have developed a schedule to provide staff development support during the 2010-11 school year. Training will take place during designated team meeting times.

Summer writing costs to support the English/Language Arts block and possible interdisciplinary units in Science and Social Science is approximately \$6,000.

The following student performance indicators will be monitored and analyzed: grade rate distribution, benchmark, quarterly and/or common assessments, ISAT performance in reading, math, and science.

Middle School Principals Susan Zola, Carmela David and Angela Smith spoke in support of the proposal.

**Action Agenda**Appointments – Board Committees/Representatives

Member Lanesskog moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to approve the following Board members to serve as representatives on the committees listed beginning July 1, 2010. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0. Abstained 1. Member Novak abstained.

Committee	Estimated Time Commitment	2010/2011 Member(s)
C-U Schools Foundation Board	Monthly 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 4-5:30pm	Scott MacAdam

*CFT Areas of Consultation	Monthly 1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 3:30	Dave Tomlinson Tom Lockman
*CFT Negotiations Team	Several meetings - negotiation years (Spring 2011)	Dave Tomlinson Tom Lockman
*CESP Areas of Consultation	Monthly 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 4:00	Dave Tomlinson Tom Lockman
*CESP Negotiations Team	Several meetings - negotiation years (TBD)	Dave Tomlinson Tom Lockman
EEE Committee	Twice per Semester	Sue Grey (Scott MacAdam – alternate)
Facilities Committee	Monthly	Kristine Chalifoux Stig Lanesskog
Promises Made, Promises Kept	Quarterly	Dave Tomlinson
Strategic Planning	As needed	Kristine Chalifoux Stig Lanesskog

\*Contractual/Legal/Non-Operational Committees

Approval of Architect for Savoy School RFP

Member MacAdam moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to approve OWP/P as the architect for the Savoy Project, pending final negotiations of an acceptable fee arrangement. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas spoke briefly about the interview process. Notices were sent to 76 different architectural firms requesting RFQ's and 16 firms responded. Five firms were selected to be interviewed (BLDD, Cordogan Clark, FWAI, Gorski Reifsteck and OWP/P). Interviews were held on March 31 and April 1. The interview team consisted of Kristine Chalifoux, Greg Novak, Arthur Culver, Gene Logas, Mike Stilger and John Ayers.

After interviewing the five firms and checking references, the committee unanimously recommends OWP/P. It was determined that OWP/P could not only design an appropriate elementary school, but more importantly supply extensive programming expertise.

Selection of Energy Performance Contractor

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member Grey, to approve Control Technology and Solutions (CTS) as the Energy Performance Contractor. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas provided a brief update regarding the interview process. A public notice of the RFP for Energy Performance Contracting was published in the News-Gazette, posted on the Illinois Procurement Bulletin and posted on the Districts website. Three contractors were selected to interview (Chevron, CTS and ESG). A committee comprised of Kristine Chalifoux, Arthur Culver, Gene Logas, John Ayers, Joe Davis and Robert Nemeth interviewed these contractors on April 9, 2010.

After interviewing the three contractors and checking references, the committee unanimously recommends Control Technology and Solutions (CTS). They were very well prepared for the interview. In addition, they have the experience and reputation to make these projects a success.

Resolution to Adopt & Implement Desegregation Plan Upon Award of Magnet Schools Assistant Program (Exhibit "A")

Member MacAdam moved, with a second by Member Lockman, to approve the adoption of the resolution to support desegregation efforts related to the MSAP grant. The motion carried on roll. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Assistant Superintendent Beth Shepperd a brief overview of the recommended resolution. The District is preparing to submit a Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP) grant to support the creation of magnet programs at BT Washington, Garden Hills, and Stratton. The District is in a strong position to win this award due to our proactive approach to desegregation efforts that are detailed in the resolution. The MSAP award is for approximately \$1.8 million for each of three consecutive years. This amount is the budget established by the magnet grant team.

