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 June 11, 2007 Within the Boundaries of Said District

## Regular Meeting

Board President David Tomlinson called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:05 p.m.

#### **Board Members Present**

Nathaniel Banks, Arlene Blank, Susan Grey, Scott MacAdam, Greg Novak, David Tomlinson

#### **Board Members Absent**

Kristine Chalifoux

#### **Staff Members Present**

Superintendent Arthur Culver, Assistant Superintendent Beth Shepperd, Assistant Superintendent Michael McFarland, Interim Assistant Superintendent Patricia Lewis, Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas, Administrator Joe Davis

#### Guests

Representatives from CFT, and local media and other interested persons

## **Approval of Agenda**

Arlene Blank moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried on voice vote. Action Agenda items 12.A.1 and 12.B.1 were pulled from the agenda. 12.B.3 was changed as a Report Item.

#### **Public Comments**

Numerous community members and parents expressed their concerns regarding financial issues related to the after school program at Stratton.

#### Reports

#### Academic Spotlight – Stratton Elementary

Principal Sandra Duckworth provided a brief presentation regarding the achievements at Stratton Elementary. The 2006-07 school year began with an enrollment of 360 students, reflecting an increase of 32 students over the previous year. Demographics are represented as 49.4% African American, 29.9% White, 9.8% Hispanic, 9.8% Asian and 1.2% Native American. Stratton Elementary serves a high percentage of low socio-economic students with a 17.6% mobility rate. Sixty-seven percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced lunch, which qualifies Stratton as a Title I school.

Stratton was recognized for its continuous improvement of achieving Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the fourth consecutive year since removal from the State "Watch List". Additionally, Stratton was recognized as an Illinois Spotlight School. The Spotlight School award honors high poverty, high performing schools, where at least 50% of the students are classified as low income and at least 60% passed (met or exceeded standards) the State reading and mathematics tests. All Spotlight Schools made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and sustained their performance over the past three years. Stratton students scored well on the ISAT, as 71% of the students met or exceeded all categories on the statewide

achievement tests. Sixty-six percent of the third graders met or exceeded in the area of reading and 76% in mathematics. Fourth grade students scored 67% for the criteria for meet or exceed. Fifth grade students scored 60% on reading and 82% on mathematics. These scores earned Stratton the Illinois Academic Improvement Award. The award is given for meeting the criteria of sustainability in an upward trend in tests scores for at least three years and a 15 point increase in tests scores over the past three years.

One of the strategies proven to assist with instruction and achievement has been the Stratton Saturday School Academy, which emphasizes specific strategies for student success. Saturday Academy has proven to be a successful program that focuses on instructional methods that optimize success in mathematics and reading. Students become more competent in problem solving through practice with extended response, computation and word problems. Saturday Academy is held each Saturday for four weeks, two hours a day from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

The first Saturday Academy was initiated in the spring of 2004 and has continued thereafter each spring. The program began with 35 students who were recommended by teachers and parents to participate and has increased to well over 100 students. This year an After-School Academy was held for students in first and second grade, reaching down to the lower grades to get an early start with younger students. The Saturday Academy included parent workshops on Assessment and Assessment Strategies for Student Success. At least 70% of the parents of students participating attended the initial workshop for parents.

Two goals were developed for success. The first goal was to increase the skills of third and fifth grade students in reading and comprehending both narrative and information text. Students' ISAT scores will reflect growth and will meet or exceed State standards for the objectives covered in Saturday Academy/ISAT Prep Program. The second goal was to increase the math computation and problem-solving skills of third and fifth grade students. Students' ISAT scores will reflect growth and will meet or exceed State standards for the objectives covered in Saturday Academy/ISAT Prep program.

The School-wide Enrichment Model (SEM) is Stratton's response to the demand of providing quality educational opportunities in an inclusive setting that challenges and motivates students with varying abilities. School-wide Enrichment is a method of delivering engaging, interdisciplinary learning experiences that are based upon the interests of students and teacher assessment. School-wide Enrichment is based upon the model created by Joseph Renzulli, University of Connecticut Professor of Gifted Education.

The Stratton enrichment model allows students to choose an "Investigative Learning" class during the school day, based upon their talents and interests. Classes are taught by classroom teachers with support from two enrichment specialists. The Investigative Learning module infuses project-based learning with Illinois Learning Standards to create units of interest. Teachers work in teams to design programs for student that focus on topics where students pursue answers to their own questions.

