

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
December 13, 2010 Within the Boundaries of Said District

Regular Meeting

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

Board Members Present

Kristine Chalifoux, Stig Lanesskog, Scott MacAdam, Greg Novak, David Tomlinson

Board Members Absent

Sue Grey, Tom Lockman

Staff Members Present

Superintendent Arthur Culver, Deputy Superintendent Dorland Norris, Assistant Superintendent Beth Shepperd, Assistant Superintendent Judy Wiegand, Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas

Approval of Agenda

Member MacAdam moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to approve the agenda. The motion carried on voice vote.

Executive Session

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member Lanesskog, 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.

Board member Grey joined the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Open Session

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 6:00 p.m.

Guests

Representatives from CFT, local media and other interested persons

Public Comment

Patricia Brady spoke in support of the proposed self-contained gifted program.
Lynn Stuckey suggested conducting the kindergarten lottery in two phases for the two magnet schools.

Reports

STEP – Instructional Technology

Director Maria Alanis provided a brief overview of the program evaluation on instructional technology. Instructional Technology (IT) implements National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) within District curriculum and instruction, thus preparing students for 21st

century information literacy. Best practice supports integration with core curriculum, promoting engagement and active learning for all students through the use of differentiated instruction, hands-on learning, project-based instruction and “digital” field trips. Instructional Technology includes Career Technology Education (CTE) courses preparing students for career pathways in IT related fields.

The Assistant Director of Educational Technology provides staff leadership to ensure understanding and promotion of the District’s Instructional Technology goals and objectives. Technology tools and resources are purchased in each adoption cycle; costs fluctuate with the amount of technology required by specific content area research on best practices. Title IID Enhancing Education through Technology grant funds are used for professional development in the content areas. An executive summary of the S.T.E.P. evaluation was provided. The committee recommended that the District seek to implement the recommendations of the final evaluation. A copy of the S.T.E.P. evaluation document is available upon request.

Key Milestones – Discipline, Culture & Climate

Director Orlando Thomas shared key milestones related to discipline, culture and climate. The culture and climate of the District continues to be a focal point as the District strives to provide a positive, welcoming learning environment for all students. Efforts to improve the climate must involve community partnerships to utilize outside resources/programs to meet the needs of our diverse population. The committees and initiatives outlined in the plan address discipline, culture, and climate with regard to race, gender, SES, campus, and grade level.

The three approaches the District has adopted are Nurtured Heart, Positive Behavior Facilitation (PBF), and Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS). The financial implications per year are as follows:

- Nurtured Heart: \$63,500 (50% grant-funded/50% district-funded)
- PBF: \$78,415.30 (district-funded)
- PBIS: \$22,000 (district-funded)

Monitoring of discipline referrals and suspensions will be conducted on a monthly basis using District datamarts, and an end-of-the-year climate survey will be distributed to garner feedback from all Unit 4 staff.

Gifted Program

Director Sandra Duckworth spoke about the process and the work of the Gifted Task Force. A task force was created last spring to evaluate the delivery of gifted services in the district, with a special lens on gifted programming for the two Magnet Schools.

Each elementary school principal with a Gifted Self-Contained program was asked to include two parents, one Gifted teacher, and a principal as part of the Gifted Task Force Committee. Individuals from the community, University of Illinois, Regional Office of Education, a member of the Education Equity Excellent (EEE) Committee, and administrative district personnel were asked to participate. The following timeline/focus of the task force meetings was shared.

(August 26, 2010 – First GT Task Force meeting (18 members participated))

The first task force meeting was held to review the history of Unit 4’s Gifted/Talented program. This introductory meeting established the purpose and work of the task force. Additionally, a

timeline was developed for guiding the work of the committee and presenting a final recommendation to the Board of Education. Members formed focus groups to explore and report on alternative gifted models. Focus groups were asked to research four different gifted models and report out on the findings.

