

**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  
November 10, 2014 within the Boundaries of Said District**

Regular Meeting

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

**Board Members Present**

John Bambenek, Laurie Bonnett, Jamar Brown, Kristine Chalifoux, Kerris Lee, Ileana Saveley, Lynn Stuckey

**Staff Members Present**

Superintendent Judy Wiegand, Assistant Superintendent Laura Taylor, Assistant Superintendent Susan Zola, Assistant Superintendent Angela Smith, Executive Director of Business Services Matt Foster, School Attorney Tom Lockman

**Approval of Agenda**

Item 10B Resolution – Proposed 2014 Tax Levy was moved from the Action Agenda to the Report Agenda. Member Bambenek moved, with a second by Member Brown, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

**Executive Session**

Member Bambenek moved, with a second by Member Brown, to adjourn into *Closed Session* in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) Employee Appointments, Employment, Compensation, Dismissals, Complaints 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 5:32 p.m.

**Open Session**

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 6:19 p.m.

**Guests**

Representatives from CFT, local media and other interested persons

**Action Agenda**

Administrative Appointment – Edison Assistant Principal: Ken Kleber

Member Chalifoux moved, with a second by Member Bambenek to approve the Administrative Appointment – Edison Assistant Principal. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The position of Assistant Principal of Edison Middle School was recently announced. Four candidates were interviewed by a team of administration, faculty and staff. Mr. Jeron Blood was selected as the most outstanding candidate.

Mr. Blood began his teaching career when he joined Unit 4 Schools as a Special Education Teacher with the Functional Life Skills Program at Centennial High School. He has held this position since August 2010. Mr. Blood is a member of the Social Justice Committee, Centennial's Tier I Committee, and Sponsor of the Interact Club at Centennial.

Mr. Blood holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education (2010) from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and a Master's degree in Educational Administration and Leadership (2013), also from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. The effective date of Mr. Blood's appointment will be determined by District Administration based on students' needs. The recommended salary is \$60,725 and will be prorated based on his actual start date. This is 215 days/year position. Annual evaluation will be completed by the appropriate supervising administrator.

District administration recommended the appointment of Mr. Jeron Blood as Assistant Principal of Edison Middle School at the above listed salary and appropriate fringe benefits.

**Reports: New Business**

Board Policy 725.01/R Administrative Procedures for Academic Achievement – Grading: Tom Lockman

Revisions relate to the high school section of the Administrative Procedures on Grading. These revisions update the existing Administrative Procedures to better reflect current District practice and proposed changes relative to standards-based grading, reassessment opportunities, late work, credit recovery, and calculation of final grades.

Administration recommended approval of the changes at the December 8, 2014 Board of Education meeting.

High School Course Proposals/Curriculum Handbook Changes: Dr. Laura Taylor

Consistent with the District's focus to provide educational opportunities that are relevant and stimulating to students, the faculties of Central and Centennial High Schools and District Administration have recommended the following revisions to course offerings for the 2015-2016 school year. Building Principals, Teachers, Content Area Chairs from individual departments, and Counselors of both schools were an integral part of the process.

The revisions include course deletions/additions, clarification/explanation of general information, any substantial changes to specific course descriptions, and pages containing substantial changes due to the grandfathering of the new way honors level classes and class rank are determined. Three elective course pilots are being proposed in addition to two courses that will meet part of the previously presented social science high school graduation requirements. A summary was provided to the Board for clarification purposes.

Each spring, Central Office administrators and the high school principals determine staffing allocations for the next school year. The allocations are dependent on student enrollment numbers for current courses and for curriculum pilot requests initiated at the building level.

Last year, 1.0 FTE was requested to begin the computer science initiative at Central and Centennial. Both schools were able to run the five new courses this year without utilizing the approved 1.0 FTE. It is possible that with the addition of the two proposed computer science courses, additional FTE will be needed. Final FTE will be determined based on student enrollment numbers in the spring.

The two social science courses will be funded through the curriculum adoption process. Approximately \$10,150 is requested for equipment and supplies for the two new computer science courses. If funding is needed for the new Nutrition and Culinary Arts II course, this will be covered by the Education for Employment System. Pilot courses will be evaluated using the procedures described in the District's Curriculum Development and Evaluation Guide.

Administration recommended that the Board of Education approve the 2015-2016 High School Curriculum Handbook including additional staffing and financial needs at the November 17, 2014 Special Meeting.

