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 12, 2019 within the Boundaries of Said District

Regular Meeting

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

Board Members Present
Amy Armstrong, Gianina Baker (arrived at 5:44 p.m.), Bruce Brown, Kathy Shannon (left at 6:53 p.m.), Elizabeth Sotiropoulos, Heather Vazquez (arrived at 5:31 p.m. and left the meeting at 6:42 p.m.)

Board Member Absent
Chris Kloeppep

Staff Members Present
Deputy Superintendent Laura Taylor, Assistant Superintendent Angela Ward, Executive Director of Human Resources Ken Kleber

Approval of Agenda
Member Sotiropoulos moved, with a second by Member Brown to approve the agenda. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

Executive Session
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Sotiropoulos, to adjourn into Closed Session in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) to consider Student Discipline 120/2(c)(9). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

The Board convened into Closed Session at 5:32 p.m.

Open Session
The Board convened into Open Session at 6:37 p.m.

Guests
Representatives from CFT, local media and other interested persons

Student Discipline
Student #206431
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Vazquez that student #206431 shall be provided an alternative placement for the remainder of first semester of the 2019-20 school year for violating Conduct Code #18 Physical Confrontation with Staff 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 the Conduct Code listed above 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/or disruption. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 1. Member Sotiropoulos voted no.
Student #541035
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Brown that student #541035 shall be provided an alternative placement for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year and through the summer of 2020 for violating Conduct Code #34 Weapon-Related Activities 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 the Conduct Code listed above; 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/or disruption. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 4. Nays 2. Member Baker and Member Sotiropoulos voted no.

Public Comments
Leslie Reagan – Asked the Board to vote no on IASB Resolutions 1 and 4.

Lindsay Aikman – Asked the Board to vote no on IASB Resolutions 1 and 4.

Amy Heggemeyer – Asked the Board to vote no on IASB Resolutions 1 and 4.

Jan Niccum – Talked about the lack of lighting at Jefferson Middle School and the Center for Family and Community Engagement at the Mellon Building.

Action Agenda: New Business
Administrative Appointment – South Side Assistant Principal: Ken Kleber
Member Sotiropoulos moved, with a second by Member Armstrong to approve the Administrative Appointment – South Side Assistant Principal. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 4. Nays 0.

The position of Assistant Principal for South Side Elementary for the 2019-2020 school year was posted on the District’s website and other recruiting websites. Seven candidates were interviewed by a team of District and South Side administration, as well as South Side licensed and support staff. Ms. Amy Meron was selected for the position.

Ms. Meron joined Unit 4 schools in August 2016 as a licensed School Psychologist. She will transition from this position to become South Side’s Assistant Principal effective November 12, 2019. Prior experience as a School Psychologist includes working for Wheaton Community School District 200 for a total of 10 years and Danville Community School District 118 for two years.

Ms. Meron holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (2001), a Master of Arts in School Psychology (2003) and an Educational Specialist in School Psychology (2004) from the University of Alabama, and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from Concordia University, Chicago (2010).

The recommended salary for Ms. Meron is $66,915 prorated from July 1, 2019, plus all appropriate Board-approved administrator benefits. The effective date of employment is
November 12, 2019. This is a 215 days/year administrative position. Annual evaluation will be completed by the appropriate supervising administrator.

District administration recommended the appointment of Ms. Amy Meron as Assistant Principal of South Side Elementary effective November 12, 2019 at the above-listed salary and appropriate fringe benefits.

Reports: New Business
2019 Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Resolutions Committee Report: Dr. Susan Zola Kathy Shannon and Elizabeth Sotiroopoulos are the IASB Governing Board Representatives. They would like the entire Board of Education to review the proposed revisions to the 2019 IASB Resolutions Committee Report prior to the Delegate Assembly at the IASB, IASA, IASBO Joint Annual Conference in Chicago, IL.