Needs of individual students are met by Personal Education Partnership Plans (PEP Plans), Accelerated Performance Plans and Focus Group instruction. At times, these plans require multi-age grouping. Students participate in small groups across grade levels to accommodate individual skill levels. Teachers, volunteers and community partners also work with students individually and in small groups. Teachers use instructional methods that keep students actively engaged, including activity-based instruction in science, math and social studies. These project-based activities are tied to the current unit

of study; activities are completed at home by students partnered with a parent or adult. Another instructional method used is the integration of technological tools throughout the curriculum. Each class has scheduled time in the computer lab for extension of skills; additionally computers are available in the classroom.

Currently there are 22 classroom teachers. Four teach gifted and talented classes, in addition to a 1.5 FTE enrichment specialist. There are four strands at kindergarten and first grade, three strands at second and third grades, and two strands at fourth and fifth grades.

Assessment and evaluation of the Saturday Academy Program supports the practice that increased time on task increases student achievement. After the initial Saturday Academy in 2004, it became apparent by statistical analysis that students were making gains in achievement.

During the 2004-2005 school year, 70 students participated in the Academy. Seventy-eight percent of the students in third grade met or exceeded ISAT standards. During the 2005-2006 school year, 63 students attended Saturday Academy. Eight-four percent of these students met or exceeded standards in reading and math. During the 2006-2007 school year, 85 students attended Saturday Academy. Our projected goal for excellence is that 90% of these students will meet or exceed State standards.

The timeframe for Saturday Academy is equivalent to one 8-hour day of focused instruction in reading, math and writing. Learner outcomes indicate "What a Difference a Day Makes".

<u>Consent Decree Update – Consent Decree Communications/Planning & Implementation Committee</u> Director Dedrick Martin shared the district's effort to increase communication efforts and general understanding of the Consent Decree. The District has taken the following steps:

- Has created and maintained updated links on the District's Web site for general public information and access to the recently created Collaboration Plan and other legal documents pertaining to the Consent Decree. This information is available to the public free of charge at the following web sites:
  - o www.champaignschools.org
  - o www.ilcd.uscourts.gov/Champaignschools.htm
- CD copies of all Quarterly Reports created by Champaign Unit 4 are made available by the Department of Equity and Student Achievement. Copies of these CD's are also made available at all Champaign Unit 4 schools once approved for public access by the Court Monitor.
- Conducted a series of Planning and Implementation Committee (PIC) meetings aimed specifically for communication and discussion of the revised Collaboration Plan and other issues related to the Consent Decree (May 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and June 20<sup>th</sup>). A complete list of dates and times for all monthly PIC meetings are listed on the District's web-site.
- Conducted multiple Discipline Advisory Committee meetings involving community members, a county mental health member, board members and parents. (Sept. 27th, Nov. 28th, Jan. 1st, March 1st, 8th, 15th).
- Conducted two Academic Alternative Task Force meetings. Community members, board members and plaintiff representatives were invited to participate in these meetings. The meetings were held to develop and discuss plans for opening an Alternative High School during the 07-08 academic year. (March 13<sup>th</sup>, May 3<sup>rd</sup>)

- Conducted monthly meetings for the Level III Task Force and Special Education Task Force. These meetings involved District personnel and plaintiff representatives in an effort to address issues related to access, achievement and equity.
- District's senior leadership will participate in the Quarterly meeting with Court Monitor (June 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>). The meetings offer an opportunity for the Monitor, the District and the Plaintiff's attorney to dialogue about progress towards Consent Decree goals.
- District will participate in a PIC Retreat, facilitated by Dr. William Trent, during the summer of 2007 as part of annual process to clarify objectives for the upcoming school year.

No additional staff is needed. Financial implications will be determined. The cost will be included in the 07 budget.

District Quarterly Reports serve as an assessment measure for reaching the goals outlined in the Consent Decree, Strategic Plan and the revised Collaboration Plan. Each section of the Collaboration Plan designates responsibilities and identifies individual positions that will monitor the procedural steps in accomplishing the target goals of the plan.