(September 30, 2010 – Second GT Task Force meeting: 13 members participated)

The second task force meeting focused on reports from the focus group. Four models were shared which included the cluster model, the IBO/PYP model, the self-contained model, and the academic acceleration model. Focus groups reported their gifted model discussions to the full committee. Pros and cons of each model were discussed. The IBO/PYP model was eliminated for recommendation since that is the theme for Garden Hills. The committee agreed that district-wide training would be costly and time consuming for consideration as a gifted model. Focus groups were to continue research and recommendation for the remaining three gifted models.

(October 27, 2010 – Third GT Task Force meeting: 15 members participated)

The committee met as a whole to discuss considerations of the remaining three models. The committee strongly leaned toward recommendation of the Cluster model and retaining the Gifted Self-contained model. The academic acceleration model could be used as a delivery strategy that could be used in both self-contained and/or clusters. The committee agreed that these two models should be explored with the Gifted Parent Advisory Committee members before presenting recommendation to Board of Education.

(November 18, 2010 – Fourth GT Task Force meeting: 15 members participated; 5 Gifted Parent Advisory; 3 guest – 23 in attendance)

The committee met as a whole to review recommendations of the Cluster and Gifted-Self Contained models. Garden Hills and BT Washington Magnet programs were briefly described by the principals. A review of the district's commitment to expansion of gifted education was outlined. It was understood and accepted that the recommendation outlined below would be presented at a parent forum prior to recommendation to the Board of Education.

The District's decision, based on committee research, was:

- retain all current District Gifted self-contained classrooms,
- pilot a Grade 2 cluster model at Garden Hills, as well as maintain all Garden Hills gifted self-contained classrooms,
- dissolve BT Washington's 2/3 Gifted self-contained classroom to make a straight grade 2 self-contained classroom

(December 7, 2010 –GT Parent Informational Forum)

Parents of all students participating in the District's Gifted program were invited to a parent information meeting in order to update them of the work of the Gifted Task Force and specific program recommendations. The meeting was facilitated by Dorland Norris and Sandra Duckworth. Asia Hamilton-Fuller and Cheryl O'Leary explained their Magnets and how gifted services would be delivered in their buildings. A question and answer period followed the presentation.

Quarterly meetings at Garden Hills will be held to assess the effectiveness of the pilot cluster model at second grade.

The Superintendent's recommendation:

- retain all current District Gifted self-contained classrooms,
- pilot a Grade 2 cluster model at Garden Hills, as well as maintain all Garden Hills gifted self-contained classrooms (configuration to be determined)
- dissolve BT Washington's 2/3 gifted self-contained classroom and create a straight second grade self-contained gifted classroom

Contractor Bidding Options for Westview, Bottenfield, Kenwood & Robeson

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas shared that now that the order of improvement at the four elementary schools has been determined, it is appropriate to consider how design services and actual construction might take place. The Board of Education selected OWP/P as the architect and committed to utilizing a general contractor on the four projects. The next is whether to ask OWP/P to complete the designs at all four schools prior to bidding (or whether design is done each year and then each project bid incrementally). Stu Brodsky and I believe there are a number of benefits to completing the design for all four schools and then coupling them together in one bid to one contractor. The design of the four schools would need to begin in January 2011 for completion by April 2012. Stu Brodsky, OWP/P, shared the benefits to working with one contractor as opposed to three or four.

Review of Estimated Funds Available for Westview, Bottenfield, Kenwood & Robeson Projects

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas provided a brief overview of the estimated funds for the Westview, Bottenfield, Kenwood and Robeson projects. At this time there are still several unknowns as the district attempts to estimate the remaining funds that might be available for the four elementary schools. The biggest unknown is the cost of the land for a new high school. An analysis was provided which showed that the bond funds from the sales tax might be sufficient. This, however, includes estimated grant funding of \$1 million and a carryover of \$500,000 from the BT Washington Project. One option that has been discussed by the Board of Education is to only complete three of the elementary school projects. Also included in the analysis was the \$4.8 million being spent at Robeson. Of that amount, \$1.8 million is for the geothermal system. As such, if this Project is not pursued, approximately \$3 million would be available to assist in completing the other projects.