The purposes of the grant are: (1) the elimination or prevention of minority group isolation in elementary and secondary schools with substantial portions of minority students, which shall include assisting in the efforts of the United States to achieve voluntary desegregation in public schools; (2) the development and implementation of magnet school projects that will assist LEAs in achieving systemic reforms and providing all students the opportunity to meet challenging State academic content standards and student academic achievement standards; (3) the development and design of innovative educational methods and practices that promote diversity and increase choices in public elementary schools and public secondary schools, and public educational programs; (4) courses of instruction within magnet schools that will substantially strengthen the knowledge of academic subjects and the attainment of tangible and marketable vocational, technological, and professional skills of students attending such schools; (5) improvement of the capacity of LEAs, including through professional development to continue operating magnet schools at a high performance level after Federal funding for the magnet schools is terminated; and (6) ensuring that all students enrolled in the magnet schools programs have equitable access to high quality education that will enable the students to succeed academically and continue with postsecondary education or productive employment.

There are no financial implications connected to passing the resolution. The District stands to gain approximately \$5.5 million if the grant application is funded.

No evaluation is required for the resolution. The MSAP grant requires an extensive outside evaluation component, which is included in the grant budget.

**Consent Agenda**

Member Grey moved, with a second by Member Novak, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Board of Education approved the following Consent Agenda items:

2011/2012 & 2012/2013 Proposed School Calendars

The Board of Education approved the 2011/12 & 2012/13 proposed school calendars. A committee comprised of parents, teachers, support staff, principals, Board members, and District administrators met during the first semester of the current school year to develop the 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 school calendars. The committee used the following calendar development

parameters established by the Illinois State Board of Education and District-specific considerations in the process of preparing the proposed calendars. Such considerations included:

- Attention to factors (e.g., continuity of instructional time, state testing, etc.) to promote a positive learning environment for students and work environment for staff;
- Holding semester exams and the end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester before winter break;
- Sensitivity to the placement of the fall and spring holidays respective to families traveling over designated holiday breaks and other variables;
- Alignment with the University of Illinois spring break;
- Adherence to contract language relative to the design of the school calendars;
- Alignment of the Regular and Balanced calendars to allow all District staff to be trained together on designated Institute days or District school improvement days;
- Alignment of the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter (end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester) 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters (end of school year) between the Regular and Balanced calendars;
- President's Day, the third Monday of February, will be observed as a school holiday instead of February 12, President Lincoln's birthday.
- Alignment of 2009-10 and 2010-11 calendars.

There are no foreseen ADA implications in the development of these calendar proposals that could impact District funding by the State of Illinois.

Proposed Board of Education Policies/Procedures (Policy 347: GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION & Procedure 347R: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES – The Illinois Freedom of Information Act)

The Board of Education approved the proposed policies as presented. Revisions indicate recent changes in the law.

2010/2011 Regular & Special Board Meeting Schedules

The Board of Education approved the 2010/2011 Board meeting schedule as presented. The meetings will begin at 7 p.m. and will be held at the E.H. Mellon Administrative Center. Should the Board wish to change its regular and special meeting schedules, it may be done at the next regular Board meeting or at any other time of the Board's choosing.

2010/2011 Regular Board Meeting Dates

<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
July 12	January 10
August 9	February 14
September 13	March 14
October 18	April 11
November 8	May 9
December 13	June 13

Special Meetings (Study Sessions)

August 23	January 24
September 27	February 28
October 25	March 28
November 29	April 25
	May 23

(Study sessions will not be held during the months of December, June & July)

Bids (Custodial Supplies Warehouse; Paper Supplies) (Exhibit “B”)

The Board of Education awarded the bids for custodial supplies and paper supplies to the lowest qualified bidders.

Board policy states that bids will be solicited when items are expected to exceed a total of \$10,000. As part of the bidding process, these bids were advertised in the News-Gazette. Formal bids were mailed to vendors.

For the custodial supply bid, formal requests were mailed to 44 vendors and 23 bids were received on February 3, 2010. Lowest qualified bidders are CDC Paper, Central Poly, CVS Flags, Genesis II, Inc., Gordon Food, HP Products Corp., Interline/AmSan, Lorenz Supply Co., M.R. Nyren, Pyramid School Products, Quill, & R.D. McMillen. The custodial supplies will be charged to the District’s warehouse asset account, totaling \$25,042.98. Each school’s expenditure accounts will be charged as supplies are ordered from the Servicenter. Last year’s bid totaled \$22,981.39.

