

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 9, 2009 Within the Boundaries of Said District

Regular Meeting

Board President David Tomlinson called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present

Kristine Chalifoux, Thomas Lockman, Scott MacAdam, Greg Novak, David Tomlinson

Board Members Absent

Sue Grey, Stig Lanesskog

Staff Members Present

Deputy Superintendent Dorland Norris, Assistant Superintendent Michael McFarland, Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas

Approval of Agenda

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried on voice vote. Moved to Action Agenda – Design for B.T. Washington Elementary; Design for Remodeled/Expanded Garden Hills Elementary; High School Redistricting Plan.

Executive Session

Thomas Lockman moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to adjourn into *Closed Session* in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2c) to consider Property Acquisition/Lease/Purchase 120/2(c)(5), and Litigation – Johnson, et al. v. Board of Education of Champaign Community Unit School District #4, Case No. 00-1349 (U.S.D.C. Central District of Illinois) 120/2(c)(11). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 6:32 p.m.

Open Session

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 7:05 p.m.

Superintendent Culver and Board Member Stig Lanesskog joined the meeting via telephone at 7:05 p.m.

Guests

Representatives from CFT, local media and other interested persons

Recognitions

Deputy Superintendent Dorland Norris announced that November 15 is School Board Members Day in Illinois. She recognized the Board on behalf of the administration, students and community for their dedication and service to Unit 4 in honor of School Board Member Day.

The Administration honored the Board of Education by donating a book in their name to each school library.

Board Member Sue Grey joined the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Public Comment

Mark Palmer thanked the Board for their support in maintaining mentor coordinators.

Lily Jimenez, M. Leticia and Erika Cruz shared concerns regarding the lack of speech therapy for bilingual students at BTW.

Pastor Charlotte Blisset, Ministerial Alliance, shared a letter that was sent to Judge McDade regarding the Consent Decree.

Dr. Evelyn Underwood spoke briefly regarding a mailing related to the EEE Committee membership process/application.

PTA Council

Nancy Hoetker extending congratulations to Unit 4 for their hard work that led to the end of the Consent Decree. She also thanked everyone for attending the PTA President's dinner, and she expressed appreciation to the Board for being very forthcoming about the upcoming budget process.

Board

Board member Greg Novak commended the community for stepping forward and applying to serve on the EEE Committee.

Reports

Academic Spotlight – Carrie Busey, CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health)

Principal Zanita Kelly and physical education teacher Wendy Starwalt provided an update to the Board regarding the CATCH program. CATCH builds an alliance of children, parents, teachers, and school staff to teach skills and behaviors associated with maintaining healthy lifestyles.

CATCH coordinates four component areas, including classroom curricula, food service modifications, physical education changes, and family enforcement, targeting both children's behaviors and the school environment.

In addition to implementing the CATCH program, Carrie Busey received a \$19,000.00 state grant to fund a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. Fruits and/or vegetables are served twice per week and a new fruit or vegetable is introduced monthly. Students participate in a fruit and vegetable challenge. Students receive a comprehensive nutrition unit coordinated through the CATCH program.

The CATCH program will run using existing staff. Staff development and training will involve a classroom teacher at each grade level, special educator, librarian, hearing impaired educator, physical educator, parent, and administrator. The teachers trained will then support the other staff in the building. The Physical Education teacher acts as coordinator for all aspects of the program.

Additionally, the Food Service Department will add a section to food school safety plan for fruit and vegetable standard operating procedures. Gloves and napkins were purchased and an in-service was provided to make sure students wash hands properly before snack time. Additional

trash can liners, and spray bottles for sanitizing desks in classrooms were also purchased. Teachers and custodians will work together to determine best practice for clean up. The CATCH grant covers all costs.

The program will be evaluated at the end of the first year of implementation using student, parent, and staff surveys. The physical education program will be evaluated using the SOFFETT to measure the MVPA (moderate to vigorous physical activity) for students. The movement and non-elimination games philosophy will also be evaluated. Students will be given a survey at the end of the year to determine attitude changes about food and nutrition.

Options on Issuing Debt Related to 1% Sales Tax

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas provided the following update on the options on issuing debt related to the 1% Sales Tax.