#### CU Schools Foundation/District Collaboration

Phil Van Ness shared the CU Schools Foundation's proposal for collaboration with Champaign Unit 4 and Urbana Unit 116. CUSF if requesting a financial commitment from both school districts. CUSF would like to establish a professional development team to plan and implement strategies for identifying and cultivating donor individuals and organizations, and support future plans for growth and excellence in Units 4 and 116 with private dollars and grants. CUSF is seeking help in adding 1.5 full time equivalent (FTE) for the next five years; will meet the districts half way by increasing its FTE by 100%; asking the district for a commitment for collaboration; asking for a financial commitment for five years (\$60,000 from Unit 4 and \$30,000 from Unit 116); and seeking active leadership and support from both Boards and Superintendents.

Superintendent Culver stated that he is very supportive of the ideas and concept and that this is a great way to collaborate. He has seen the proposal but was not aware that the district would be sharing the cost in proportion to the district's size. He reminded the Board of the District's financial challenges. The Superintendent expressed his desire to continue discussions in the near future with Unit 116.

Board of Education Proposed Policies (Attendance: Assignment to Schools; Residence)
Interim Assistant Superintendent Patricia Lewis provided information regarding the following proposed policies and procedures which represent the continued effort to update the District's Policy and Procedures Manual.

#### Policy 705.06 (ATTENDANCE: Assignment to Schools) has been revised to:

- 1) Indicate the correct title of the administrator overseeing the policy.
- 2) Reflect changes in policy due to the implementation of the middle school cluster model.
- 3) Allow revocation of a transfer for disciplinary or attendance reasons.
- 4) Allow the Superintendent to consider program needs and racial balance in determining transfer approval.

## Policy 705.07 (ATTENDANCE: Residence) has been revised to:

1) Indicate the correct title of the administrator overseeing the policy.

2) Correct the title of the Homeless Assistance Act and state law

## <u>Procedure 705.07R (ATTENDANCE: Residence)</u> has been revised to:

1) Indicate the correct title of the administrator overseeing the procedure.

#### Affidavit for Temporary Transfer of Custody/Control – Residency Questionnaire

Interim Assistant Superintendent Patricia Lewis shared the following information regarding the current Power of Attorney and Consent to Custody Form which has led, on several occasions, to students being able to register in Champaign Unit 4 illegally. Advice on how to better screen families to ensure proper residency was sought from Attorney Brian Braun, and the Affidavit for Temporary Transfer of Custody/Control—Residency Questionnaire was drafted by him. His legal opinion follows, in part:

Pupil residency is governed in Illinois by a School Code provision that <u>requires</u> school districts to charge nonresident pupils per capita tuition "in an amount not exceeding 110% of the per capita cost of maintaining the schools of the district for the preceding school year" (105 ILCS 5/10-20.12a). The statute that follows (10-20.12b) sets forth the manner in which residency determinations are to be made. It provides in pertinent part:

- (1) The residence of a person who has legal custody of a pupil is deemed to be the residence of the pupil.
- (2) "Legal custody" means one of the following:
- (i) Custody exercised by a natural or adoptive parent with whom the pupil resides.
- (ii) Custody granted by order of a court of competent jurisdiction to a person with whom the pupil resides for reasons other than to have access to the educational programs of the district.
- (iii) Custody exercised under a statutory short-term guardianship, provided that within 60 days of the pupil's enrollment a court order is entered that establishes a permanent guardianship and grants custody to a person with whom the pupil resides for reasons other than to have access to the educational programs of the district.
- (iv) Custody exercised by an adult caretaker relative who is receiving aid under the Illinois Public Aid Code for the pupil who resides with that adult caretaker relative for purposes other than to have access to the educational programs of the district.
- (v) Custody exercised by an adult who demonstrates that, in fact, he or she has assumed and exercises legal responsibility for the pupil and provides the pupil with a regular fixed night-time abode for purposes other than to have access to the educational programs of the district.

School officials should observe that in any instance where a non-biological or non-custodial "parent" or proposed guardian asserts custody of a child, the school district potentially suffers legal hardship when it makes decisions without careful inquiry as to the actual facts driving the custody matter. The registering official may have resolved the problem to his or her satisfaction, but may leave all kinds of legal issues in the wake of the registering decision. School officials should be concerned about consent to provide medical treatment in the event of a medical emergency, school disciplinary agreements (notice of hearing and ability to consent to a placement decision in the instance of an expulsion proceeding) and there are a myriad of other circumstances when the absence of a parent with legal standing will matter.