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

Action Agenda: New Business
CY2019 (Estimated) Property Tax Levy: Dr. Susan Zola/Guy Cahill

Member Sotiroopoulos moved, with a second by Member Baker for approval of the CY2019 (Estimated) Property Tax Levy. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 4. Nays 0

“Section 17-11 of the School Code requires the school board of each district to ascertain, as near as practicable, annually, how much money must be raised by (Corporate and Special Purpose taxes) for the next ensuing year. These amounts must be certified and filed with the County Clerk on or before the last Tuesday in December annually.” (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Certificate-of-Tax-Levy.aspx)

The District is subject to the statutory Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL); for levy year 2019, the calculated extension limitation or “cap” for Corporate and Special Purpose levies (but excluding Debt Service) was estimated at $102,476,055. The proposed levy, however, is not subject to the statutory Truth-in-taxation notice and hearing requirements as the proposed Corporate and Special Purpose Tax levies do not to exceed the 105% (of the prior year) extension threshold. This levy does take into consideration any future action by the Board of Education pertaining to the issuance of the remaining November 2016 voter approved School Construction Bond authority.

Consistent with prior levies, fifty-two (52%) of the proposed Calendar Year 2019 levy (payable in 2020) will be accrued to the benefit of the FY2020 budget (ending June 30, 2020) while the balance (48%) will be accrued into the FY 2021 budget (beginning July 1, 2020), all consistent with GASB and auditor accrual practices. It is estimated that the owner of a $300,000 (FMV) home whose year-over-year value remained unchanged, will see NO CHANGE on the Unit 4 portion of their tax bill at $5,050.99.

This was based upon (i) a Corporate and Special Purpose Tax Levy of $102,559,891, a Debt Service of $17,419,136 for a total of $119,979,027 (up 3.835%), (ii) on an expected $87,735,594 increase in equalized assessed valuation (EAV) – $61,528,186 or 70% of which equals new construction – to a total EAV of $2,375,354,020 (up 3.835%) and (iii) a resultant $5.051 tax rate (0.00% change).

The proposed, estimated, tax levy will yield $496,457 less in levied corporate and special purpose taxes than that proposed with the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget adoption (Sept. 23, 2019). The shortfall in tax receipts will be deducted from the Education Fund portion of the
FY2020 Budget. The reduction results from the statutory limitations or “caps” on (PTELL) property tax extensions.

Administration recommended to (i) Make available to public inspection the proposed, tentative, calendar year 2019 Certificate of Property Tax Levy (ISBE Form 50-02) and schedule the same for adoption as early as the Board’s December 9, 2019 Regular meeting (but no later than December 24, 2019); and, (ii) consider, as necessary, replacing the levy shortfall by partially abating a portion of the Working Cash Fund into the Education Fund with any subsequent Budget Amendment.

Furniture Purchase Orders – New Dr. Howard Elementary: Sandra Roesler
Member Baker moved, with a second by Member Sotiropoulos for approval of the Furniture Purchase Orders – New Dr. Howard Elementary. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 4. Nays 0.

In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvement projects at several District facilities. On October 22, 2019, the Board of Education approved the construction documents design phase and corresponding budget increase to $18,105,000. This budget contained a value engineered line item of $200,000 to provide furnishings. Due to favorable bids in, this budget item has been restored to the original $386,000. Expenses for this contract will be paid from the Capital Projects budget previously approved for this project.

Administration recommended approval of the purchases orders totaling $265,122 to provide furnishings.

Furniture Purchase Quotes – Central High School Additions and Renovation: Elizabeth Stegmaier
Member Baker moved, with a second by Member Sotiropoulos to approve the Furniture Purchase Quotes – Central High School Additions and Renovation. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 4. Nays 0.

In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvement projects at several District facilities. On September 9, 2019, the Board of Education reviewed and approved a budget increase for Owner’s Costs that would be used, among other things, to provide funding to increase the amount of new furniture that is being provided as part of the project. That increased the furniture budget up to one million eight hundred eighteen thousand one hundred dollars ($1,818,100), plus a reserve of ninety thousand two hundred sixty two ($90,262) for some specific furniture needs that are not finalized yet. That would bring the total furniture budget to one million nine hundred eight thousand three hundred sixty two. ($1,908,362). Expenses for this contract will be paid from the Capital Projects budget previously approved for this project.

Administration recommended approval of the purchases orders totaling one million eight hundred twenty five thousand eight hundred ninety four dollars ($1,825,894) to provide furnishings.

Furniture Purchase Quotes – Centennial High School Additions and Renovation: Elizabeth Stegmaier
Member Baker moved, with a second by Member Brown to approve the Furniture Purchase Quotes – Centennial High School Additions and Renovation. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 4. Nays 0.
In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvement projects at several District facilities. On September 9, 2019, the Board of Education reviewed and approved a budget increase for Owner’s Costs that would be used, among other things, to provide funding to increase the amount of new furniture that is being provided as part of the project. That increased the furniture budget up to one million seven hundred sixty six thousand eight hundred twenty dollars ($1,766,820). Expenses for this contract will be paid from the Capital Projects budget previously approved for this project.

