

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
July 14, 2008 Within the Boundaries of Said District

Regular Meeting

Board President Dave Tomlinson called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 7:01 p.m.

Board Members Present

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

Staff Members Present

Superintendent Arthur Culver, Deputy Superintendent Dorland Norris, Assistant Superintendent
Beth Shepperd, Special Projects Administrator Joe Davis

Approval of Agenda

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve the amended agenda. The
motion carried on voice vote. Potential Litigation was added to Closed Session.

Guests

Representatives from CFT, and local media and other interested persons

Public Comment

Devin Chambers expressed concerns regarding the education of African American children, the
treatment of special education students, and the allocation of special education funds.

Reports

Consent Decree Update – Kindergarten Lottery Results

Director Dedrick Martin shared the results of the Kindergarten Lottery. The Champaign Unit 4
School District adopted the Schools of Choice program as its student assignment method. The
Kindergarten Lottery is conducted each year during the month of March as a part of the Schools
of Choice program. The lottery gives parents/guardians of all students the opportunity to apply
for admission to a variety of elementary schools, each with its own unique learning environment.

Summary Results:

Total Kindergarten Students: 654
Total Lottery Applicants: 638
Total Pre-Assigned: 26* (84.6%)
First Choice Assignments: 550 (86.2%)
Second Choice Assignments: 37 (5.8%)
Third Choice Assignments: 21 (3.3%)
Total Lottery Choice Assigned: 608 (95.3%)
Unassigned: 30** (4.7%)

Six of the District's eleven elementary schools were over chosen. These over chosen schools
have a waiting list as follows: Barkstall (38), Bottenfield (28), Stratton (15), Westview (4),
Robeson (2) and Kenwood (1)

*Pre-Assignments are made for select students with Individualized Education Plans and recommended kindergarten retentions (84.6% of these Kindergarten Pre-Assignments were recommended retentions).

**Unassigned refers to the number of students who did not receive an initial assignment in the lottery system. These students represent the number of students in the system whose 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices were schools to which they have no proximity/priority status.

Dr. Michael Alves conducts the Kindergarten Lottery process in conjunction with the staff at the Family Information Center (FIC).

The cost of the Kindergarten Lottery process is part of the ongoing consultant costs for the services of Dr. Michael Alves.

Board of Education Proposed Policies/Procedures (Special Programs & Accommodations – Elementary Enrichment & Self-Contained Middle School Honors & High School Honors/Advanced Placement; Student Records/Maintenance; Complaint Process)
Director Judy Wiegand presented the proposed policies/procedures which represent the continued effort to update the District's Policy and Procedures Manual.

Policy 296 PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

Indicates that the Superintendent will make the final judgment, unless the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint.

Policy 500.17 GENERAL PERSONNEL – Public Complaints about Personnel

Indicates that if the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, the Board shall make the final judgment.

Policy 500.17R PERSONNEL – Administrative Procedures

Indicates that if the Superintendent is the subject of the complaint, it shall be the Board's decision to refuse to process the complaint for one or more of the aforementioned reasons.

Policy 710.17 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES – Student Complaints and Grievances

Indicates that a teacher shall have the right to union or legal representation when meeting with administration.

Policy 855.02 PUBLIC COMPLAINTS – Personnel

Indicates correction of title, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources.

Policy 735 STUDENT RECORDS – Maintenance

Indicates that a notice will be given in the newspaper but not mailed to the student's last known address.

Policy 630.07R -SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND ACCOMODATIONS – Elementary Enrichment and Self-Contained Middle School Honors and High School Advanced Placement/Upper Level Courses

Indicates the procedures and regulations in place at the middle and high school level to support African American and other underserved student populations in self-contained gifted, Advanced Placement and honors level courses.

Planning Process for Long-Range Facilities & Infrastructure Plan

Kristine Chalifoux announced that all community forums have been held and the Working Groups are creating the draft plans. Draft documents can be accessed on the web. A Vision Committee/Working Group meeting will be held on July 17, 2008 at 7 p.m. at Beckman Institute. Information can be accessed at the following web site: www.GreatSchoolsTogether.com

Action Agenda

RFP: Social Science Adoption – Technology (Exhibit “A”)

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Sue Grey, to award the Social Science Adoption – Technology to the recommended bidders totaling \$60,823.53. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

Director Judy Wiegand provided a brief overview on the RFP for the Social Science Adoption – Technology. Board policy states that bids or RFP’s will be solicited when items are expected to exceed a total of \$10,000. RFP’s for the Social Science Adoption – Technology were sent to twelve vendors and six vendors responded.