1. A list of projected expenses that might be paid out of Fund 61 – Capital Projects Fund (Other Capital Projects) – see attached list of Other Projects That Could be Paid for Out of Sales Tax Revenues and list of expenditures to date in Fund 61.
2. A list of the projects that the Board of Education has promised that will be paid out of Fund 60 – Capital Projects Fund (Board Promised Projects) – see attached List of Projects Financed Thru 1% Sales Tax Increase.
3. What we anticipate in bond revenue and how it will be utilized – As Mary Kane has said on numerous occasions, we anticipate receiving between \$75 and \$80 million.
4. An estimate of the total amount that the increase in the sales tax will generate annually and how it will be utilized – We continue to estimate that we will receive approximately \$7 million annually and that \$5.5 million will be utilized to make principal and interest payments on the new debt. The other \$1.5 million annually will be used to make the payments for other miscellaneous capital expenses out of Fund 61.

Action Agenda

Design for New B.T. Washington Elementary

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve the schematic design for the new B.T. Washington Elementary. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Stu Brodsky, OWP/P, presented the schematic design of a new B.T. Washington Elementary. He shared that meetings were held with staff and the community. After receiving community input on the design and site plan, the Board will be asked to approve both projects in their entirety at the November 30, 2009 Board meeting.

Design for Remodeled/Expanded Garden Hills Elementary

Sam Johnson, BLDD, presented the schematic design for the remodeled/expanded Garden Hills Elementary. After receiving community input on the design and site plan, the Board will be asked to approve both projects in their entirety at the November 30, 2009 Board meeting.

High School Redistricting Plan (Exhibit “A”)

Thomas Lockman moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the high school redistricting Option 1A to take effect with the 2010-11 school year. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 1. Board Member Tomlinson voted Nay.

Assistant Superintendent Michael McFarland provided a brief update on the high school redistricting plan. After significant community and Board input, the administration recommended approval of high school redistricting Option 1A. Option 1A is a revision of original Option 1 but includes rezoning the area northeast of I-74 to Central and reassigning the area south of Windsor and west of I-57 to Centennial.

The sibling transfer policy is as follows:

2009/2010 11th Grader – sibling in 8th grade will receive a transfer waiver if requested.

2009/2010 10th Grader – sibling down through 7th grade will receive a transfer waiver if requested.

2009/2010 9th Grader – sibling down through 6th grade will receive a transfer waiver if requested.

Students currently enrolled in high school who are rezoned due to redistricting will be allowed to remain at the high school they attended during the 2009-10 school year provided they complete a transfer request and provide their own transportation. In accordance with the sibling transfer policy above, younger siblings who have been rezoned but elect to attend school with their older sibling(s) must complete transfer requests and provide their own transportation. The new boundaries are expected to reduce transportation costs.

District Improvement Plan

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the District Improvement E-Plan as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Director Suzanne Gibbons provided the following information regarding the District Improvement Plan. Based on SY2008 and SY2009 ISAT/PSAE results, Champaign Unit 4 is placed under Academic Early Warning Status. Submission of a District Improvement Plan (DIP) is required by federal and state regulations for districts that are in academic status. The plan must cover two fiscal years (e.g. FY10-FY11) and must be revised every two years while the district remains in status.

Illinois districts in status that did not submit a district improvement plan last year must submit a district improvement plan as required by Public Law 107-110, the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Section 1101 et seq. and Section 2-3.25d of the School Code, 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25. The last District Improvement Plan was submitted in 2007. A revision to the plan is now required. The District e-plan meets this requirement.

Staff development needs are embedded in the plan. Financial implications and funding sources are noted in the plan.

Results of RFP for Demolition Services (Exhibit "B")

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to accept the offer from Tom Ennis in the amount of \$78,400 for demolition services. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas spoke briefly regarding the RFP for demolition services. He shared that Attorney Mike Tague had prepared a Request for Proposal for the demolition of nine properties near Garden Hills and B T Washington. The low offer was received from Tom Ennis in the amount of \$78,400. Once the properties are all acquired, it will be necessary to demolish

them for staging areas and ultimately parking lots. Mr. Tague has experience with Mr. Ennis and recommended him to the Board of Education.

Naming of Stadium at Tommy Stewart Field

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Thomas Lockman, to approve convening a committee to consider the naming of the stadium at Tommy Stewart Field. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Assistant Superintendent Michael McFarland shared the following information regarding the naming of the stadium at Tommy Stewart Field. A request was made to name the stadium at Tommy Stewart Field the Wes Davis Stadium. The request meets the criteria set forth in Board policy 450.20R. According to this policy, a recommendation was made for the formation of a committee to review any suggestions submitted in writing and to study the impact of the special recognition on the school, district, and community, and recommend to the full Board the acceptance or rejection of the recognition requested.

