

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
September 14, 2009 Within the Boundaries of Said District

Regular Meeting

Board President David Tomlinson called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

Kristine Chalifoux, Sue Grey, Stig Lanesskog, Thomas Lockman, Scott MacAdam, Greg Novak, David Tomlinson

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

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried on voice vote. Added to Closed Session – Negotiations; 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)

Guests

Representatives from CFT, local media and other interested persons

Public Comment

Greg Anderson, Central High School Band Booster President, addressed the Board regarding a request for the approval of a stipend for instruction for the third jazz band at Central High School.

Terry Townsend addressed the Board and requested a traffic impact analysis for BTW prior to tearing down the school; questioned the math theme for BTW and suggested a performing arts theme; referred to and spoke about Al Mitchell's article in the News-Gazette; and he shared his concerns regarding restricting public input during Board meetings.

Dr. Evelyn Underwood shared her displeasure/concerns regarding restricting public input during Board meetings.

Roy Williams spoke briefly about Al Mitchell's article in the News-Gazette related to BTW. Nancy Hoetker asked the administration to use the renewal of the MTD contract as an opportunity to request that MTD ensure bus drivers are knowledgeable about the bus routes.

PTA Council

Nancy Hoetker shared concerns regarding the lack of Spanish language translators during registration, and also spoke about the need for translated forms. She spoke briefly about the issues related to the scheduling of the German class at the high schools, and also requested an

update on the plan for BTW, on the plan for the Spanish immersion program at BTW with the new magnet program, and on the status of the high school redistricting plan.

Board

Stig Lanesskog spoke briefly regarding the Great Schools Together Plan. He announced that a meeting with the Steering Team will be scheduled in October to review the Plan and to prepare the Progress Monitoring Report template.

Reports

Academic Spotlight – Robeson Elementary

Principal Heather Livengood shared the following highlights related to literacy initiatives and successes at Robeson Elementary. The Comprehensive Intervention Model (CIM) is a well-coordinated, seamless design for providing intervention services to struggling readers. The CIM is a systemic model for reversing the reading failures of struggling readers through layered interventions, including differentiated classroom instruction and supplemental interventions in small groups or one-to-one. The interventions are delivered in two waves of literacy defense: the first wave is K-3 and the second wave is 4-12. The goal of Wave 1 is to increase the overall literacy achievement by the end of third grade and to reduce the number of children identified with learning disabilities within 1.5% or less of the general population. In Wave 2 (4-12 grades), interventions focus on research-based strategies for reading and writing in the content areas.

The CIM is a systemic approach to literacy improvement. Reading Recovery Teacher Leaders and Literacy Coaches are viewed as agents of system change. Within the CIM, Reading Recovery teacher leaders provide specialized training and ongoing professional development for intervention teachers, who work with struggling readers in K-3 grades, including Reading Recovery in first grade. Literacy Coaches provide training and support for classroom teachers who work with intervention groups in the classrooms. At the intermediate and middle school levels, literacy coaches spend up to 40% of their time working with small groups of struggling readers daily.

The system goal of the CIM is to change the achievement profile of a school by providing: a) research-based interventions that increase the literacy levels of low-performing children, and b) training and professional development for teachers that increase their knowledge and expertise in teaching the lowest children.

The CIM includes individual and small-group interventions, including Reading Recovery in first grade. The small-group interventions can be delivered as either pullout or push-in interventions with the exception of the writing process group, which is generally implemented during writing workshop in the classroom.

The Robeson Staff recognizes that reading and writing are complex, meaning-making processes. The goal of each teacher intervention is to develop self-regulated, strategic readers and writers who are able solve literacy problems with flexibility, efficiency, and understanding. During SY 2008-09, Robeson's Literacy successfully implemented numerous components of CIM. As they enter SY 2009-2010, Robeson has developed a strategic plan for full implementation of the CIM components in all classrooms. Through the use of data collection, progress monitoring, collaboration with all stakeholders, and coaching, Robeson students will continue to become successful readers and writers.

These components will provide students with constructive reading and writing opportunities. The components ensure that children will receive appropriate literacy experiences that will enable them to reach their highest potential in literacy and are based on the following principles:

1. Children become better readers and writers with practice.
2. Reading and writing are reciprocal processes.
3. Children's past experiences form a knowledge base for new learning.
4. Beginning readers should have many opportunities to learn about print.
5. Hearing books read aloud is a vital part of learning how to read.
6. Children should engage in active book discussions and share their reading and writing with others.
7. Reading is a meaning-making, problem-solving process.
8. Beginning readers should have a well-designed phonics program.
9. Children should write every day.

