

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
April 14, 2008 Within the Boundaries of Said District

Regular Meeting

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

Board Members Present

Nathaniel Banks, Kristine Chalifoux, Sue Grey, Scott MacAdam, Greg Novak, David Tomlinson

Board Members Absent

Arlene Blank

Staff Members Present

Superintendent Arthur Culver, Deputy Superintendent Dorland Norris, Assistant Superintendent Beth Shepperd, Assistant Superintendent Michael McFarland, Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas, Special Projects Administrator Joe Davis

Guests

Representatives from CFT, and local media and other interested persons

Approval of Agenda

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried on voice vote. The 2008 Social Science Textbook Adoption was moved to the Action Agenda.

Public Comment

Concerns/complaints were shared regarding the trivialization of the Consent Decree by a Board member; the increased enrollment at Centennial High School for the 08/09 school year; a personnel issue; and the sales tax proposal and the impact on families that earn \$50,000/year.

Board President Dave Tomlinson apologized and stated that he in no way meant to trivialize the Consent Decree.

PTA Council

Brian Minsker thanked Board member Greg Novak for explaining the Vision Committee process at the April PTA Council meeting.

Board

Sue Grey shared her concerns regarding the 08/09 school calendars and asked that the Board revisit the calendars at the April 28 Board meeting.

Reports

Academic Spotlight – South Side Celebrates Writing Successes

Principal Rhonda Kruse shared the successes of South Side students. She stated that the District adopted the Lucy Calkins Units of Study in 2004 for the primary grades. The Intermediate Units

of Study was adopted in 2006 when it became available. The District applied for and was accepted as an affiliate site with the Reading/Writing Project in 2004. As an affiliate site, South Side has access to the project website and the school continues to work with writing staff developers both during the school year and in summer institutes. During the 2006-07 school year, South Side was selected to participate in staff development training.

As part of the 2007 Chancellor's Academy, the South Side team wrote a Literacy Plan to promote the literacy development of all students. Last year a partnership began between South Side and Haney Yoon under the guidance of Jill Flodstrom who is the elementary language arts coordinator. South Side continued working with Haney this year through the Center for Education in Small Urban Communities project. South Side is also currently working with Haney Yoon to provide teachers with on-going professional development in the area of writing.

The Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Primary Writers curriculum consists of a daily writing workshop in which the students participate in a mini-lesson, conferences, partnerships, writing folders and work time. The Units of Study allow teachers to plan and organize a sequence of instruction so that over time, students successfully tackle new and increasingly difficult challenges. Poetry was the focus for the month of April and South Side students showcased some of their poetry writings.

Partnership with Regional Office of Education

Assistant Superintendent Beth Shepperd welcomed and introduced ROE Regional Superintendent Jane Quinlan, Assistant Superintendent Barbara Daly, and Consultant Joe Tomlinson. The Regional Office of Education of Champaign/Ford Counties has initiated several new partnerships to serve participating Districts. Regional Superintendent Jane Quinlan and her staff shared information related to attendance improvement, truancy programs, HR Solutions, online applications, as well as other services provided.

Champaign Unit 4 Schools participate in the HR Solutions partnership, General ASP online applications and in the truancy review board. The District also has an intergovernmental agreement with ROE to fingerprint all substitute teachers in the Region. The cost of fingerprinting subs who work in multiple districts is shared by those districts. This results in a savings to Unit 4 for fingerprinting costs.

The financial implications for Unit 4 are as follows:

- Participation in the General ASP online application process is \$1,600.00 annually.
- Participation in HR Solutions is \$6,305.50 annually.
- The District saves approximately \$1,300 annually in fingerprint costs.

Report from Demographer (Exhibit "A")

Board President Dave Tomlinson stated that the District will continue to make a good faith effort to fulfill the North Side Seats requirement.