There may be very limited circumstances under which a school district might have use for a transfer of custody affidavit, but these circumstances would most likely arise in extreme hardship situations (no parental caregiver is available or the recognized parental caregiver is temporarily incapacitated) and only after a thorough investigation of the circumstances. Sometimes there are better alternatives than alleged change of custody (such as the involvement of State agencies.) It is not recommended that the custody affidavit be a "regular school form" to be used at the discretion of FIC officials. It should be available at the Mellon Building for use only if there is no alternative. The form should be used rarely and only after careful consideration of safer alternatives.

Making a tuition determination BEFORE a child is enrolled is critical because once the school district decides the child is properly resident and admits the child, there is no efficient means to correct an enrollment error. The statute provides a complicated scheme under which the school district might try to "expel" the child because he or she is not a resident, but this little used option is politically explosive and too complicated and time consuming to be considered a viable alternative. As a practical matter, once school officials admit a child, the child is "theirs" until the next registration opportunity (probably the beginning of the next school term.)

Being better equipped to ascertain legal residency should improve the likelihood that the tax monies being collected by Unit #4 taxpayers are going to educate legal Unit #4 residents.

## <u>Searches & Seizures – Drug Detection Dogs</u>

Interim Assistant Superintendent Patricia Lewis provided a brief report regarding searches and seizure by drug detection dogs. In response to a Board member's concerns regarding drug possession and/or delivery occurring on District campuses, the present policy/procedures (710.08/R) on search and seizure and the use of drug-detection dogs were provided for the Board's review. Attorney Jeff Funk was available to answer questions from the Board regarding search and seizure laws and the District's present policy/procedures.

## **Action Agenda**

#### Public Hearing & Approval of Final Budget FY07

Nathaniel Banks moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to approve the Final 2007 Budget as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas provided a brief explanation regarding the reasons for recommending three additional amendments to the 2007 budget.

- 1. The entire cost of the bus lease and the related financing should be included. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles call for the lease proceeds (\$424,384) to be shown as an "Other Financing Source" while the cost (\$424,384) is included in the Transportation Department as capital expenses.
- 2. \$200,000 has been reallocated from the IT Dept to the Board Services function to cover legal fees.
- 3. The only item to change the overall estimate of the annual deficit on May 12<sup>th</sup> is the inclusion of an additional \$150 in the Debt Service Fund. This increase results from the issuance of Working Cash Bonds last year and a new bank administrative fee of \$150. Failure to include the \$150 will cause expenses to exceed the budget in the Debt Service Fund.

The budget deficit has increased by \$150 to \$2,370,236 from last meeting's \$2,370,086. This continues to represent the worst case scenario and administration remains confident that the actual numbers will move closer to the original deficit of \$1,953,621.

A public hearing on the Amended 2007 Budget was held at 9:07 p.m. There were no public comments.

<u>Increase of Fees (Textbook Rentals/Before & After School Program)</u> (Exhibit "A") Sue Grey moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the increase of fees for textbook rental and for the Before/After School Program. Ayes 5. Nay 0. Abstained 1. Sue Grey abstained.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas presented his recommendation for the increase of fees for textbook rentals and the Before/After School Program. Textbook rental fees have not been increased since 1992. Administration requests that the fees be increased from \$40 to \$60 to be more in line with the surrounding districts' fees. The fee is to be effective on July 1, 2007. (Balanced Calendar schools would not see their fees changed until next year, as registration has already occurred.) An increase in textbook fees to \$60 would generate an additional \$100,000 in revenue. Per audit recommendation, the administration requested an increase in Before/After School Program fees to cover all expenses related to that program. Director Dedrick Martin explained the rationale for the request to increase the fees. An increase in Before/After School Program fees would generate an additional \$200,000 in revenue.

## Purchase of Printing Press

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the purchase of a Mitsubishi SDP-Eco 1630 III Platesetter System, a Hamada DU-3411K automated two color press and Smart Manager Software and PDF Converter Module for \$100,316 from Fuller Grafix, Inc. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas provided a brief overview regarding the recommendation to purchase a printing press. After extensive consideration and investigation of alternatives available, the print shop committee recommended the purchase of a two-color offset printing press to replace the 20 year old Ryobi printing press. The printing press is less costly and will last far longer than copy machines.