Staff recommends the award for the Social Science Adoption – Technology RFP be awarded as follows: Bradfield’s - \$47,850.98 for LCD Projectors and Universal Ceiling Mounts, CIM Audio Visual - \$1,518.00 for VGA – Cable, CDW-G - \$625 for VGA Amplifier and Long’s Electronics - \$10,829.55 for LCD Projector Carts. The costs will be charged to the 2008-09 Social Science Adoption budget (\$34,995.53) and the Title 1 budget (\$25,828.00).

Consent Agenda

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Arlene Blank, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Board of Education approved the following Consent Agenda items:

Donations (Skating Passes – Skateland)

The Board of Education approved donation submitted by Skateland for Summer Break skating passes for students at Barkstall, Bottenfield, Carrie Busey, Dr. Howard, Garden Hills, Kenwood, Robeson, South Side, Stratton, Washington, Westview, Edison, Franklin and Jefferson valued at \$37,356.00. A donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 or more in value requires Board approval.

FY09 Reading Improvement Block Grant

The Board of Education approved the FY2009 Reading Improvement grant in the amount of \$304,495.

The Reading Improvement Program 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. Previously, the District has utilized these grant funds to provide salary and benefits to Language Arts and Reading Recovery teachers in the elementary schools. The current grant application for \$304,495 will allow us to continue to offer the Reading Recovery program and literacy support. Total FTE funded by the grant will be 5.5. Teachers participate in monthly professional development. No new staffing is requested. The grant will provide for salary increases and fringe benefits.

Reading scores are at the core of necessary cognitive tools for student success in school. The Reading Recovery program has been a successful, proven program that enables over 85% of the students served to achieve grade level performance in reading. Student progress will be evaluated through the discontinuation rate in Reading Recovery, ISAT, and norm-referenced test results and an assessment summary in each participating building School Improvement Plan.

Signature Authorizations (Exhibit "B)

The Board of Education approved the signature authorizations on the respective banking accounts, and the Jefferson attendance center manager position for the District for fiscal year 2008-2009. Allowing the attendance center manager to sign checks will avoid unnecessary delays in operations at the building level. Once the position is filled, a retroactive approval will be brought back to the Board. By direction of the Board, two signatures are required on all checks written against checking accounts for the District.

Request to Attend Professional Conference

The Board of Education authorized all necessary and proper expenses for individuals attending the 2008 Joint Annual Conference that will be held November 21-23, 2008 in Chicago. In accordance with Board Policy, a request was submitted for Board of Education members to attend the 2008 Joint Annual Conference sponsored by the Illinois Association of School Administrators, the Illinois Association of School Boards, and the Illinois Association of School Business Officials.

Fee Schedule – Freedom of Information Act

The Board of Education approved the fee schedule for documents requested under the FOIA as outlined below. Annually, by law, the District is charged with the setting of reasonable fees for the reproduction and certification of requested documents available to the public via the provisions of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

Documents may be provided free of charge or at a reduced cost if it is determined that the requested information primarily benefits the general public. There is no charge for a search or review of records.

The recommended fee schedule for 2008-09 is listed below. These recommendations reflect no increase from the previous school year:

<u>Photocopying</u>	<u>Certifying</u>
\$.20 per page, 8 1/2 x 11	\$3.00 per record
\$.25 per page, 8 1/2 x 14	
<u>Transcript fees</u>	
First completed copy free, all subsequent copies at \$1.00 each	
<u>Computer printouts</u>	
\$.50 per sheet, 8 1/2 x 11	plus a \$10 machine charge
\$.75 per sheet, 14 1/2 x 11	

Hourly Rate Increase – Native Language Tutors/Interpreters

The Board of Education approved the hourly rate increase for Native Language Tutors/Interpreters from \$10/hour to \$12/hour.

Tutors and interpreters are hired as needed for screening services at the Early Childhood Center and District functions, such as high school graduations. The hourly rate for tutors/interpreters has been \$10/hour for at least the last ten years. The District requested approval for a \$2.00/hour increase; making the hourly rate \$12/hour beginning with the 2008-2009 school year. The rate of \$12.00/hour is comparable to the current hourly rate for an AVID tutor. These hourly positions are not part of the CESP bargaining unit. The approximate cost of this increase is \$500 a year. Funding is appropriated in the SY 2009 budget.

American Red Cross Shelter Agreement (Exhibit "C")

The Board of Education approved the Shelter Agreement between the Central Illinois Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Champaign Unit #4 School District. The Shelter Agreement extends and updates the pre-existing cooperative agreement between the District and the Central Illinois Chapter of the American Red Cross to permit the Red Cross use of District buildings, grounds, and equipment for mass care shelters as required in the conduct of Red Cross disaster service activities. Pursuant to terms of federal statutes, the District is authorized to permit such use. According to the Agreement, the District agrees that, after meeting its responsibilities to pupils, it will permit, to the extent of its ability and upon request by Red Cross, the use of its facilities. Contained in the agreement (#3) is a hold harmless statement which protects the District against legal liability arising from negligence of the chapter's use of the facilities. No fee will be assessed.

