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
March 11, 2019 within the Boundaries of Said District

Regular Meeting

Board President Chris Kloeppel called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 5:30 p.m.

Board Members Present
Amy Armstrong, Gianina Baker, Bruce Brown, Chris Kloeppel, Kathy Richards, Kathy Shannon, Heather Vazquez

Staff Members Present
Superintendent Susan Zola, Deputy Superintendent Laura Taylor, Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Ivory-Tatum, Executive Director of Human Resources Ken Kleber, Chief Financial and Legal Officer Tom Lockman, Director of Operations Paul Douglas

Approval of Agenda
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Vazquez to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Executive Session
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Brown, to adjourn into Closed Session in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) to consider Personnel 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 5:31 p.m.

Open Session
The Board convened into Open Session at 6:06 p.m.

Guests
Representatives from CFT, local media and other interested persons

Action Agenda: New Business
Student Discipline – Student #511064
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Brown that student #511064 shall be provided an alternative placement for 2 full years from the date of expulsion for violating Conduct Codes #15a Harassment – Cyberbullying and #25 Threats to Student of the Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. So long as the student meets the attendance and behavioral requirements of the student’s alternative placement during the expulsion period, the Board shall hold its discipline determination in abeyance. If the student does not accept the alternative placement or meet the attendance and behavioral requirements of the student’s alternative placement during the expulsion period, the Board shall hold its discipline determination in abeyance. If the student does not accept the alternative placement or meet the attendance and behavioral requirements of the offered alternative placement, then the decision of the Board of Education is to expel the student for the duration/remainder of the duration stated above. The duration of the alternative placement/expulsion is based on: the egregiousness of the violation of Conduct Codes listed above; prior discipline and other interventions attempted; continuing safety threat posed by student’s presence in school; and the significant detrimental impact of the student’s conduct on the learning environment. The removal of the student from the learning environment is in the best interest of the District because the student’s continuing presence would constitute a safety risk and disruption. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.
Student Discipline – Student #510579
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Armstrong that student #510579 shall be provided an alternative placement for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year for violating Conduct Codes #8 Drug-Related Offenses-Delivery and #19 Physical Confrontation with Student of the Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. So long as the student meets the attendance and behavioral requirements of the student’s alternative placement during the expulsion period, the Board shall hold its discipline determination in abeyance. If the student does not accept the alternative placement or meet the attendance and behavioral requirements of the offered alternative placement, then the decision of the Board of Education is to expel the student for the duration/remainder of the duration stated above. The duration of the alternative placement/expulsion is based on: the egregiousness of the violation of Conduct Codes listed above; prior discipline and other interventions attempted; continuing safety threat posed by student’s presence in school; and the significant detrimental impact of the student’s conduct on the learning environment. The removal of the student from the learning environment is in the best interest of the District because the student’s continuing presence would constitute a disruption. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Reports: New Business
Indicator 10 Public Report: Dr. Elizabeth deGruy
In January 2017, Unit 4 received from the ISBE a violation of Indicator 10, which addresses the disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories. The ISBE’s criterion for determining disproportionality based on race/ethnicity is a weighted or alternate risk ratio of 3.0 or higher for a particular racial/ethnic group for three consecutive years. The District’s disproportionality was for African American students in the disability category Specific Learning Disability. The District engaged in a self-assessment process, and the ISBE determined that the disproportionality was not the result of inappropriate identification.

In April 2018, Unit 4 received another Indicator 10 violation for the 2016-2017 school year. The District was required to complete a Status Report, continue to implement improvement activities identified in the self-assessment, and publicly report on activities.

In December 2018, Unit 4 was again found to have disproportionality for African American students in the area of Specific Learning Disability. Again the District has been required to complete a Status Report, continue to implement improvement activities identified in the self-assessment, and publicly report on activities.