The likely life of a digital copier in a high output environment is five years. The cost to upgrade the print shop operation with digital copiers was approximately \$200,000 for five years (the high cost is the direct result of the "click" or copy charge per page). If a 20-year comparison is utilized, it may take \$800,000 in copiers to get the District through the next 20 years. On the other hand, a two-color printing press which will last 20 years can be purchased for approximately \$100,000. While the cost of a pressman may exceed the cost of a copying technician, the difference would never be recaptured.

# Resolution - Good Faith Efforts, Seat Capacity & Facilities (Exhibit "B")

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Nathaniel Banks, to adopt the Resolution as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

The Consent Decree contains a section on Seat Capacity which requires the District to "provide additional net seating capacity of not less than two elementary strands in north Champaign as part of a comprehensive facilities plan for the entire District. Unit 4 will make every good faith effort to find and obtain necessary funding as a condition of this commitment." The Board seeks to affirm its good faith

commitment to provide additional seating capacity in North Champaign under the Consent Decree and to address as part of its overall facility plan the facility needs of North side schools.

Board President David Tomlinson read the resolution into the minutes.

# RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF CHAMPAIGN COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4 REGARDING GOOD FAITH EFFORTS, SEAT CAPACITY AND FACILITIES

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of Champaign Community Unit School District No. 4 ("Unit 4") is presently a party to the school desegregation case of Sa'da and Tyjuan Johnson, et al. v. Board of Education of Champaign Community Unit School District #4; and

**WHEREAS**, the parties entered into a Consent Decree, approved by U.S. District Court Judge Joe B. McDade on January 29, 2002, providing for comprehensive measures by Unit 4 to identify and address any inequities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has engaged in good faith efforts to comply with the decrees under which it operates to the extent practicable; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education adopted a Resolution on September 8, 2003 affirming its good faith commitment to operate its school system in a racially non-discriminatory manner and to equitable principles of education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education intends to continue its operation as a school system which complies with the laws and the Constitution of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education wishes by this Resolution to specifically affirm its commitment to fulfilling Consent Decree obligations regarding seat capacity; and

**WHEREAS**, although the Consent Decree does not address quality of facilities, the Board of Education appreciates Plaintiffs' concerns regarding Garden Hills and Dr. Howard Elementary Schools, as indicated by the Board of Education's efforts to address the quality of those facilities during last year's referendum process in which a significant portion of the funding sought was intended to address existing or new Northside facilities;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it Resolved by the Board of Education of Champaign Community Unit School District No. 4, Champaign, Illinois, as follows:

- 1. The recitals to this Resolution are hereby incorporated as if set forth fully herein.
- 2. The Board reaffirms its commitment to provide additional net seating capacity of not less than two elementary strands in north Champaign as part of a comprehensive facilities plan for the entire District, making every good faith effort to find and obtain necessary funding as a condition of this commitment.
- 3. The Board reaffirms its commitment, in making all decisions regarding the establishment or closing of schools, to consider the impact on African American students, and to further desegregation and to avoid inequitable transportation burdens on African American students, to consider all reasonable alternatives to enhance desegregation efforts that do not result in a segregated school system or segregated schools.
  - 4. The Board intends to continue a policy of equity in the District facilities and in new school construction;
  - 5. The Board reaffirms its commitment to addressing the quality of facilities of all schools;
- 6. The Board intends to continue to solicit and seek advice from members of the community and parents regarding matters important to all school children; and

- 7. The Board shall continue to afford all school children in the Champaign Unit 4 school system those educational opportunities guaranteed by the laws of the United States and of the Constitution.
- 8. The Board adopts the language in this Resolution and wishes this Resolution to be placed upon the Minutes of the Board so that this Resolution and statement will be of public record and available to the public for review and inspection.

## **Consent Agenda**

Susan Grey moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

The Board of Education approved the following Consent Agenda items:

#### Donation (Skateland)

The Board of Education accepted the donation from Skateland for summer passes valued at \$31,285.00. The donation required Board approval as it was \$5,000 or more in value.

Skating passes were received by Barkstall, Bottenfield, Carrie Busey, Dr. Howard, Garden Hills, Kenwood, Robeson, South Side, Stratton, Washington, Westview, Edison, Franklin and Jefferson for a total value of \$31,285.00.

Bids (Cafeteria Equipment, Elevator Maintenance, Miscellaneous Supplies, Office Furniture, Petroleum products, Warehouse/General Supplies) (Exhibit "C")

The Board of Education approved the bids as presented. 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, bids were advertised in the News-Gazette and formal requests were mailed to vendors.