Action Agenda

Public Hearing/Adoption of Resolution for 2010 Tax Levy (2011/2012 School Year (Exhibit "A"))

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas shared that the Truth-in-Taxation Act requires that when a school district's proposed tax levy exceeds the previous year's levy by 5%, a public notice of such intent must be advertised. The appropriate resolution of intent to increase the levy by more than 5% was approved by the Board of Education on November 29, 2010 and published on December 5, 2010 in the News-Gazette as required. The 2010 total projected tax levy is \$72,993,287. Total projected EAV is \$1,986,139,321. The levy requested of \$74,268,287 is substantially higher because EAV and the amount of new construction are only estimates today.

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member Grey, to open the Public Hearing. Comments from the general public should be heard at this time.

A public hearing was held at 7:22 p.m. There were no comments or questions.

The public hearing was closed at 7:22 p.m. The Board resumed its regular agenda of business.

Member MacAdam moved, with a second by Member Novak, to approve the proposed tax levy adoption as stated in the “Resolution Concerning and Effecting Tax Levy for 2010” and directed the Chief Financial Officer to file the Certificate of Tax Levy with the County Clerk prior to the last Tuesday in December. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

School Improvement Plans for Dr. Howard & Stratton Elementary

Member Grey moved, with a second by Member MacAdam, to approve and submit the e-plans for Stratton Elementary and Dr. Howard Elementary to the Illinois State Board of Education. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

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 SY 2014 in reading and math. The Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) minimum target for SY 2009 was 70% meets or exceeds, for SY 2010 77.5% meets or exceeds. Title I schools that fail to make AYP for two consecutive years, in the same subject, have been identified for Title I school improvement. Both Stratton Elementary and Dr. Howard Elementary have been identified and are required to have a current improvement plan on file with ISBE, electronic e-plan. The e-plans address the deficiencies in reading for both schools, and focus on data/analysis, action plan development, review and implementation.

Presentation of 2009/10 Audit by Baker Tilly

Member Lanesskog moved, with a second by Member Novak to accept the audit report as presented by Baker Tilly. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas provided a brief update on the current financial status of the District. Administration is pleased with the independent auditor’s opinion on the 2009-10 financial statements. For the sixth straight year the District received a “clean” or unqualified opinion that the Financial Statements were prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. This is the best opinion that an audit client can receive.

The “clean” opinion will result in lower interest rates on bonded debt, which may be sold in the future. Rating agencies like Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s take the “unqualified” opinion into consideration when issuing a rating on a governmental unit. A positive audit equals a positive rating and, thus, lower interest rates.

Baker Tilly Auditor John Rossi provided a brief report on the 09/10 audit which included financial highlights; an overview of the financial statements, district-wide financial analysis, and district-wide revenues by source and by function.

Contract Addendum for Kenwood HVAC System

Member Grey moved, with a second by Member MacAdam, to approve the contract addendum with Control Technology and Solutions for the Alternate Proposal for the Kenwood HVAC System. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas spoke briefly about the contract addendum for the Kenwood HVAC system. The Board of Education previously advertised for geothermal systems at four

elementary schools. Attorney Brian Braun has offered an opinion that it is legal to substitute a high efficiency boiler/chiller system in place of a geothermal system at Kenwood. This will result in a substantial savings to taxpayers. The original contract signed with Control Technology and Solutions gave the Board of Education until January to decide whether it wished to pursue the alternate proposal. The original contract which included the geothermal system at Kenwood was for \$6,154,716. The cost of the geothermal system at Kenwood was \$1,021,163. The final cost of the boiler/chiller system at Kenwood is \$741,375. Therefore, the contract will be amended by the difference (\$1,021,163 minus \$741,375) of \$279,788. Also note the cost of \$741,375 is \$38,845 less than CTS estimated on September 13, 2010. Mark Graves has previously appeared before the Board of Education to explain the benefit of using the alternate approach. Brian Braun has reviewed the contract addendum and finds it acceptable. The result of the addendum to Control Technology and Solutions contract is a reduction of \$279,788.

