

**Minutes of the SPECIAL Meeting of the Board of Education  
Community Unit School District No. 4, Champaign County, Illinois  
Mellon Administrative Center, 703 S. New Street, Champaign, Illinois  
January 23, 2017 within the Boundaries of Said District**

Special Meeting

Board President Chris Kloeppe called the Special Meeting of the Board to order at 5:32 p.m.

**Board Members Present**

Amy Armstrong, Gianina Baker (arrived at 5:33 p.m.), Chris Kloeppe, Kathy Richards, Kathy Shannon, Lynn Stuckey, Jonathan Westfield

**Staff Members Present**

Superintendent Judy Wiegand, Deputy Superintendent Laura Taylor, Assistant Superintendent Susan Zola, Assistant Superintendent Angela Smith, Executive Director of Human Resources Ken Kleber, Chief Financial and Legal Officer Tom Lockman

**Approval of Agenda**

Member Richards moved, with a second by Member Shannon to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

**Executive Session**

Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Armstrong, to adjourn into *Closed Session* in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) to consider Employee Appointments, Employment, Compensation, Dismissals, Complaints 120/2(c)(1), Property Acquisition, Lease, Purchase 120/2(c)(1), and Student Discipline 120/2(c)(9). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 5:34 p.m.

**Open Session**

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 6:02 p.m.

**Action Agenda: New Business**

Administrative Appointment – Administrator of Novak Academy: Ken Kleber

Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Stuckey to approve the Administrative Appointment – Administrator of Novak Academy. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Ms. Danielle Cook has been serving as Interim Administrator of Novak Academy since July 1, 2016. District administration recently held discussions with Novak staff. The staff overwhelmingly expressed their desire to retain Ms. Cook as the permanent administrator of Novak Academy. As a result, District administration is recommending that Ms. Cook be appointed as permanent Administrator of Novak Academy.

Prior to her interim assignment at Novak, Ms. Cook served as Associate Principal at Jefferson Middle School from August 2013 through June 2016. Ms. Cook's other administrative experience includes serving as an Assistant Principal at Bloomington High School for one school year. Ms. Cook has also previously served Urbana High School as an Assistant Principal of Discipline and Attendance for five years and a Dean of Students for three years. Her teaching experience includes serving as a Special Education teacher for Bloomington Junior High (3 years), Special Education Teacher for East Peoria Junior High (4 years), and Special Education Teacher for Peoria Schools (6 years).

Ms. Cook earned a Bachelor of Science in Special Education - Learning Disabilities & Behavior Disorders from Illinois State University in 1991. She earned her Master of Science in Education - Education and Leadership from St. Xavier University in 1997 and a Certificate of Advanced Study - Administration from Illinois State University in 2001.

The effective date of Ms. Cook's permanent appointment is July 1, 2017. The recommended salary for Ms. Cook is \$80,564 (Ms. Cook's current salary), plus all appropriate Board-approved administrator benefits. Upon finalization of a new administrative salary table, Ms. Cook's salary for the 2017-2018 school year will be adjusted in accordance with established District procedure. Annual evaluation will be completed by the appropriate supervising administrator.

District administration recommended the permanent appointment of Ms. Danielle Cook as Administrator of the Novak Academy effective July 1, 2017 at the above-listed salary and appropriate fringe benefits.

**Reports: New Business**

Kenwood Elementary School: Dr. Susan Zola

Kenwood Elementary School is the only Unit 4 school focusing specifically on computational thinking and coding on a school-wide basis, incorporating 21<sup>st</sup> Century tools and problem-solving skills into the core curriculum. Kenwood students provided an update to the Board on this work and highlighted an upcoming Computer Science Showcase.

This was an informational item and no action was required by the Board.

Champaign Unit #4 Community Schools Update: Tony Maltbia

Champaign Unit #4 Schools affirms the need for a strategy to identify and support the development of Community Schools. The Board of Education recognizes a Community School builds partnerships between the school and other community resources and acts as a location where those partnerships may be utilized. Community Schools shall focus on the integration of academics, health and social services, youth, family, and community engagement and development as a strategy to improve student learning, stronger families and healthier communities.

The Board was given a presentation and an update on the progress made toward this development and future implementation from Tony Maltbia, Executive Director of Student, Family, and Community Supports and Julianna Sellett from the Carle Foundation.