Professional development for building administrators, special educators, and building Response to Intervention teams is offered. The District’s work in reducing disproportionality is funded with IDEA professional development monies. The Special Education Department will provide annual updates on progress in resolving Indicator 10 disproportionality to the Executive Team and, as required, to the ISBE. Administration will continue to implement strategies identified in Self-Assessment and Status Report.

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

Changes to Building Projects Website & Unit 4 Homepage: John Lyday
Because of the importance of meaningful, timely and accurate information regarding the various construction projects underway in Unit 4, the structure and content of the Building Projects website is being significantly enhanced. Although the existing website contains valuable information that has been updated regularly, the structure of the site was cumbersome and duplicative with information about particular projects appearing on multiple pages. Since the Building Projects website has a self-contained page structure that has limited interaction with
and impact on other portions of the main website, it was possible to rethink how information could be presented to make it easier for users to find what they are looking for while simultaneously reducing duplication and adding graphical appeal. John Lyday and John Gutzmer gave the Board a preview of the proposed changes before the new site goes live.

Recent changes to the homepage of Unit 4’s main website was also discussed. An update was provided about the RFP process that will result in a total redesign of champaignschools.org.

The rebuild of the Building Projects website was accomplished in house with limited help from an outside firm under current contract for ongoing website support. The complete redesign of the entire district website will require outside resources from a firm that has special expertise in website design. There are no financial implications at this time. When responses are received to the website redesign RFP, there will be a cost for that project.

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

Referendum Projects Financial Update: Tom Lockman/Elizabeth Stegmaier
In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvements at several District facilities. The work has begun in earnest. As a follow up to information provided at the February 25th Board meeting, Administration provided an update on the project scopes and budgets to date, information regarding the District’s overall fund balance, and resources available to fund adjustments to project budgets. The link to the Powerpoint presentation is:

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

Action Agenda: New Business
Budget Increase Approval — Edison Middle School Addition and Renovation: Elizabeth Stegmaier
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Richards for Budget Increase Approval — Edison Middle School Addition and Renovation. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvement projects at several District facilities. On February 11, 2019, district administration and RATIO Architects presented a list of scope items for Board consideration, ranging from mechanical / electrical systems replacement to new windows and refreshed finishes in classroom and office areas.

In response to feedback received through discussions with members of the Board and Referendum Oversight Committee, Administration requested Board approval of an overall budget increase of $10,098,090 for the project. For an increase in the project budget, an additional $10,098,090 would come from approved alternate funding sources for a revised project budget of $25,098,090.

Administration recommended approval of the budget increase for Edison Middle School project.
Construction Contracts and Broeren Russo Builders, Inc. Amendment – South Side Elementary Additions and Renovation, Phase 2 (Re-Bids): Sandra Roesler

Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Kloeppel for approval of Construction Contracts and Broeren Russo Builders, Inc. Amendment – South Side Elementary Additions and Renovation, Phase 2 (Re-Bids). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvement projects at several District facilities. On December 10, 2018, the Board of Education approved the project design and estimate through the Construction Documents phase.

On February 25, 2019 the project requested Board approval of a revised, Phase 2 GMP Amendment to include twelve (12) construction contracts valued at $5,971,837. This recommendation also included restructuring and rebidding bid packages for general trades and roofing. The project opened bids for these re-bid packages on March 6, 2019.

Administration requested Board approval of nine (9) construction contracts, as well as an added amendment to Broeren Russo Builders, Inc.’s contract, allowing them to manage these construction contracts. For execution and management of the remaining bid packages, Broeren Russo Builders, Inc. has established a Phase 2 Re-bid, Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment of $2,737,858.

Throughout the design phase, the team thoroughly reviewed all elements of the project and made cuts where available. Even still, there is a shortage in funds available to proceed with construction. Administration requested $997,041 in additional funding to allow construction to proceed on schedule for our critical completion date in August 2020. The added funding meets our needs for bid overages, playground equipment, bid results for hazardous materials removal, and needs for furnishings, bringing the total project budget to $12,097,041.