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas introduced Jerry McKibben and Matthew Cropper. The District previously contracted with Jerry McKibben and Matthew Cropper from McKibben Demographics/Cropper GIS to perform a ten-year demographic study of Unit 4. Mr. Cropper provided an overview of the Executive Summary, which consisted of five phases (data

collection; data development, validation & integration; map development; map analysis and demographic services).

The Executive Summary included the following information:

- The District's fertility rates over the life of the forecasts are below replacement levels.
- Most non-college in-migration to the District occurs in the 0 to 10 and 25 to 35 age groups.
- The locally born 18 to 24 year old populations continue to leave the District, going to college or moving to other urban areas.
- The primary focus causing the District's enrollment to grow at a slow rate is the slowing rate of out-migration in the 18 to 24 year old age group and the slightly increasing in-migration rate for younger families.
- Changes in year-to-year enrollment, particularly after 2010, largely will be due to larger cohorts entering and moving through the system in conjunction with smaller cohorts leaving the system.
- As in-migration of young families continues and larger grade cohorts enter into the school system, total enrollment will continue to grow. However, enrollment will increase at a slower rate than during the last several years, particularly after 2014. After 2015, the District's elementary enrollment will begin a slow decline.
- As the District continues to have less new home construction due to the weakening of the housing market, the rate and magnitude of existing home sales will become the increasingly dominant factor affecting the amount of population and enrollment change.
- Total enrollment is projected to increase by 119 students, or 1.3%, between 2007-08 and 2012-13. Total enrollment will grow by 106 students, or 1.1%, from 2012-13 to 2017-18.
- Over the life of the forecast (2007-08 through 2017-18), total enrollment is projected to increase by 225 students. However, the projected growth between planning areas is not consistent. For instance, the northern areas of the District (Areas 1-5) are projected to gain 464 total students, where the southern areas (Areas 6-12) are projected to decline by 239 total students.
- The racial composition of the District has changed historically, and is expected to further change in the future. Over the life of the forecast (2007-08 through 2017-18), White enrollment is projected to decline by 885 students, Black enrollment is projected to gain by 28 students, and Hispanic enrollment is projected to gain by 499 students.

The Demographic Study and the Executive Summary will be posted on the Unit 4 web site. Both documents can be viewed by accessing the following links:

<http://www.champaignschools.org/ChampaignUnit4DemographicStudy.pdf>

<http://www.champaignschools.org/Demographic%20Executive%20Summary.pdf>

Consent Decree Update – North Side Seats

Chief Financial Officer Gene Logas provided a brief update regarding the North Side Seats. Since September, the North Side Seats Committee comprised of Nathaniel Banks, Greg Novak, Arthur Culver, Sally Scott, Carol Ashley, Imani Bazzell and Thom Moore have met twice a month to select a school site north of University (per the Federal Consent Decree). The goal was to locate a tract of land that could be utilized to satisfy the Consent Decree. With the City's assistance, eleven sites were initially identified. That list was shortened to five potential sites which are 1) Columbia & Stratton sites – possible Great Campus; the Great Campus plans seeks

to integrate the Early Childhood Center, Stratton Elementary School and a renovated or new Columbia School site architecturally, technically and programmatically into One Great Campus – a demonstration school designed to honor and develop the intellectual, social-emotional and cultural visions and needs of Pre-School – 8th grade students, staff, families and community; 2) Judah Christian site which was recently removed from consideration; 3) Atkins property at Boardwalk & Interstate – possible elementary school; 4) Church of the living God property and surrounding parcels – possible elementary school; and 5) Bloomington Road and McKinley Avenue which was recently removed from consideration.

Mark Ritz, BLDD architect, provided a brief presentation regarding potential site plans and estimated costs.

