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
November 28, 2016 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, Chris Kloeppel, Kathy Richards, Kathy Shannon, Jonathan Westfield

Board Members Absent
Gianina Baker, Lynn Stuckey

Staff Members Present
Superintendent Judy Wiegand, Deputy Superintendent Laura Taylor, Executive Director of Human Resources Ken Kleber, Chief Financial and Legal Officer Tom Lockman

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

Executive Session
Member Richards 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 Personnel 120/2(c)(1) and Student Discipline 120/2(c)(9). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

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

Open Session
The Board convened into Open Session at 6:33 p.m.

Reports: New Business

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 & Series 2010B and Series 2010C & 2010D Bonds. It is anticipated the Board will approve the resolution at the December meeting. In order to legally abate this property tax, the bond covenants require that the District illustrate that it has at least 125% coverage.

The Resolution confirms that the District will abate the property taxes levied. The total amount of the abatement is $3,092,892.50 for Series 2010A & 2010B and $4,539,442 for Series 2010C & 2010D. This is required to secure Board signatures on the Abatement document so that it may be filed with the County Clerk prior to March 1, 2017.

This was an informational item and no action was required by the Board.
Resolution – Proposed 2016 Tax Levy: Tom Lockman
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 2016 Levy exceeds the 2015 Levy by more than 105% and, therefore, an advertisement of a public hearing will be placed in The News-Gazette and a separate public hearing will be held.

District EAV: The total EAV for this year is projected to be $2,076,330,358 and $57,004,070 for new construction. The EAV last year was $1,962,982,256.

The District was able to levy $102,110,743 for this year. This includes the amount necessary for bonds and interest payments. After we abate our bonds, as in keeping with the Promises Made Promises Kept commitment, the actual levy amount will fall to $93,452,495 (independent of debt service). This amount is an increase of $7,866,469 and is a 9.19% increase over the previous year’s capped extension.

The total amount for bonds levied this year will be $8,658,248 (Before abatement). The total amount abated for bonds, as in keeping with our commitment to Promises Made Promises Kept, is $7,632,335. The net amount of the bond levy will be $1,025,913 for bonds (After abatement). Approval of the 2016 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 $102,110,743 (which includes debt service).

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

Student Discipline
Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Armstrong that student #610617 should be expelled from Centennial High School for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year and the entire 2017-18 school year for violating Conduct Code #34 Weapon-Related Activities of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The duration of the expulsion is based on the gravity of its being a weapon-related incident that involved a large number of students, the level of fear that was produced among students and at least one parent as a result of Instagram threats from “clowns,” the fact that it was a look-alike gun thereby carrying the same potential for harm or injury to the Student-Respondent or others if it were mistaken for real, and the Student-Respondent’s apparent lack of understanding regarding the seriousness of the offense resulting in the potential for recurrence. 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 student’s alternative placement during the expulsion period. 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 following the expulsion period. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

Member Richards moved, with a second by Member Armstrong that student #550716 should be expelled from Centennial High School for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year and first semester of the 2017-18 school year and should be reassigned to an alternative setting at the administration’s direction for violating Conduct Code #34 Weapon-Related Activities of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The duration of the expulsion is based on the student’s actions were in clear violation of the Code of Conduct and the potential to significantly affect the safety and well-being of a number of Centennial students and significantly distressing
to a wide variety of students on two campuses. 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 5. Nays 0.

Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Richards that student #510660 should be expelled from Centennial High School for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year and first semester of the 2017-18 school year and should be reassigned to an alternative setting at the administration’s direction for violating Conduct Code #34 Weapon-Related Activities of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The duration of the expulsion is based on the student’s actions were in clear violation of our Code of Conduct, had the potential to significantly affect the safety and well-being of a number of Centennial students, and was significantly distressing to a wide variety of students on two Unit 4 campuses. 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 5. Nays 0.

Adjournment
There being no further business, Member Shannon moved, with a second by Member Westfield, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

Board Approved: December 12, 2016