## FY08 Prekindergarten Grant Application

The Board of Education approved the FY08 Prekindergarten Grant Application. The Prekindergarten Program is funded through the ISBE Prekindergarten Program for Children at Risk of Academic Failure. At this time ISBE has allowed continuing programs to apply for 100% of the funds received last year plus a 1% Cost of Living Adjustment (\$974,013). The grant will provide funds for staff salaries and benefits, staff development expenses, program supplies, and will cover some of the costs of transportation. Since the 1% Cost of Living Adjustment for the 07-08 school year is inadequate to cover increased salaries and benefits, funds for staff development and program supplies have been greatly reduced. Transportation funds were not reduced, but are inadequate to cover the full cost of transportation.

## FY08 District Depositories

The Board of Education approved the financial institutions outlined below to be used as direct depositories for District funds for fiscal year 2007-08.

Annually, the Board needs to formally approve depositories used for financial activities of the District. One local bank (First Midwest Bank) serves as the main depository for the District, with other local banks being used when investments are made. The State channels payments to the District through First Midwest Bank and The Illinois Funds. For fiscal year 2007-08, the following financial institutions may be used for financial activities:

Busey Bank
Centrue Bank
Chase
\*Commerce Bank
First Bank of Savoy
First Federal Savings Bank
First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust

First Midwest Bank
Heartland Bank
The Illinois Funds
ISDLAF (Illinois Liquid Asset Fund)
Main Street Bank & Trust
National City Bank
Regions Bank

As funds become available for investment purposes, the District's Chief Financial Officer solicits bids from these banking institutions to secure the best interest rates on Certificates of Deposits, Treasury Notes and Commercial Paper. All transactions are in compliance with the Board's policy (410.04) for the investment of District funds.

## 2007/2008 LUDA Membership Dues

The Board of Education approved the renewal of the District's membership in the Large Unit District Association. LUDA dues have been established at \$3,000 for fiscal year 2007/2008.

#### 2007/2008 IASB Membership Dues

The Board of Education approved the renewal of the Board's membership in the Illinois Association of School Boards. Based on the district's ADA and net operating expenses for 2004/2005, membership dues for fiscal year 2007/2008 are set at \$ 10,988.00.

## <u>Resolution – Prevailing Wage Rates</u> (Exhibit "D")

The Board of Education approved the Resolution ascertaining and determining prevailing wage rates, and further, that the Chief Financial Officer be directed to property advertise and file with the State Index Department, a copy of said resolution as required by the Prevailing Wage Act.

According to 820 ILCS 130/9, the Prevailing Wage Act requires all public bodies to annually, during the month of June, investigate and ascertain the prevailing rate of wages established for various crafts of this area, with such information to be made available for inspection by any interested party. Prevailing wage rates for Champaign County have been secured from the Illinois Department of Labor and the appropriate resolution has been prepared. When specifications are drawn for contractual services on construction type jobs, the Prevailing Wage Rates will be a part of the general conditions in the respective bid specifications.

## Resolution – Permanent Transfer of Working Cash fund Interest (Exhibit "E")

The Board of Education approved the Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Interest from the Working Cash Fund to the Education Fund. Transfer of \$410,629.94 from Working Cash Fund to the Education Fund.

Section 20.5 of <u>The School Code of Illinois</u> provides for the permanent transfer of interest earned from investments of the Working Cash Fund. Interest earned from investments during fiscal 2005-2006, as reported in the June 30, 2006 Audit, total \$410,629.94. The appropriate resolution has been prepared providing for the permanent transfer of interest to the Education Fund.

<sup>\*</sup>Commerce Bank was added this year.

The Board of Education approved the 2007-08 Student Code of Conduct.

The Discipline Advisory Committee held meetings during the months of January-March for the purpose of revising the District's Student Code of Conduct for the 2007-08 school year. The Student Code of Conduct is one of the foundational components of our district-wide behavior management plan. The Code consists of an informational section that provides an overview of the tenets of Unit 4's Student Code of Conduct, elementary and secondary sections that discuss disciplinary violations and consequences, elementary and secondary glossaries, and sections that cover transportation issues, administrative procedures regarding substance abuse, student discipline, sexual harassment, electronic network access, student cell phone use, student tardiness (high school), and homework.