Construction for Additions and Renovations will commence in March 2019 in keeping with the current project schedule. For an increase in the project budget, an additional $997,041 would come from approved alternate funding sources for a revised project budget of $12,097,041.

Administration recommended approval of the construction contract and associated amendment to Broeren Russo Builders, Inc.’s contract.

Budget Increase Approval – Spalding Park: Mark Roessler

Member Vazquez moved, with a second by Member Shannon to approve the Budget Increase – Spalding Park. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

On July 9, 2018, the Board of Education approved the award of a final round of construction contracts/amendment and a corresponding budget increase of $254,055.

Administration requested Board approval of another overall budget increase of $45,187.00 for the project to construct a “Batter’s Eye” beyond the centerfield fence to serve as a dark visual backdrop for the players and umpires during a baseball game. For an increase in the project budget, an additional $45,187.00 would come from approved alternate funding sources for a revised project budget of $3,899,242.00.

Administration recommended approval of the budget increase and the Ratio contract.
Construction Contracts and O’Shea Builders Contract Amendment – Centennial High School Additions and Renovations – Bid Release #1: Mark Roessler

Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Richards for approval of Construction Contracts and O’Shea Builders Contract Amendment – Centennial High School Additions and Renovations – Bid Release #1. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvement projects at several District facilities. On January 14, 2019, the Board of Education approved the project design and estimate through the Construction Documents phase.

The project accepted bids for the next phase of construction on February 28, 2019 and March 7, 2019. After review of the bid results and after scope vetting with the contractors, Administration requested Board approval of seventeen (17) construction contracts, as well as an amendment to O’Shea Builders, Inc. contract, allowing them to manage construction contracts.

Construction for Bid Release #1 will commence in March 2019 in keeping with the current project schedule. Bid Release #2 will receive bids in April 2019. For execution and management of the one contract, O’Shea Builders, Inc. has established a Guaranteed Maximum Price of $17,860,214. Expenses for this project will be paid from referendum bond proceeds in the Capital Projects Fund and fund balance.

Administration recommended approval of the construction contracts and associated amendment to O’Shea Builders, Inc., contract.

Consent Agenda: New Business

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

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

Human Resource Changes: Ken Kleber
The Human Resource Changes were approved as presented.

Release of Licensed Staff: Ken Kleber
The Board of Education is required by law to notify any non-tenured teacher via written notice at least forty-five (45) days before the end of any school term if he/she will not be re-employed for the following term.

The financial implications will be determined by the salary assigned to these individual staff members and whether or not the positions assigned to these staff members are filled by returning employees or eliminated.

Administration recommended the identified licensed staff be released for the reasons indicated.

Reductions In Force – Classified Staff: Ken Kleber
The Board of Education is required by law and the parties’ collective bargaining agreement to notify classified staff via written notice if the employee will not be re-employed or his/her hours will be reduced for the following term. The collective bargaining agreement requires that notices must be given at least 60 days before the end of the school term.
The financial implications will be determined by the salary assigned to these individual staff members and whether or not the positions assigned to these staff members are filled by returning employees or eliminated.

District administration recommended approval of the resolution.

Resolution to Give Written Notice of Reassignment & Reclassification – Mallory Morris: Ken Kleber
The Resolution was approved as presented.

Resolution Authorizing Disposal of District Personal Property: Paul Douglas
The Illinois School Code requires Board of Education approval of the disposition of District property. The District has identified such personal property which is no longer needed for District purposes. A Board Resolution is required in order to dispose of this surplus property.

Administration recommended that the Board of Education approve the disposal of personal property as identified in the Resolution.

Bills and Treasurer’s Report – February: Tom Lockman
The Bills and Treasurer’s Report - February was approved as presented.

Minutes of February 11, 2019 and February 25, 2019
The minutes were approved as presented.

Adjournment
There being no further business, Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Richards, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Board Approved: April 8, 2019