This was an informational item and no action was required by the Board.

Presentation of the 2015-16 Audit by Baker Tilly: Tom Lockman

Administration is pleased with the independent auditor's opinion on the 2015-16 financial statements. For the twelfth straight year the District received a "clean" or unqualified opinion that the Financial Statements were prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. This is the best opinion that an audit client can receive.

The "clean" opinion will result in lower interest rates on bonded debt, which may be sold in the future. Rating agencies like Standard & Poor's and Moody's take the unqualified opinion into consideration when issuing a rating on a governmental unit. A positive audit equals a positive rating and, thus, lower interest rates.

Administration recommended that the Board accept the audit report as presented by Baker Tilly.

Building For the Future Update: Tom Lockman

On Tuesday, November 8, 2016, the resolution put forth by the Board of Education to issue up to \$183.4 million in bonds was approved by the voters. The plan as outlined in the resolution will impact six of our schools: Central High School, Centennial High School, Edison Middle School, Dr. Howard Elementary, International Prep Academy, and South Side Elementary. Administration provided an updated to the Board. Municipal Advisors Adrienne Booker and John Piemonte from Ehlers were also present to answer questions from the Board.

This was an informational item and no action was required by the Board.

**Consent Agenda: New Business**

Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Richards to approve the Consent Agenda: New Business. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

Bid – Stratton Elementary School BAS Controls Upgrade: Tom Lockman

Board policy states that bids will be solicited when items are expected to exceed a total of \$25,000. As part of the bid process, bids were posted on the District's website, advertised in the News-Gazette as well as ePrismsoft. Bids were received from two vendors and opened on January 10, 2017. Staff recommended that the bid be awarded to Reliable Plumbing and Heating for \$313,300. The costs for the Stratton's Controls Upgrade will be paid from the Capital Projects - Fund 61.

Administration recommended that the Board approve the Reliable Plumbing and Heating bid for Stratton Elementary School totaling \$313,300.

Human Resource Changes: Ken Kleber

The Human Resource Changes were approved as presented.

Approval of Closed Session Minutes: July, 2016 – December, 2016

The Closed Session Minutes: July, 2016 – December, 2016 were approved as presented.

**Action Agenda: New Business**

Student Discipline – Student #214537

Member Stuckey moved, with a second by Member Shannon that student #214537 should be expelled from Centennial High School for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year, all of the 2017-18 school year and first semester of the 2018-19 school year for violating Conduct Code #25 Threats to Student, #34 Weapon-Related Activities, and #36 Mob Action of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The duration of the expulsion is based on the egregiousness of the violation of Code #25 Threats to Student, #34 Weapon-Related Activities, and #36 Mob Action, the continuing safety threat posed by student's presence at school and the significant detrimental impact of the student's conduct on the learning environment. The removal the student from the learning environment is in the best interest of the school because the student's continuing presence would constitute a safety risk and/or disruption. Such expulsion shall be held in abeyance so long as the student meets the attendance and behavioral requirements of the assigned placement. If such requirements are met, upon expiration of the reassigned term, the expulsion will be vacated and the student may return to his/her regularly assigned school. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0. Abst. 1. Member Westfield abstained.

Student Discipline – Student #580142

Member Stuckey moved, with a second by Member Richards that student #580142 should be expelled from Centennial High School for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year for violating Conduct Code #18 Physical Confrontation with Staff and #19 Physical Confrontation with Student of the Champaign Unit #4 Code of Conduct. The duration of the expulsion is based on the egregiousness of the violation of Code #18 Physical Confrontation with staff and #19 Physical Confrontation with Student. The removal of the student from the learning environment is in the best interest of the school because the student's continuing presence would constitute a safety risk and/or disruption. Such expulsion shall be held in abeyance so long as the student meets the attendance and behavioral requirements of the assigned placement. If such requirements are met, upon expiration of the reassigned term, the expulsion will be vacated and the student may return to his/her regularly assigned school. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0. Abst. 1. Member Westfield abstained.

**Executive Session**

Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Armstrong, to adjourn into *Closed Session* in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) to consider Employee Appointments, Employment, Compensation, Dismissals, Complaints 120/2(c)(1). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 9:22 p.m.

**Open Session**

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 10:06 p.m.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Stuckey, to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Board Approved: February 13, 2017