Resolution – Abating Property Taxes for Levy Year 2014 (Pay Debt Service on Outstanding Bonds – Series 1997 & Series 2006B): Matt Foster

The District committed to the District's residents that it would abate all of the principal and interest owed on the outstanding Bonds of the District previously issued for construction and renovation of building purposes. This includes the Series 1997 and Series 2006B Bonds. This item was presented as a discussion item. It is anticipated the Board will approve the resolution at the December 8, 2014 meeting.

This Resolution confirms that the District will abate the property taxes levied as promised to District residents. The total amount of the abatement is \$2,837,205 (\$167,205 + \$2,670,000). A Resolution is required to secure Board signatures on the Abatement document so that it may be filed with the County Clerk prior to March 1, 2015.

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

Resolution – Abating Property Taxes for Levy Year 2014 (Pay Debt Service on Outstanding Bonds – Series 2010A & Series 2010B): Matt Foster

The District committed to the District's residents that it would abate all of the principal and interest owed on the outstanding Bonds of the District. This includes the Alternate Revenue Source Series 2010A and Series 2010B Bonds. This item was presented as a discussion item. It is anticipated the Board will approve the Resolution at the December 8, 2014 meeting. In order to legally abate this property tax, the bond covenants require that the District illustrate that it has at least 125% coverage. A calculation was provided to the Board.

This Resolution confirms that the District will abate the property taxes levied. The total amount of the abatement is \$3,092,892.50. A Resolution is required to secure Board signatures on the Abatement document so that it may be filed with the County Clerk prior to March 1, 2015.

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

Resolution – Abating Property Taxes for Levy Year 2014 (Pay Debt Service on Outstanding Bonds – Series 2010C & Series 2010D): Matt Foster

The District committed to the District's residents that it would abate all of the principal and interest owed on the outstanding Bonds of the District. This includes the Alternate Revenue Source Series 2010C and Series 2010D Bonds. This item was presented as a Discussion Item at the Board of Education meeting on November 10, 2014. It is anticipated the Board will approve the Resolution at the December 8, 2014 meeting. In order to legally abate this property tax, the bond covenants require that the District illustrate that it has at least 125% coverage. A calculation was provided to the Board.

The Resolution confirms that the District will abate the property taxes levied. The total amount of the abatement is \$1,944,502. A Resolution is required to secure Board signatures on the Abatement document so that it may be filed with the County Clerk prior to March 1, 2015.

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

Resolution – Proposed 2014 Tax Levy: Matt Foster

The Truth-in-Taxation Act requires that when a school district's proposed tax levy, as extended and less debt service, reflects an increase of more than 105% of the prior year's extension, the

school district must publish a notice of such intent and hold a public hearing on the matter. The proposed 2014 Levy does not exceed the 2013 Levy by 105% and, therefore, neither a separate public hearing nor advertisement of a public hearing was necessary.

District EAV: The total EAV for this year is projected to be \$1,946,112,005 and \$34,530,120 for new construction. The EAV last year was \$1,900,471,945.

Homeowner Impact: The anticipated tax rate for this year is 4.3441 which is an increase of 4 cents over last year's rate (after bond abatement). The average school tax bill for a homeowner with a \$100,000 home assessment this year will be \$1,448. This is a total increase of \$14.21 for a homeowner over the previous year with a \$100,000 home assessment.

The District was able to levy \$92,414,774 for this year and includes the amount necessary for bonds and interest payments. After we abate our 6 bonds, as in keeping with Our Promises Made Promises Kept commitment, the actual levy amount will fall to \$84,540,175. This amount is an increase of \$2,793,274 and is a 3.4% increase over the previous year's levy.

The total amount for bonds levied this year will be \$8,874,012 (*Before* abatement). The total amount abated for bonds, as in keeping with our commitment to Promises Made Promises Kept, is \$7,874,599.50. The net amount of the bond levy will be \$999,413 for bonds (*After* abatement).

Approval of the 2014 Levy in December will provide the District with the potential to receive the allowable amount of property taxes after tax caps for a net amount of \$92,414,774 (which includes debt service).

Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the "Resolution Regarding the Estimated Taxes Necessary to be Levied for 2014" at the December 8, 2014 Board Meeting.