BoardDocsLT Proposal

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member Grey, to approve Option 3 at a first-year cost of \$11,570. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

At the Board of Education's direction, administration researched options regarding conducting paperless board meetings in order to improve communications, reduce costs, and to ease the process of producing board meeting packets. BoardDocs provides low-maintenance, turn-key paperless governance solutions, unique, state-of-the-art solutions that save taxpayers money, reduce staff time, improve board effectiveness, increase transparency in governance and have a positive effect on the environment. BoardDocs has dramatically reduced the need for paper agenda packets in school districts, city councils and corporate boards across the country, eliminating tens of millions of pages that were being printed and saving organizations up to tens of thousands of dollars annually.

Three on-site training sessions (two consecutive days) which include 3-5 hour document publisher training session for administrators; two-hour instructor-led session for Board members; training manuals will be provided for each attendee; and an IT implementation manual will be provided for the Technology Department.

		Option 1 Mini-computers	Option 2 Laptops	Option 3 iPads
BoardDocs LT Subscription	Annual subscription cost	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$2,700
Travel, training/ongoing training & software updates	One-time cost	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Cost for BoardDocs LT		\$3,700	\$3,700	\$3,700
Eight (8) mini-computers (\$300/mini)	One-time cost	\$2,400		
Mini-computer carrying bags (\$19/bag)		\$ 160		
Eight (8) full laptops (\$800/laptop)	One-time cost		\$6,400	
Laptop carrying bags (\$50/bag)			\$ 400	
iPads (less expensive for a 10 pack) 16 GB				\$5,580
iPad carrying cases				\$ 390

Computers for Deputy/Assistant Superintendents, CFO & Administrative Assistant	Available	-0-	-0-	-0-
Cabling	One-time cost	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400
New projector	One-time cost	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Equipment/Material - Cost for Board		\$4,300	\$8,700	\$7,870
Total Cost (implementation first year)		\$8,000	\$12,400	\$11,570

Consent Agenda

Member Grey moved, with a second by Member Novak, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

The Board of Education approved the following Consent Agenda items:

2011/12 High School Course Proposals/Handbook Changes

The Board of Education approved the high school proposals/handbook changes as presented. Consistent with the District's focus to provide educational opportunities that are relevant and stimulating to students, the faculties of Central and Centennial High Schools recommended revisions to course offerings for the 2011-2012 school year. These changes were presented after an extensive process of curriculum evaluation by the building principals, individual departments, and counselors of both schools. The revisions include course deletions, proposals for pilots, and clarification/explanation of both general information and specific course descriptions. A summary outlining proposed changes was provided.

Board of Education Proposed Policy (720 STUDENT WELFARE - Food Allergy

The Board of Education approved the proposed food allergy policy as presented.

Building Needs at Kenwood, Bottenfield & Westview

The Board of Education approved the remodeling and additions in the following order: Westview, Bottenfield, Kenwood. At the November 29, 2010 Board of Education Meeting, Deputy Superintendent Norris recommended that the buildings be renovated and enlarged in the following order: Westview, Bottenfield, Kenwood. The recommendation was based on her observation that Westview was the most hampered from an educational standpoint (with Bottenfield and Kenwood following).

Resolution Abating Property Taxes Levied for Year 2010 (Pay Debt Service on Outstanding Bonds – Series 1997 & 2006B) (Exhibit "B")

The Board of Education adopted the resolution which confirms the Board of Education's promise to abate all principal and interest owed for the 2010 tax year on the 1997 and 2006B Bonds (\$2,839,936).

The District committed to the residents of the District that it would abate all of the principal and interest owed on the outstanding Bonds of the District previously issued for construction and renovation of Building purposes. This includes the Series 1997 and Series 2006B Bonds. The resolution confirmed that the District will abate the property taxes levied as promised to District residents. The total amount of the abatement is \$2,839,936. 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, 2011.

