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
June 1, 2015 within the Boundaries of Said District

Special Meeting

Board President Chris Kloeppel called the Special Meeting of the Board to order at 5:31 p.m.

Board Members Present
Amy Armstrong, Laurie Bonnett, Chris Kloeppel, Kathy Richards, Kathy Shannon, Lynn Stuckey
Jonathan Westfield (arrived at 5:35 p.m.)

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, School Attorney Tom Lockman

Approval of Agenda
Member Bonnett moved, with a second by Member Stuckey, to approve the agenda. The
motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Executive Session
Member Bonnett moved, with a second by Member Shannon, 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/(c)(1), Negotiations
120/(c)(2), Property Acquisition/Lease/Purchase 120/(c)(5), The placement of individual
students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students
120/(c)(10) and Actual/Potential Litigation 120/(c)(11). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6.
Nays 0.

The Board convened into Closed Session at 5:33 p.m.

Open Session
The Board convened into Open Session at 6:18 p.m.

Action Agenda: New Business
Administrative Appointment – Bottenfield Principal: Ken Kleber
Member Stuckey moved, with a second by Member Westfield to approve the Administrative
Appointment – Bottenfield Principal: Ken Kleber. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays
0.

The position of Principal at Bottenfield Elementary was advertised through the District’s website
and the Illinois Association of School Administrators’ Job Bank. Six candidates participated in
Level I interviews and were interviewed by a team of District administration, certified staff
representatives, support staff representatives and parent representatives. Two candidates
returned for Level II interviews with District administrators. Mr. Christopher Gilbert was selected
as the most outstanding candidate.

Mr. Gilbert currently serves Unit 4 Schools as the Assistant Principal of Westview Elementary.
He has held this position since August 2014. Mr. Gilbert also served as Assistant Principal of
South Side Elementary from August 2011 through July 2014. Mr. Gilbert began his teaching
career in 2004 at Hope Academy in Cleveland, Ohio where he taught kindergarten and second
grade.
Mr. Gilbert holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology (2001) from Ohio State University. He also holds a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction (2006), as well as an Educational Specialist degree in Education Administration (2011) from Cleveland State University. Mr. Gilbert is currently working on his Doctorate in Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership from the University of Illinois.

The effective date of Mr. Gilbert’s appointment is July 1, 2015. This is 260 days/year position. The recommended salary is $85,475, plus all appropriate Board-approved administrator fringe benefits. Annual evaluation will be completed by the appropriate supervising administrator.

District administration recommended the appointment of Mr. Christopher Gilbert as Principal of Bottenfield Elementary effective July 1, 2015 at the above-listed salary and appropriate fringe benefits.

International Prep Academy Staffing: Ken Kleber
Member Bonnett moved, with a second by Member Stuckey to approve the International Prep Academy Staffing: Ken Kleber. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

District Administration recently determined that it was in the best interests of students, families, staff, and the community to move the Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) program from Garden Hills to the International Prep Academy starting with the 2015-2016 school term. Prior to this decision, the District was planning to “phase out” the TBE program at Garden Hills and transition all families to the International Prep Academy over a multi-year period. This change will immediately improve the level of service offered to students and families.

As a result of this change, the District has reallocated some previously approved resources but will still require some additional staffing earlier than previously anticipated. District Administration requested approval and funding for the following staffing changes for the 2015-16 school year above and beyond those previously authorized by the Board:

- .5 School Social Worker
- .17 additional FTE in the areas of Art, Music, and PE
- 10 hour Mentor/Volunteer Coordinator per week

Now that students have been assigned as part of the Schools of Choice process and taking into account the relocation of the TBE program from Garden Hills, District Administration is also asking for authorization to add the following Transportation positions. The number of employees hired will be determined once final routes have been built during the summer and the District will only fill the number of position needed to provide the necessary level of service:

- Up to 25 hours of Bus Driver staffing (likely 5 Drivers at 5.0 hours/day)
- Up to 25 hours of Bus Monitor staffing (likely 5 Monitors at 5.0 hours/day)

The estimated cost of the additions at the International Prep Academy is $35,650. The maximum estimated additional cost of the additions at Transportation is $148,165.

Administration recommended that Board accept the recommendation of the positions as outlined above.
Resolution to Authorize Reclassification – Whitney Stewart: Ken Kleber
Member Bonnett moved, with a second by Member Richards to approve the Resolution to Authorize Reclassification – Whitney Stewart: Ken Kleber. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Resolution was approved as presented.

Resolution Authorizing Notice to Remedy for Alex Ramirez: Ken Kleber
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Westfield to approve the Resolution Authorizing Notice to Remedy for Alex Ramirez: Ken Kleber. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 1. Member Stuckey voted no.

The Resolution was approved as presented.

Adjournment
There being no further business, Member Bonnett moved, with a second by Member Shannon, to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Board Approved: July 13, 2015