Staff development will be provided to building administrators and campus personnel, including new teachers, substitute teachers, and bus drivers during the month of August prior to the beginning of the 2007-08 school year. Additionally, staff development will take place throughout the school year on an as-needed basis.

Cost for mailing is approximately \$1,050. In addition to annual revisions being made, this year the Code will need to be converted and reformatted into an updated software program. Cost for conversion and reformatting is expected to be approximately \$2,160; the cost for this year's revisions is expected to be approximately \$756.

Each year in the spring semester, the Discipline Advisory Committee, consisting of teachers, CFT representatives, community members, parents, Board members, and district-level representatives, reviews and revises the Student Code of Conduct for submission to the Board of Education for its approval.

## **ROE** Annual Facilities Inspection

Each school year the Regional Office of Education is required by School Code and the Illinois Board of Education to visit each school facility within its region to assess the condition of the facility utilizing a "Health/Life Safety Checklist". This visit took place in the Champaign School District during the months of February and March 2007. A copy of the non-compliance issues found during the visit was provided to the District in March 2007. By statute, the District has 45 days after the receipt of this report to correct any identified non-compliance items and notify the ROE of the corrections.

The number of non-compliant items ranged from 1 to 19 in our schools. All the non-compliance items have been corrected or will be this coming summer. Most of the items cited for non-compliance (51) dealt with signs for the homeless, load occupancy or lack of tornado signs. Other items cited were expired dates for fire extinguishers (10), appliances being in offices (4), hallways or corridors obstructed (7), exit and emergency light violations (15), lack of proof of curtain retardant (3), need for smoke detector (1), improper use of extension cord (1) and storage of flammable material (1). The summary page of the Annual Inspection Report indicating the building and number of violations noted was provided for the Board's review.

#### Hourly Rate Increase Due to Change in Illinois Hourly Minimum Wage Rate

The Board of Education approved the request as presented. On December 18, 2006, Governor Blagojevich signed into law legislation increasing the state minimum wage to \$7.50/hour on July 1, 2007 for all employees 18 and over. In addition, the minimum wage will increase by an additional 25

cents in each of the following three years to: \$7.75/hour on July 1, 2008, \$8.00/hour on July 1, 2009 and \$8.25 /hour on July 1, 2010.

The increase in the minimum wage is expected to cost the school district less than \$20,000. The Administration recommends that the following employees receive the minimum wage increase effective July 1, 2007 (for all employees including those under 18):

After School Program – Day Care 1 from \$7.25 to \$7.50 Lunch Supervisors from \$6.75 to \$7.50 Student Workers from \$6.50 to \$7.50

#### Minutes – April 10, 23 & 30, 2007 & May 7, 9 & 14, 2007 Board Meetings

The Board of Education approved the minutes as presented.

## Bills & Treasurer's Report (Exhibit "F")

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

#### **Executive Session**

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Susan Grey, to adjourn into *Closed Session* in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) to consider Personnel – Employee appointments 120/2(c)(1), Negotiations 120/2(c)(2), Student Discipline 120/2(c)(9) and Actual/Potential Litigation 120/2(c)(11) as it relates to pending litigation in Johnson, et. al. v. Board of Education of Champaign Unit #4, Case No. 00-1349 (U.S.D.C. Central District of Illinois). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 9:50 p.m.

## **Open Session**

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 10:45 p.m.

#### Student Discipline

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to expel student #660029 from Columbia Alternative Center for the first semester of the 07/08 school year and reassigned to READY for violating conduct Codes #18 (Physical Confrontation with Staff) and #07 (Disruptive Behavior) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to the home school following the expulsion period, provided the student has completed the requirements of the alternative school. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to expel student #630032 from Columbia Alternative Center for the first semester of the 07/08 school year and reassigned to READY for violating conduct Codes #18 (Physical Confrontation with Staff) and #20 (Property Damage) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to the home school following the expulsion period, provided the student has completed the requirements of the alternative school. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

## Temporary Non-Union Positions & Salaries (Exhibit "G")

Nathaniel Banks moved, with a second by Sue Grey, to approve the temporary non-union positions and salaries as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

# <u>Human Resource Changes</u> (Exhibit "H")

Nathaniel Banks moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the Human Resource changes as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 1. Greg Novak voted Nay.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, Arlene Blank moved, with a second by Nathaniel Banks, to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

Board Approved: August 13, 2007