Resolution Abating Property Taxes Levied for Year 2010 (Pay Debt Service on Outstanding Bonds – Series 2010A & 2010B) (Exhibit “C”)

The Board of Education adopted the resolution to abate all principal and interest owed for the 2010 tax year on the 2010A and 2010B Bonds (\$2,001,970).

The District committed to the residents of the District 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 and Series 2010B Bonds. 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 confirmed that the District will abate the property taxes levied. The total amount of the abatement is \$3,092,893 – \$1,090,823 (BAB reimbursement) = \$2,001,970. 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, 2011.

Resolution Abating Property Taxes Levied for Year 2010 (Pay Debt Service on Outstanding Bonds – Series 2010C & 2010D) (Exhibit “D”)

The Board of Education adopted the resolution to abate all principal and interest owed for the 2010 tax year on the 2010C and 2010D Bonds (\$846,831).

The District committed to the residents of the District 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 2010C and Series 2010D Bonds. 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 \$1,302,817 - \$455,986 (BAB reimbursement) = \$846,831. 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, 2011.

Contract for Architectural Services at Carrie Busey

The Board of Education approved the contract with OWP/P for design services on the new Carrie Busey.

The contract with OWP/P for architectural services on the new Carrie Busey School has been reviewed by Attorney Paul Millichap. One significant change in the contract as opposed to the BTW contract is that OWP/P will be providing cost estimating services for a fee of \$50,000. This should prevent the situation that transpired at BT Washington where the cost estimates were much higher than projected by the construction manager. The re-design fees in that case were passed on to the Board of Education. Under the proposed contract with OWP/P for Carrie Busey, should this situation arise again, the architect will perform re-design services at no additional cost.

Fee Summary:

Basic Services	\$1,224,500
Pre-design	(included in Basic Services)
Programming	(included in Basic Services)

Rendering Images (included in Basic Services)

Cost Estimating	\$50,000
LEED Services	\$95,000

Consultants

Kitchen Design Services	\$14,200
Acoustical Engineering	\$15,975
Hardware Consultant	\$2,050
Landscape Architect	\$7,700
Total Fees	\$1,409,425

Bid Centennial High School Front Entry Stair Tread & Landing Rubber Floor Tile Replacement (Exhibit "E")

The Board of Education awarded the bid to Commercial Floor Covering, Inc in the amount \$13,346.00.

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, formal requests were sent to seven vendors for Centennial High School's front entry work on the stair treads and the landing rubber floor tile replacement. Three bids were received and opened on November 30, 2010. The lowest bid was from Commercial Floor Covering, Inc. for \$13,346.00 which will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund.

Minutes – November 1, 8 & 22, 2010 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 Human Resource Changes as presented.

Student Discipline

Member MacAdam moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to expel student #570232 from Central High School for the remainder of the 2010/2011 school year and the entire 2011/12 school year and should be reassigned to READY for violating Conduct Code #34 (Weapon-Related Activities – Other Than Guns & Explosives) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The motion carried on roll call. The student may return to his/her regularly assigned school following the expulsion period. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Abstained 1. Member Grey abstained.

Member Novak moved, with a second by Member Lanesskog, to expel student #600395 from Franklin Middle School for the remainder of the 2010/2011 school year and should be reassigned to READY for violating Conduct Code #18 (Physical Confrontation with Staff) and Code #19 (Physical Confrontation with Student) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The motion carried on roll call. The student may return to his/her regularly assigned school following the expulsion period. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Abstained 1. Member Grey abstained.

Member MacAdam moved, with a second by Member Chalifoux, to expel student #203287 from Edison Middle School for the remainder of the 2010/2011 school year and should be reassigned to READY for violating Conduct Code #18 (Physical Confrontation with Staff) and Code #19 (Physical Confrontation with Student) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The motion carried on roll call. The student may return to his/her regularly assigned school following the expulsion period. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Abstained 1. Member Grey abstained.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Member MacAdam moved, with a second by Member Lanesskog, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

Board Approved: January 10, 2011