**Action Agenda: New Business**

Approval of Kenwood Change Order #1: Matt Foster

Member Bambenek moved, with a second by Member Brown to Approve Kenwood Change Order #1. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Arlene Vespa has authority to approve change orders up to \$25,000. After that she must check with the Board President and a designated Board Member before signing the paperwork which leads to a change order. That process has been adhered to. It was necessary for the entire Board of Education to approve the following change orders processed through September 2014. Please note that the total project contingency on this project is \$279,114.00 which leaves the current total at **\$266,671.76**.

CHANGE ORDER NO. 01		
CHANGE ORDER AUTHORIZATION	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
COA 01	Unforeseen Field Condition: Over-excavation was needed for the foundation work at the addition, because unsuitable soils were discovered. Cost is for added excavation and engineered fill per Unit Prices on Bid Form.	\$5,772.00
COA 02	Unforeseen Field Condition: Structural revisions at admin suite column line due to existing conditions.	\$2,470.88
COA 03	Code Issue: Credit to change door louvers at several locations from fire rated to non-fire rated as allowed by code. Owner Request: Material credit for Owner furnished mop/broom	-\$932.00

	holder.	
COA 04	Owner Request: Credit to delete demolition and replacement of lights in multipurpose room from project scope. Existing lights to remain.	-\$5,330.00
COA 05	Owner Request: Add manual door hold opens at north and south vestibule west doors.	\$424.31
COA 06	Owner Request: Credit to remove push buttons from vestibule doors from project scope. Programming to be done through phone system.	-\$310.00
COA 07	Unforeseen Field Condition: Patch CMU walls in limited areas where divots occurred from abatement removal of glue pucks behind chalk boards and where old t-stats were removed. Glue pucks in particular locations in the original building would not come off with standard heat removal method as in other areas.	\$1,915.00
COA 08	Field Coordination: Add electrical closet inside kiln room to resolve code required clearance and access issues.	\$7,033.31
COA 10	Unforeseen Field Condition: Patch CMU walls opened by abatement contractor at three (3) locations for removal of asbestos piping insulation.	\$1,523.16
COA 11	Owner Request: Credit to revise concrete drive at north end to be concrete instead of asphalt.	-\$6,550.00
COA 12	Owner Request: Add power, data and coaxial cable at entry corridor for LCD TV monitor to be purchased by building.	\$340.09
COA 13	Field Coordination: Miscellaneous electrical revisions from multiple RFIs. Items are adds, credits and no cost items.	\$559.08
COA 14	Field Coordination/Drawing Coordination: Cost to rebuild portion of masonry wall and relocate door opening at Library Workroom due to dimensional field conditions.	\$2,085.57
COA 15	Owner Request: Replace ceiling grid, ACT tiles and lights in kitchen.	\$4,510.84
COA 16	Field Coordination: Credit to revise window sealing detail in classrooms Area A based on existing site conditions.	-\$1,070.00
	<b>TOTAL CHANGE ORDER NO. 01:</b>	<b>\$12,442.24</b>

Minority and Female Business Enterprise (MAFBE) Update:

Original Total Project Contract Amount = \$4,421,000

Percentages at time of Bid specified in Project Manual:

MBE goal = 6% (\$4,421,000) = \$265,260

FBE goal = 4% (\$4,421,000) = \$176,840

Percentages anticipated at Project Start per Contractor:

MBE = \$27,000 / \$4,421,000= 1%

FBE = \$149,278 / \$4,421,000= 3%

Percentages after Change Order No 01:

MBE = \$27,000 / \$4,421,000= 1%

FBE = \$154,561 / \$4,421,000= 3% (Note increase in contract amount does not change percentage.)

Administration recommended Board approval of the change order for Kenwood totaling \$12,442.24.

Bills and Treasurer's Report - October

Member Chalifoux moved, with a second by Member Bambenek to approve the Bills and Treasurer's Report – October. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Bills and Treasurer's Report – October was approved as presented.

**Consent Agenda: Unfinished/New Business**

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

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

Board Policy 520.09 Professional Personnel – Salary and Compensation: Tom Lockman

The changes detail revisions regarding determination of salary associated with an administrative transfer to a lower pay grade and the criteria to be considered in making that determination.

Administration recommended approval of the Policy revisions.

Board Policy 705.09 Attendance – Schools of Choice Seat Assignment: Tom Lockman

The Choice Committee meets several times during each school year to review program progress, examine program effectiveness in meeting District objectives, and discuss potential changes to the program and/or Board Policy.