Equity Update

Deputy Superintendent Dorland Norris shared that, as a result of the Consent Decree Settlement Agreement, the Board of Education is required to adopt and implement an equity policy establishing an Education Equity Excellence Committee (EEE). The EEE shall be comprised of District staff and a diverse cross-section of the community and facilitated by a third party familiar with community and District issues for at least one year. The purpose of the EEE is to review and discuss the following equity areas, data disaggregated by race/ethnicity and SES; academic progress of regular education, special education, gifted, AP/Honors, Academic Academy and alternative students; attendance rates; discipline rates and graduation rates.

Director Sarah Evans provided a brief summary regarding the proposed policy related to special education. As a result of the Consent Decree Agreement, the Board is required to adopt and implement a special education policy to provide that special education referrals, identifications and programs are operated in an educationally sound and non-discriminatory manner for African American and all other students. According to the terms of the agreement, the policy shall include a provision requiring the monitoring of the processes for referral, identification, assignment, review and dismissal of special education students.

To ensure compliance with the Agreement, Administrative Procedures have been developed in the areas of committee purpose, composition, meeting frequency, meeting subjects and task forces.

2009 Summer School Report

Director Judy Wiegand shared the following highlights regarding the 2009 summer school program for students in grades K-12. The summer school program provided extended year learning opportunities for students at each level. Title I Summer School provided acceleration assistance to students in grades K-5. Middle school programs offered courses for students who failed in the core course area of math or reading, or in need of academic acceleration. High school courses were provided for students that sought out recovery or acceleration of academic credit. Driver's Education was also included as part of the high school summer programming. In continuation of the District's goals for student achievement, the reports for summer school were

prepared by the Director of Secondary Education and the summer school principals at elementary, middle and high school levels.

Staffing for summer school programs involved 188 staff members and 6 administrators. The administrator at each level of summer school programming was responsible for providing staff development suited to the needs of their program.

<u>Financial Implications: (District)</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Projected:</u>
Salaries	\$233,928.21	
Benefits	\$ 17,807.12	
Purchased Services	\$ 1,018.05	
Supplies	\$ 5,956.18	
Total	\$258,709.56	<u>\$274,758.00</u>

<u>Financial Implications (Title I – Summer School Program):</u>		
Salaries	\$ 82,770.33	
Benefits	\$ 21,099.60	
Supplies	\$ 2,053.52	
Total	\$105,923.45	<u>\$110,000.00</u>

District & Title Funds combined: \$364,633.01

The original budget for summer school presented to the Board in March, 2009 was projected at \$274,758 for District funds and \$384,758 as the combined total. Title I summer school was completely funded through the Title 1 Grant. The District does receive reimbursement for Extended School Year (ESY) the following year to help offset costs incurred by the District. In FY09 the District received \$11,070.00 in extended school year reimbursement.

Board Study Sessions/Meetings

David Tomlinson shared that the Board participated in a very informative and productive team-building session in May 2009. If possible, all major action items will be discussed at a study/work session prior to inclusion as action items for a Regular Board meeting. The Regular Board meetings will focus primarily on taking formal action on agenda items. Also, public comments can be made at the beginning of the meetings.

Board of Education Proposed Policies

Director Judy Wiegand shared the following proposed policies which represent the continued effort to update the District's Policy and Procedures Manual. The proposed policies will be presented for approval at the October 12, 2009 Board Meeting.

Policy 270.15 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS – Public Participation

Indicates public comments can be made at the beginning of the meeting.

Policy 262 BOARD OF EDUCATION – Public Participation at Board Meetings Form

Indicates public comments can be made at the beginning of the meeting.

Action Agenda

Board of Education Proposed Policies/Procedures

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Tom Lockman, to approve the proposed policies as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

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

450.30 OPERATIONAL SERVICES – School Openings and Closings

Indicates agreement as part of the Consent Decree settlement.

625.05 INSTRUCTION – Substance Abuse

Indicates updates to the curriculum per the requirements set forth by ISBE.

625.06 INSTRUCTION – Consumer Education

Indicates updates to the curriculum per the requirements set forth by ISBE.

