

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
October 12, 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, Stig Lanesskog, Thomas Lockman, Scott MacAdam, Greg Novak, David Tomlinson

Board Members Absent

Sue Grey

Staff Members Present

Superintendent Arthur Culver, Deputy Superintendent Dorland Norris, Assistant Superintendent Beth Shepperd, Assistant Superintendent Michael McFarland, Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas

Approval of Agenda

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Thomas Lockman, to approve the agenda. The motion carried on voice vote.

Executive Session

Scott MacAdam 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 Personnel, employee appointments, employment, compensation, dismissals, complaints 120/2(c)(1), Emergency Security Procedures 120/2(c)(8), Student Discipline 120/2(c)(9), 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 6. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 6:30 p.m.

Open Session

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 7:07 p.m.

Guests

Representatives from CFT, local media and other interested persons

Public Comment

Krist Sallee spoke to the Board about wanting to support the schools through increased community involvement.

Will Kyles spoke in support of BTW Principal Asia Fuller.

Rob Sheehan shared concerns related to Central High School denying his daughter's transfer as it relates to her eligibility to play basketball at Central.

Ernest Westfield spoke briefly about the rumors in the community that SRO Curtis Westfield was involved in the incident that resulted in the death of a student. He asked the administration to communicate with staff that Officer Westfield was not involved.

Roy Williams shared his concerns regarding the busing of BTW students during the relocation to Columbia.

PTA Council

Nancy Hoetker thanked Board member Kristine Chalifoux for speaking to the PTA Council regarding the Garden Hills & BTW building projects. Ms. Hoetker invited the Board to the PTA President's dinner on November 5. She also asked the Administration to update the Council on the improvements being done to school buildings related to lighting and energy efficiency.

Reports

High School Redistricting

Assistant Superintendent Michael McFarland spoke briefly about the process and also shared copies of two maps (Option 1 & Option 2) which outlined the high school attendance boundaries. The Administration plans to present both options for Board approval on November 9, 2009. Jerry McKibben, McKibben Demographic Research President and Senior Demographer, provided a detailed report regarding Option 1 and Option 2 high school attendance boundaries. Due to demographic shifts in housing patterns and other variables that impact high school enrollment, an imbalance has emerged between our high school populations. In an effort to address the imbalance, we are embarking upon a collaborative effort to redraw our high school attendance boundaries. Existing attendance zones will be modified based on criteria selected by the administration and demographer. A series of community forums have been held to gather information needed to draft a redistricting proposal that best meets the community's needs. Throughout the redistricting process, multiple opportunities for public input were provided. Four options were considered during the multiple forums. At the last forum, two options emerged as the most likely to produce a sustainable balance in campus size, socio-economic status, and ethnic breakdown over the next ten years. The new boundaries are expected to reduce transportation costs.

Two options were presented for the Board's consideration, along with the one family/one school sibling preference policy. The sibling preference policy was developed to ensure that high-school-aged siblings are allowed to attend the same high school. The policy will be in place for the 2010-11 school year. Board members requested a modification to the Option 1 map by zoning the area northeast of I-74 to Central and assigning the area south of Windsor and west of I-57 to attend Centennial. The sibling transfer policy will also be revised.

Academic Spotlight – Stratton Elementary (Saturday Academy)

Principal Orlando Thomas and Assistant Principal Ian Tatum shared highlights regarding the Saturday Academy initiative at Stratton Elementary. The 2008-2009 school year began with an enrollment of 434 students, reflecting an increase of 44 students from the 2007-2008 school year. School demographics are represented as 43.3% African American, 27.6% White, 15.2% Hispanic, 13.3% Asian and 0.4% Native American. Stratton qualifies as a Title I school because 72.3% of the students are eligible for free or reduced lunch.

Grade level teachers were contacted regarding student recommendations and were encouraged to nominate students who could benefit from intensive instruction and test strategies. Teachers

were encouraged to recommend students who were on the cusp of meeting standards, and to nominate students who truly needed additional support. There were 94 students nominated and 53 actually enrolled. Teachers were encouraged to closely monitor student progress and to gauge student learning through the various class exercises. Students who participated in the academy benefited from smaller classes and rigorous instruction in reading and in math along with specific test taking strategies. Coach ISAT preparation materials were used to assist with building basic and critical thinking skills.

Financial Implications – Budget

- 8 teachers \$2,370.00
- Transportation \$ 340.00
- Instructional/Incentives \$ 676.61
- Total \$3,386.61

The ISAT results for students that participating in Saturday Academy 2008-2009 school year are listed below:

	Reading 2008-2009	Math 2008-2009
ISAT Subgroups		
All Students	37/53=69%	45/53=85%
African American	19/29=65%	22/29=76%
Low SES	29/45=64%	35/45=76%
Scores		
Asian	4/4=100%	4/4=100%
Hispanic	5/9=56%	9/9=100%
Caucasian	9/11=78%	10/11=91%

Student Enrollment (30-day Benchmark)

Director Roger Grinnip shared the 30-day benchmark on student enrollment. On September 30, 2009 the Official Benchmark Report for the 2009-2010 school year shows that the PreK-12 enrollment in the district is 9497. The preschool total is 341.