Planning Process for Long-Range Facilities & Infrastructure Plan

Board member Greg Novak announced the following upcoming meeting dates:

April 16, 2008, Working Group Meeting, 7 p.m., Beckman Institute

April 19, 2008, Working Group Meeting, 10 a.m., location TBD

April 24, 2008, Vision Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., location TBD

Board of Education Proposed Policy (ATTENDANCE – Schools of Choice Seat Assignment for Elementary Schools – Grades K-5)

This item was pulled from the agenda.

AA/EEO Audit & Report

This item was pulled from the agenda.

Action Agenda

Proposed Board of Education Policy/Procedure (SUPERINTENDENT – Evaluation)

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, to approve the policy. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 5. Nays 1. Greg Novak voted Nay.

Dr. Judy Wiegand presented the proposed policies/procedures that represent the District's continued effort to update the Policy and Procedures Manual.

Policy 315.05 SUPERINTENDENT – Evaluation

Additional language was added to clarify the timeline for setting goals/objectives for the Superintendent's evaluation.

Policy 315.05R SUPERINTENDENT – Contract and Evaluation

Changes to the regulations for the Superintendent's evaluation were made to align with the Illinois School Code.

Resolution – County Schools Facilities Tax (Exhibit "A")

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Greg Novak, to adopt the Resolution – County School Facility Occupation Tax sets forth reasons for consideration, as well as actions of the Board and Staff. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Board President Dave Tomlinson read the Resolution into the Minutes. The "Resolution – County School Facility Occupation Tax" was prepared for the Board of Education's deliberation.

In the Resolution, a number of points were provided that the Board considered, many of which will benefit both taxpayers and students:

1. The county wide sales tax revenues could be used to reduce the dependence on local real estate taxes.
2. The ability to address building needs as identified by the Vision Committee and the Board.
3. The resources to meet certain requirements of the Consent Decree including the provision of additional classroom space on the north side of the District.
4. Address building, fire prevention and safety needs of the District.
5. Build other schools, if recommended by the Vision Committee.

The resolution also commits the District's Board and Administrative Staff to undertake a number of steps prior to finalizing a recommendation to the County Board to place on a county wide sales tax referendum on the ballot. The majority of these activities involve meetings with other Board Members and Superintendents of other School Districts, the County Board, the Mayor and City Manger of Champaign to educate them on the specifics of the County School Facility Occupation Tax.

A resolution drafted by Chapman and Cutler was also provided which is the official resolution the District would pass if it requests the County to include the Referendum Question on the ballot. The Board of Education desired to receive public input and wished to undertake the before mentioned meetings prior to any action on the County Resolution.

2008 Social Science Textbook Adoption

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam to approve the 2008 Social Science Textbook Adoption in the amount of \$700,000. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes. 4. Nays 1. Abstained 1. Greg Novak voted Nay. Dave Tomlinson abstained.

During the 2007-08 school year, elementary and secondary teachers reviewed resources to support the newly adopted social science curriculum. After reviewing various materials, the proposed adoption was submitted for the Board's review and approval.

Staff development will be developed and implemented by the K-12 coordinator and building level leaders. Focus will be given to the following areas: developing essential questions to drive instruction, how the use the resources of the new Social Science programs to support the curriculum and students to the fullest, how to incorporate teaching of social justice issues, differentiated instruction in social science, the use of primary resources, content area literacy. Secondary support will be provided by the publishers for the life of the adoption (6 years).

The total cost to the District for the social science adoption is \$700,000. The breakdown by grade level is as follows:

Elementary	\$247,405.85
Middle Level	\$ 99,030.09
High School	\$353,564.06

In addition to District funds, materials will be purchased through the Illinois Adoption Loan Program at a cost of \$169,309 bringing the total cost of the adoption to \$869,309.