The revisions are primarily related to the assignment of middle school students and specifically include:

Beginning with the 2015-16 school year, students entering Kindergarten in the following elementary schools will be assigned to the listed middle school under the Cluster model:

- +Stratton: Jefferson
- +Booker T. Washington: Franklin
- +International Prep Academy: Edison

A clarification that students entering Stratton and Booker T. Washington Elementary Schools prior to the 2015-16 school year will continue to be assigned to a middle school according to the existing choice process currently outlined in the policy based on seat availability and the stated criteria.

Students entering the International Prep Academy prior to the 2015-16 school year will be assigned to Edison.

A clarification of the percentage used to balance SES population as 10%.

Administration recommended approval of the Policy revisions.

High School Honors Courses: Dr. Laura Taylor

A comprehensive review of the process utilized to determine high school honors level classes, grade point average (GPA), and class rank has not been conducted in Unit 4 for at least twenty years. In an effort for continuous improvement and due to some concerns with our current

system, a comprehensive review was conducted. Based on this review, the following is proposed for determining high school honors level classes and class rank starting with the graduating class of 2019. GPA calculation will continue to be calculated using a weighted and unweighted system with current point values.

**Honors Level Courses** - Courses with two distinct levels, general education transferable dual credit courses, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, and courses that meet college graduation requirements in Foreign Language.

**Class Rank Calculation** – Elimination of honors points. Weighted and unweighted class rank determined directly from the weighted and unweighted GPA calculation.

A custom order for eSchool may be required to facilitate transition process in our student management system.

Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the proposed high school honors courses and GPA calculation.

Social Science High School Graduation Requirements: Dr. Laura Taylor

Unit 4 administration and the high school social science departments are requesting to change the graduation requirements for social science starting in 2015-2016 with full implementation in 2016-2017. The request is based on the following factors:

- College, Career, & Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards that was published last year from the National Council for the Social Studies. The framework is a product of a collaboration among fifteen professional organizations committed to the advancement of social studies education.
- Recommendation from the Illinois Task Force on Civic Education Report (May 2014) that the College, Career, & Civic Life (C3) be consulted as guidance for the revision of the State's social studies standards.
- Recommendation from the Illinois Task Force on Civic Education Report (May 2014) that Illinois should require a standalone civic education course at the high school level.
- Unit 4 Social Science 6-12 curriculum scheduled for piloting and adoption within the next two years.

**Graduation Requirements**

**Current**

History of the Ancient World\*  
World History  
U.S. History\*  
Modern U.S. History

**Proposed**

Geography  
World History\*  
U.S. History\*  
Government\*

\*Weighted Options Available

Class of 2016 will have choice of Government or Modern U.S.

Materials, professional development and evaluation is covered as part of the Unit 4 curriculum adoption process.

Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the proposed social science graduation requirement changes.

11/10/2014 Regular Meeting

Minutes of October 13, 2014 and October 27, 2014

The minutes were approved as presented.

Human Resource Changes: Ken Kleber

The Human Resource Changes were approved as presented.

Donation – Skateland: Matt Foster

This donation is for Fall Break skating passes from Skateland for Bottenfield, Carrie Busey, Dr. Howard, Kenwood, Robeson, South Side, Westview, Edison and Jefferson valued at \$29,580.00.

This donation is in need of approval by the Board of Education as it is \$5,000 or more in value.

Administration recommended Board approval of the donation for Fall Break skating passes from Skateland valued at \$29,580 for elementary and middle schools.

Revised Bank Signature Authorizations FY15: Matt Foster

By direction of the Board, two signatures are required on all checks written against checking accounts for the District. Due to changes in Principals at Garden Hills and Edison a revised list of staff to be authorized as co-signatures on respective accounts for fiscal year 2014-2015 needed to be approved.

Administration recommended Board approval of the revised listing on the respective banking accounts for fiscal year 2014-2015.

**Student Discipline**

Member Stuckey moved, with a second by Member Bambenek, to expel student #550559 from Central High School for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year and first semester of the 2015-16 school year. He/she should be reassigned to READY for violating Conduct Codes #25 (Threats to/Intimidation of Students) and #34 (Weapon-Related Activities) 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 6. Nays 1. Member Brown voted no.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Member Bambenek moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

Board Approved: December 8, 2014