Names will be solicited of Board members, staff, administrators, and community representatives to serve on the committee and the committee shall have the right to solicit additional nominations related to this request. According to Board policy, a recommendation was made to the Board to approve convening a committee to consider the naming of the stadium at Tommy Stewart Field with official recognition to take place at the December 14, 2009 Board meeting.

Recommendation for Project Manager

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve Joe Davis as Project Manager. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0. Board Member Novak voted Nay.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas shared the administration's recommendation to hire Joe Davis as the Project Manager. Administration had previously discussed with the Board of Education the need for a Project Manager for the Garden Hills and B T Washington Projects. This is consistent with what the district did the last time it was pursuing multiple building projects. An interview committee was assembled which included Arthur Culver, Mark Ritz, Stu Brodsky, Mike Stilger, John Ayers, Barbara Ramsay and me. The committee interviewed all six of the firms or individuals that responded to the RFP. It was the unanimous recommendation of the committee to select Joe Davis as Project Manager. This recommendation was based on Joe's previous experience as Project Manager at Lincoln-Way High School District, his construction experience and his in-depth knowledge of Unit 4 personnel and buildings. All of his references spoke very highly of Joe's abilities and all thought he would be an excellent Project Manager for us as well.

Consent Agenda

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Resolution for Proposed 2009 Tax levy (2010/11 School Year) (Exhibit "C")

The Board of Education approved the "Resolution Regarding the Estimated Taxes Necessary to be Levied for 2009" and publication of the "Notice of Intent" to adopt the same. 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 notice of proposed aggregate tax levy and the public hearing must be provided to the public not more than 14 days or less than 7 days prior to approval by the Board of Education and must be published, in a format prescribed by law, in a newspaper of general local circulation. The notice of such intent is scheduled to be printed in the *News-Gazette* on December 4, 2009. The public hearing on the proposed tax levy will be held on Monday, December 14, 2009. The Certificate of Levy must be filed with the County Clerk on or before the last Tuesday in December.

Related cost of publishing the notice of increase in Tax Levy in the local newspaper will be approximately \$800.00 and is within the amount budgeted for legal notices in the Education Fund. Approval of the levy in December will provide the allowable amount of property taxes after tax caps in 2010-2011 of \$75,615,846.

Grant: 2009/2010 Tepper Electric Arts Endowment Grant

The Board of Education approved the monetary awards totaling \$10,211.82 provided through the Tepper Electric Arts Endowment.

This school year, 17 Tepper grant requests totaling \$11,121.82 were submitted. All 17 monetary awards totaling \$11,211.82 will be provided through the Tepper Electric Arts Endowment. This endowment, funded by the Tepper Electric Supply Company, provides Unit #4 with an annual donation of \$10,000 for student activities and/or educational experiences that promote student exposure to and involvement in the fine arts. The carry-over from 2008-2009 school year is \$1,217.04. Including this year's grant total, the Tepper Electric Endowment has awarded grants totaling approximately \$200,000 over the past twenty years.

On October 9, 2009, the selection committee met and reviewed applications for funding. Members of the Tepper Review committee consisted of Edward and Nancy Tepper, Arts Endowment Contributor, Suzanne Gibbons, Director of Elementary Education, Trudy Walters, Barkstall Elementary principal, and fine arts teachers Shauna Carey, Marian Wyatt, John Odum, and Bob Smith. Attached is a listing of the grants submitted and the amounts funded. All grants are available for review upon request.

Grant: FY09 State School Library Grant

The Board of Education approved the proposed school library grant in the amount of \$6,697.50 with permission to submit the same to the Illinois State Library via Lincoln Trail Libraries System.

A grant, intended for qualifying school libraries, has been included in the legislation for the Illinois Library System Act. The grant funds are being made available at seventy-five cents per capita based on the September 30, 2009 enrollment.

School districts must be members of a regional library system or meet the requirements and have applied for membership in a system. A qualified school library is one that has a centrally accessible and bibliographically organized library and has one employee whose primary duty is to serve as a librarian.