Consent Agenda

Nathaniel Banks moved, with a second by Greg 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:

Donations (Skateland)

The Board of Education accepted the donation of Winter Break skating passes from Skateland valued at \$37,814.00. The donation requires approval by the Board of Education as it is \$5,000 or more in value. Students at Barkstall, Bottenfield, Carrie Busey, Dr. Howard, Garden Hills, Kenwood, Robeson, South Side, Stratton, Washington, Westview, Edison, Franklin and Jefferson received the skating passes valued at \$37,814.00

Bids (Paper Supplies; Sanitary Hauling; Yearbook Printing) (Exhibit "B")

The Board of Education approved awarding the sanitary hauling bid to Area Disposal for \$8,079.25/per month; the paper bid to the lowest qualified bidder for \$220,846.57; and the yearbook printing bid to Walsworth Publishing for \$45,400 for FY09.

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 solicited for sanitary hauling, paper supplies and yearbook printing. Staff recommended the bid for sanitary hauling be awarded to the low bidder, Area Disposal Service for 2008-2009 for \$8,079.25 per month with an option for continued service in 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 based on satisfactory performance. For paper supplies, an item-by-item award to the lowest qualified bidder was recommended totaling \$220,846.57. For yearbook printing, it was recommended that the bid go to the lowest bidder, Walsworth Publishing for 2008-2009 for \$45,400 with an option for 2009-2010 and 2010 and 2011 based on satisfactory performance.

For sanitary hauling, the monthly charge of \$8,079.25 will be charged to the O & M Fund in the FY09 budget. The prior year's monthly bid (the last year of a three-year bid) was \$4,862.81. The initial cost of \$220,846.57 will be charged to the warehouse inventory account. As the schools order the items, the schools expenditure accounts will be charged. The prior year amount for paper supplies was \$274,805.59. The cost of \$45,400 for yearbook printing will be charged to the high school's yearbook activity accounts. The prior year cost for yearbook printing was \$62,008.

Modification of 2007/2008 School Calendar (Exhibit "C")

The Board of Education approved June 3, 2008 as the last official day of school for both the Regular and Balanced calendar schools for the 2007-08 school-year.

Annually, the administration requests that the Board adjust the adopted calendar to set the last official day of school. As required by the Illinois State Board of Education, the calendar adopted by the Board includes five (5) emergency weather days. Since the District used two (2) of these emergency weather days, Thursday, January 24 and Friday, February 1, the last day of this school year will be June 3, 2008.

Minutes – February 5, 11 & 25, 2008 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.

Human Resource Changes (Exhibit “E”)

The Board of Education approved the Human Resource changes as presented.

Executive Session

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Nathaniel Banks, 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), Student Discipline 120/2(c)(9) and Pending Litigation 120/2(c)(11) related to 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; and Henry v. Anderson et al. Case No. 02-CH-300. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 10:59 p.m.

Open Session

The Board convened into *Open Session* at 11:45 p.m.

Student Discipline

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Sue Grey, to expel student #640856 from Centennial High School for the remainder of the 2007/2008 school year and the entire 2008/2009 school year and reassigned to Columbia Alternative Center for violating Conduct Code #08 (Drug-Related Activities) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to the regularly assigned school following the expulsion period, provided the student has completed the requirements of the alternative school. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Kristine Chalifoux moved, with a second by Sue Grey, to expel student #631484 from Edison Middle School for the remainder of the 2007/2008 school year and the first semester of the 2008/2009 school year and reassigned to Columbia Alternative Center for violating Conduct Code #18 (Physical Confrontation with Staff) of the Champaign Unit #4 Student Code of Conduct. The student may return to the regularly assigned school following the expulsion period, provided the student has completed the requirements of the alternative school. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Administrative Appointment – Principal of Central High School (Exhibit “F”)

Sue Grey moved with a second by Kristine Chalifoux to approve the appointment of Joe Williams as principal of Central High School. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

Complaint Against Certified Employee (Exhibit “G”)

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to extend administrative paid leave through April 28, 2008 for employee #161389. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 0.

4/14/08

Regular Meeting

Adjournment

There being no further business, Kristine Chalifoux moved, with a second by Nathaniel Banks, to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

Board approved: June 9, 2008