Administration recommended approval of the purchases orders totaling one million seven hundred eighty eight thousand eight hundred sixty four dollars $1,788,864 to provide furnishings.

Consent Agenda: New Business
Member Sotiropoulos moved, with a second by Member Baker to approve the Consent Agenda – Unfinished/New Business. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 4. Nays 0.

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

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 identified in the resolution.

Approval of the Bid for Centennial High School Phase 4 Hazardous Material Asbestos Abatement: Mark Roessler
In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvement projects at several District facilities. On October 29, 2019, Administration received and opened bids for Centennial High School Phase 4 Hazardous Material Abatement. Five (5) contractors submitted bids and Administration recommended that General Waste Services, Inc. be awarded the contract for Base Bid #2. Base Bid #1 is within the delegated authority and Administration will award that scope to Abateco. General Waste Services, Inc. bid for Base Bid #2 is $80,150.00. Expenses for this contract will be paid from the Capital Projects budget previously approved for this project.

Administration recommended approval of contract for Centennial High School Hazardous Material Abatement Phase 4 to General Waste Services, Inc. for their bid amount of $80,150.00.

Centennial High School Bid Release #2 – Operable Windows and Sill Details Contingency Draw: Mark Roessler
In November 2016, District voters approved a facilities referendum to undertake facility improvement projects at several District facilities. On September 9, 2019, the Board of Education approved a budget increase for Owner’s Cost for both Centennial High and Central High. Part of that funding increase was allocated for adding operable windows to the new windows being installed as part of the referendum project. After completing the first phase of renovation work at both schools, it became apparent that operable windows would be important in providing increased occupant comfort and help reduce utility costs by utilizing natural ventilation as the weather allows. Expenses for this scope of work will come from the Owner’s Contingency within the approved GMP contract with O’Shea Builders.
Administration recommended approval of the Operable Windows and Sill Details Contingency Draw for Centennial High School Bid Release #2 for the amount of one hundred ten thousand seven hundred thirty five dollars $110,735.

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

Minutes of October 15, 2019 and October 28, 2019
The Minutes were approved as presented.

Bills and Treasurer’s Report – October: Michele Johnson
The Bills and Treasurer’s Report – October was approved as presented.

Central High School 2020 Spring Trip to Costa Rica, Central America: Dr. Laura Taylor
While the better portion of the trip is conducted in the native language of Spanish, the trip is available to all Central and Centennial students who demonstrate a strong interest in languages, cultures and history. Additional areas of interest for students include: Environmental Science, Bio-diversity and the Ecosystem, Tourism studies and International Relations. A student may be a freshman; however, a conference with the teacher and parents/guardians is necessary to determine student maturity and motivation for travel. The rationale for the trip is to allow students the opportunity to experience the “tico” culture, to communicate in the language whenever possible, and to explore the incredible sights that Costa Rica has to offer.

Costa Rica stands apart from its Central American neighbors in part because of its long tradition of political democracy and stability and its unique global appreciation for their diverse environment. More than 27% of the country is environmentally protected in one form or another, and more than 14% is within its national park system. Costa Ricans are dedicated to promoting harmony between nature, community, development and economic growth. Costa Rica is widely traveled by foreigners from all over the world whose interest are both recreational and ecological. Our students will leave the country with a deeper understanding of the importance of nature conservation and differing eco-systems. They will be exposed to both the history of the country and its people. Travelers will experience a significant appreciation for the language, and they will leave with a sincere motivation to further their Spanish language studies. No substitute teachers are required.

The cost for each participant is $3,472.00. Each participant is responsible for the cost of the trip. However, several fundraisers have been planned to include: Portillo's, Panera, El Toro, and in school student food sales (following school food sales guidelines). Most travelers have participated in the monthly payment program offered by Explorica student travel.

Administration recommended approval of the Central High School 2020 Spring Trip to Costa Rica.
11/12/2019 Regular Meeting

**Adjournment**
There being no further business, Member Sotiropoulos moved, with a second by Member Brown to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 4. Nays 0.

Board Approved: December 9, 2019