The following chart contains grade by grade comparison of the September 30, 2005 for SY2006, September 30, 2006 for SY2007, September 30, 2007 for SY2008, September 29, 2008 for SY2009, and September 30, 2009 for SY2010 enrollments:

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
PreK	202	288	316	328	341
K	696	730	723	710	707
First	667	701	722	744	752
Second	722	690	718	757	743
Third	670	714	669	704	753
Fourth	657	671	698	666	706
Fifth	671	649	668	699	653
Subtotals	4437	4443	4515	4608	4655
Sixth	696	636	623	671	689
Seventh	690	693	619	621	650
Eighth	662	688	691	643	613
Subtotals	2048	2013	2048	1935	1952

Ninth	839	796	848	874	848
Tenth	774	741	694	738	747
Eleventh	670	717	667	639	660
Twelfth	640	628	672	598	635
Subtotals	2923	2882	2881	2849	2890
Grand Totals	9346	9342	9329	9392	9497

Presentation of Salary & Benefit Information for Administrators (Exhibit “A”)

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas provided a brief report on salary and benefits for administrators. A new law mandates that an annual report be presented to the Board of Education that contains salary and benefit information for each administrator. The report will be posted on the District’s website and a copy will be sent to the Regional Office of Education.

Action Agenda

Board of Education Proposed Policies/Procedures (Public Participation; Public Participation at Board Meetings Form; Education Equity Excellence Committee; Education of Children with Disabilities)

Director Judy Wiegand presented the proposed policies/procedures which represent the continued effort to update the District’s Policy and Procedures Manual.

Policy 270.01 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS – Types of Board Meetings

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve the recommended changes to policy to indicate the function and purpose of regular monthly meetings and study session meetings. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Policy 270.15 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS – Public Participation

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, to approve Option B which includes information regarding public participation at regular board meetings and study sessions. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Lynn Stuckey spoke briefly about the changes to Board meetings and also about Option B related to public participation.

Policy 630.01/R INSTRUCTION – Education of Children with Disabilities

Kristine Chalifoux moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, to approve the procedures for special education. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Policy 811/R SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS – Education Equity Excellence Committee

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Thomas Lockman, to approve the procedures for the establishment of the Education Equity Excellence Committee. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Dr. Evelyn Underwood shared that the Ministerial Alliance submitted a proposal to the Superintendent and the Board of Education for their consideration related to the EEE Committee administrative procedures.

Ronna James spoke very highly of Roy Williams and John Lee Johnson.

Consent Agenda

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, to approve the Consent Agenda, excluding Human Resource Changes. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Donation- Curriculum Center (Dollar General Literacy Foundation)

The Board of Education accepted the \$5,000 donation from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation for the Curriculum Center to be used for instructional supplies. The donation required Board approval as it is \$5,000 or more in value.

Grant – FY10 Reading Improvement Block Grant

The Board of Education approved the submission of the FY10 Reading Improvement grant in the amount of \$291,234. The grant is offered through the Illinois State Board of Education to provide funds to local school districts in Illinois to improve the reading skills of children from kindergarten through sixth grade. The District will utilize the grant funds to provide salary and benefits to literacy support and Reading Recovery teachers in the elementary schools. The state reduced funding from \$323,556 to \$291,234. The grant application allows the District to continue to offer the Reading Recovery program as part of the Comprehensive Intervention Model, which is based on Linda Dorn at the University of Arkansas. Total FTE funded by the grant will be 5.5. Teachers participate in monthly professional development.

Minutes – September 14, 2009 Board Meeting

The Board of Education approved the minutes as presented.

Bills & Treasurer's Report (Exhibit "B")

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

Human Resource Changes (Exhibit "C")

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to approve the Human Resource Changes as presented including the stipend. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Abstained 1. Board President Tomlinson Abstained.

Board President Dave Tomlinson left the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Action AgendaB.T. Washington E-Plan (Electronic School Improvement Plan)

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, to approve the BTW E-Plan for submission to ISBE. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

Director Suzanne Gibbons provided a brief report regarding the E-Plan. The *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* requires all states to measure each public school's achievement and establish annual achievement targets for the state toward the goal of all students (100%) meeting or exceeding standards by SY2014 in reading and math. The Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) minimum target for SY2008 was 62.5% and for SY2009 was 70.0% meets or exceeds.

Title I schools that fail to make AYP for two consecutive years will be identified for Title I school improvement. Because Booker T. Washington (BTW) Elementary School did not make AYP in SY2008 and SY2009, it is required to submit an improvement plan electronically (E-

Plan) to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) addressing areas identified as deficient based on ISAT testing. In SY2009, BTW was identified as deficient in Reading for Economically Disadvantaged student subgroups and All. The E-Plan addresses the deficiencies. Staff development needs are embedded in the plan. Financial implications and funding sources are noted in the plan.

Selection of Consultant to Perform Impact Analysis

Thomas Lockman moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to authorize the selection of a consultant to perform an impact analysis on closing Carrie Busey as envisioned by the Consent Decree settlement. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas presented the following information related to the selection of a consultant to perform an impact analysis. As a result of the settlement in the Consent Decree, the Board of Education agreed to perform an impact analysis study whenever a school was closed. As the District moves closer to the movement of the staff from Carrie Busey to Savoy and ultimately the opening of the new Savoy School, it will be necessary to perform an impact analysis. It has been recommended that an RFP be prepared for the selection of the consultant. This would have to be done by Franczek Radelet. As an alternative, it was suggested that perhaps Michael Alves could be retained to perform the analysis. The school code specifically excludes having to bid the selection of an individual possessing a high degree of professional skill where the ability or fitness of the individual plays an important part (such as attorneys).

Student Discipline

Thomas Lockman moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to expel student #651081 from Centennial High School for the remainder of the 2009/2010 school year and reassigned to READY for violating Conduct Code #19 (Physical Confrontation with Student) and #34 (Weapon-Related - Other than Guns & Explosives) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to the regularly assigned school following the expulsion period. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Greg Novak moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

Board Approved: November 9, 2009