Fifty-three bids were mailed out for the paper supply bid and 17 were received on March 8, 2010. Lowest qualified bidders are Bye-Mor, Inc., CDC Paper, Fox River Foods, HP Products Corp., Midland Paper, Newman & Ullman, Inc., Pyramid School Products, RIS Paper Co., Standard Stationery Supply Co., Unisource, & Wallace Packaging, LLC. Paper supplies will be charged to the District’s warehouse asset account, totaling \$294,910.66 and expensed as the supplies are ordered. Last year’s bid totaled \$296,058.17.

Modification of 2009/2010 School Calendars

The Board of Education approved June 1, 2010 for the Regular calendar schools, and June 7, 2010 for the Balanced calendar schools as the last official day for the 2009/2010 school-year.

Board Minutes

The Board of Education approved the January 28, 2010, February 17, 22 & 23, 2010 & March 8, 2010 Board meeting minutes as presented.

Bills & Treasurer’s Report (Exhibit “C”)

The Board of Education approved the Bills and Treasurer’s Report as presented.

Human Resource Changes (Exhibit “D”)

The Board of Education approved the Human Resource Changes as presented.

**Executive Session**

Member Grey moved, with a second by Member MacAdam, to adjourn into *Closed Session* in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) to consider Personnel related to employee appointments, employments, compensation, dismissals, complaints, staffing allocations 120/2(c)(1), Negotiations 120/2(c)(2), and Student Discipline 120/2(c)(9). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 9:10 p.m.

### **Open Session**

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 9:48 p.m.

#### Administration Appointment – Principal, Centennial High School (Exhibit “E”)

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member MacAdam, to approve the appointment of Gregory T. Johnson as Principal of Centennial High School effective July 1, 2010. The contract year is 260 days. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

#### Reduction-In-Force – Certified Staff (Exhibit “F”)

Member Lockman moved, with a second by Member MacAdam, to approve the Reduction in Force of Certified Staff as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Board of Education is required by law to notify any full-time teacher who is completing a probationary period, and any teacher employed on a full-time basis no later than January 1 of the school term via written notice at least forty-five (45) days before the end of any school term whether or not he/she will be re-employed for the following term.

This notification includes non-tenure teachers for whom no position is available and teachers employed in grant positions for which the grants have not been renewed to date.

Additionally, the Board of Education is required by law to notify any tenured teacher via written notice at least 60-days before the end of any school term if they are to be removed or dismissed as part of a reduction-in-force.

#### Student Discipline

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member Grey, to expel student #201581 from Jefferson Middle School for the remainder of the 09/10 school year and the first semester of the 10/11 school year and reassigned to an alternative site at the Administration’s discretion for violating Conduct Code #18 (Physical Confrontation with Staff) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to his/her regularly assigned school following the expulsion period. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Member Lockman moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to expel student #590199 from Jefferson Middle School for the remainder of the 09/10 school year and the first semester of the 10/11 school year and reassigned to an alternate site at the Administration’s discretion for violating Conduct Code #19 (Physical Confrontation with Student) and Code #34 (Weapon-Related Activities – Other Than Guns & Explosives) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to his/her regularly assigned school following the expulsion period. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Member Grey moved, with a second by Member MacAdam, to expel student #620381 from Centennial High School for the remainder of the 09/10 school year and the entire 10/11 school year and reassigned to an alternative site at the Administration’s discretion for violating Conduct Code #7 (Disruptive Behavior) and Code #28 (Obscenity/Verbal Abuse/Profanity of Staff) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to his/her regularly assigned school following the expulsion period. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.



Member Grey moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to expel student #685125 from Central High School for the remainder of the 09/10 school year and reassigned based on the recommendation of the IEP Team for violating Conduct Code #18 (Physical Confrontation with Staff) and Code # 24 (Threats to/Intimidation of Staff) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to his/her regularly assigned school following the expulsion period. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Acquisition of Land (Exhibit "G")

Member Lockman moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to approve the acquisition of 1410 W. Eads at a purchase price of \$23,150, and the acquisition of 1412 W. Eads at a purchase price of \$65,000. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Member Lockman moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to approve the acquisition of 712 Harvard at a purchase price of \$67,550. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 1. Member Novak voted Nay.

Housing Authority Land Swap for Parking Lots

No action requested.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Member Grey moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

*Board Approved: May 10, 2010*