Based on the district's September 30, 2009 enrollment benchmark for buildings with a librarian on staff, and a total enrollment of 8930, the district is applying for \$6,697.50. (The total

enrollment of 8930 only includes the 16 campuses with libraries; it does not include the Early Childhood Center and the Academic Academy.) The actual funding will depend on the number of school districts which apply for the funds.

The funds will be used to purchase materials to support the District Library Media Centers (LMC). The grant covers all costs.

Grant: TASAP – Technical Assistance for Student Assignment Plans Grant (United States Department of Education)

The Board of Education approved the funding for the proposed activities in the Technical Assistance for Student Assignment Plans grant.

The district has been awarded a two-year \$250,000 grant for the "Technical Assistance for Student Assignment Plans" through the United States Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The grant program has two facets:

1. Consultation with Dr. Michael Alves, the district Choice Consultant for many years, to study, fine-tune and polish the multi-faceted socio-economic student assignment plan that was piloted for the 2009-2010 school year. Dr. Alves and his team will provide assistance in the full implementation of the socio-economic controlled choice assignment plan that will achieve socio-economic equity across the district while also accommodating a high degree of transparency and choice.
2. Evaluative services provided by Julia Johnson, PhD, former Director of the Center for Education in Small Urban Communities, College of Education at the University of Illinois and now a consulting evaluator with the ISTEM initiative at the University of Illinois. Dr. Johnson will quantitatively and qualitatively evaluate and consult with the district on issues concerning educational equity, school choice, community outreach and school marketing.

Sandra Duckworth, Assistant to the Superintendent for Accountability, is the Project Director. Family Information Center Staff and Elementary School Principals will be involved in data collection and management and be invited to participate in the qualitative evaluation.

All activities proposed in the TASAP grant application were fully funded. The District can draw down \$125,000 each year of the program. Grant money will pay for Dr. Alves's consultation services, Dr. Johnson's evaluation and consultation and one trip to Washington, DC for grant related activities for two district employees each year of the grant.

Grant: COPS – Community Oriented Policing Services (United States Department of Justice)
The Board of Education approved the funding for additional video recording/monitoring equipment through the COPS-Secure our Schools program.

The Champaign Police Department, on behalf of the district, was awarded \$10,950 in matching funds for additional video recording/monitoring equipment. The program, "Secure our Schools," is part of the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) office at the United States Department of Justice.

Dr. Michael McFarland, Assistant Superintendent for Achievement and Pupil Services, is the program director. Dr. McFarland will work with Sergeant Jim Clark at the Champaign Police Department to ensure proper accounting. Justin Moore, Principal at Centennial High School, and Susan Zola, Principal at Jefferson Middle School, are school-level contacts. Roger Grinnip, Director of Information Technology, will provide technical assistance.

Matching funds of \$10,950 are within the existing school building budgets for this program. No additional money is required to implement this program.

The overall goal is to increase student safety and ensure a comfortable learning environment. Buildings that receive the additional equipment are served by Champaign Police Department Community Policing School Resource Officers (SROs) who, in conjunction with building administrators, will use the cameras to increase monitoring and increase safety in student areas.

Bid – Moving Services (Exhibit “D”)

The Board of Education awarded the bid for moving services to Hutchcraft Van Service for \$21,750.00. Board policy states that bids will be solicited when items are expected to exceed a total of \$10,000. As part of the bidding process, bids were advertised in the News-Gazette and formal requests were mailed to eight vendors. Bids were received and opened on October 23, 2009 from six vendors for the move from B T Washington to Columbia. The low bid was received from Hutchcraft Van Service, Inc. for \$21,750.00. The cost to move B T Washington furniture and materials to Columbia is \$21,750.00.

Signature Authorizations (Exhibit “E”)

The Board of Education approved the change to the listing on the respective banking account for fiscal year 2009-2010. By direction of the Board, two signatures are required on all checks written against checking accounts for the District. The list requires updating due to a change of the attendance center manager at Kenwood Elementary School.

Minutes – September 29, 2009 & October 5, 12 & 19, 2009 Board Meetings

The Board of Education approved the minutes as presented.

Bills & Treasurer’s Report (Exhibit “F”)

The Board of Education approved the Bills and Treasurer’s Report as presented.

Human Resource Changes (Exhibit “G”)

The Board of Education approved the Humana Resource Changes as presented.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Sue Grey moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

Board Approved: December 14, 2009