625.07 INSTRUCTION – Character Education

Requesting deletion of policy and including language in revised 625.05.

625.08 INSTRUCTION – Physical Education

Requesting deletion of policy and including language in revised 625.05.

625.09 INSTRUCTION – Social Studies

Requesting deletion of policy and including language in revised 625.05.

630.01 INSTRUCTION – Education of Children with Disabilities

Indicates agreement as part of the Consent Decree settlement.

720.12 STUDENTS – Restrictions on Publications and Written or Electronic Material

Indicates updates to the curriculum per the requirements set forth by ISBE.

811 SCHOOL – COMMUNITY RELATIONS – Education Equity Excellence Committee Policy

Indicates agreement as part of the Consent Decree settlement.

MTD Contract FY10 (Exhibit “A”)

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, to approve the Transportation Agreement between the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District and the Champaign Unit 4 School District for 2009-2010. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Director Barbara Ramsay provided a brief overview of the FY10 MTD contract. The district has provided transportation for high school students via an agreement with Champaign-Urbana MTD since 1977 and started transporting middle school students in 2004. This service has been a major assistance in getting students both to and from school at a reasonable cost to the district.

The annual cost to transport the district's secondary students in 2009-10 will be \$271,215. Last year it was \$258,300. Part of the increase is due to late starts and early dismissals due to testing.

Resolution Designating Hazardous Routes for 2009/10 School Year (Exhibit “B”)

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to adopt the Resolution Designating Hazardous Routes for the 2009-10 school year as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Director Barbara Ramsay spoke briefly regarding the State requirement that the Board of Education pass a resolution designating intersections/routes that are considered hazardous.

Consent Agenda

Tom Lockman moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve the Consent Agenda and to move Human Resource Changes to Closed Session. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Donation – Fox Development (Smart Boards at South Side Elementary)

The Board of Education accepted the donation of \$16,334 from Fox Development to be used by South Side Elementary School for Smart Boards and related equipment for classrooms. This donation is in need of approval by the Board of Education as it is \$5,000 or more in value

2009/2010 Application for Recognition of Schools

The Board of Education approved the 2009-10 Annual Application for Recognition of Schools form and submission of same to the Regional Office of Education for submission to the Illinois State Board of Education.

Annually, the district is required to forward information and assurances of compliance with provisions of School Code and Health/Life Safety through the Regional Office of Education to the Illinois State Board of Education. ISBE requires each individual school to complete the “Application for Recognition of Schools” form which includes the previously requested health/life safety information as well as the policy compliance. The documents were prepared for submission in order to meet this requirement. Review by the Board of Education is required by the Department of Recognition and Supervision of the Illinois State Board of Education.

Signature Authorizations (Exhibit “C”)

The Board of Education approved the change to the listing on the respective banking accounts 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 required updating due to a change in the principal at B T Washington Elementary School.

Minutes – July 21 & 29, 2009 and August 10, 2009 Board Meetings

The Board of Education approved the minutes as presented.

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

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

Executive Session

Tom Lockman moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, 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), Negotiations 120/2(c)(2), Property Acquisition 120/2(c)(5), 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 7. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 8:58 p.m.

Open Session

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 11:17 p.m.

Student Discipline

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, to expel student #640148 from Central High School for the first semester of the 2009/2010 school year and reassigned to READY and anger management services for violating Conduct Code #07 (Disruptive Behavior) and #24 (Threats to Staff) 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 7. Nays 0.

Human Resource Changes (Exhibit "E")

Tom Lockman moved, with a second by Stig Lanesskog, to approve the recommendation of paid administrative leave for employee #161841 through September 29, 2009. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Stig Lanesskog moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the Human Resource Changes as presented. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 1. Board member Novak voted Nay.

Administrative Reassignments/Appointments (Exhibit "F")

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Tom Lockman, to approve the appointment of Kenneth Kleber as Interim Assistant Principal at Centennial High School. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Stig Lanesskog moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to approve the appointment of Elizabeth deGruy as the Assistant Director of Special Education. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Acquisition of Land

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve the acquisition of two properties (2000 & 2002 Cynthia) near Garden Hills Elementary, and one property (609 E. Grove) near B.T. Washington Elementary. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Sue Grey moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

Board Approved: October 12, 2009