Recommendations – Vendor for Energy Performance Contractor (Exhibit "D")

The Board of Education adopted the resolution, contract, financing and all other supporting schedules and certificates and authorized the signatures of all appropriate Board Members and Administrators as required to complete the Energy Performance Contracting work at Garden Hills Elementary School and Centennial High School as contained in the agreement.

The District's first attempt to award this contract was delayed by a lack of advertising in the Illinois Procurement Bulletin. Immediately upon being notified by the District's attorney of this omission, the District again sent an RFP's for Energy Performance Contracting at both Garden Hills Elementary School and Centennial High School. Working closely with Attorney Brian Crowley from Franczek Sullivan, every requirement for bidding and selection of a performance contractor was followed. A committee comprised of Kristine Chalifoux, Robert Nemeth, (Architect with Smart Solutions at the U of I), Carol Timms (Grant Writer), Joe Davis, John Ayers and Gene Logas interviewed four companies who responded to the second RFP and unanimously chose Energy Systems Group. While the proposed solution was slightly higher than Honeywell's original solution (\$2,300,000 vs. \$2,757,160), it calls for a geo-thermal solution at Garden Hills. The first year's maximum cost without any operational savings on the original Honeywell proposal was \$97,033 (lease amount minus energy savings or \$172,033 - \$75,000 = \$97,033), compared to ESG's geo-thermal solution of \$42,855 (lease amount minus energy savings or \$117,313 - \$74,458 = \$42,855). (Part of this difference relates to the change in interest rates between Honeywell's original submission and today's interest rate, 4.30% versus 5.10%). In addition, only one payment is made on the ESG contract in year one. Beginning in year two, two payments are made totaling \$234,226. The payment remains static until year twenty when it decreases to \$175,670. However, in addition ESG has already prepared a grant proposal which should net a reduction of \$77,500 the first year. This will actually make the first year payment even smaller.

While the total payments required by the District are higher under the geo-thermal approach, the committee believes energy savings will be much greater than what has been guaranteed by ESG. In the first year, they project energy savings of \$74,458. Because they must guarantee the amount of savings, they estimate the annual increase in energy savings by only 3% each year. It is the Administration's belief that the actual energy savings will be much greater than that which will bring the total required payments in-line or less than the conventional approach offered by Honeywell.

The total contract amount is \$2,757,160. The first year's payment is \$117,113. That amount should be further reduced by the grant of \$77,500. It is likely that there will be some operational savings which will decrease the District's net annual cost ever further. The guaranteed annual energy savings is projected to increase by only 3%.

The District solicited bids from five companies to provide financing of this project over 20 years. The Administration recommended Old National Bank's rate of 5.10% for 20 years. (The District negotiated the lowest possible repayment penalty with Old National Bank, 1%, should the Board decide to repay this debt early). Old National Bank is a regional bank located in Evansville, Indiana with \$8 billion in assets and a very strong financial reputation.

<u>Financial Institution</u>	<u>20 Year Term</u>
AIG	5.94%
Banc of America	N/A
De Lage Landen	5.20%
Hannon Armstrong	5.35%
Old National Bank	5.10%

Minutes – May 14 & 19, 2008 Board Meetings

The Board of Education approved the minutes as presented.

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

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

Human Resource Changes (Exhibit "F")

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

Executive Session

Greg Novak moved, with a second by Scott MacAdam, 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), 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). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

The Board convened into *Closed Session* at 8:25 p.m.

Open Session

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

Student Discipline

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to expel student #641169 from Franklin Middle School for the first semester of the 2008/2009 school year and reassigned to an alternative site at the Administrations discretion for violating Conduct Code #24 (Threats to/Intimidation of Staff), and Code #25 (Threats To/Intimidation of Students) 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 7. Nays 0.

Nathaniel Banks moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to expel student #560103 from Franklin Middle School for the entire 2008/2009 school year and reassigned to Columbia for violating Conduct Code #19 (Physical Confrontation with Student) 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 7. Nays 0.

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Arlene Blank, to expel student #630588 from Central High School for the entire 2008/2009 school year and reassigned to READY 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 7. Nays 0.

Arlene Blank moved, with a second by Sue Grey, to expel student #641061 from Central High School for the entire 2008/2009 school year and reassigned to READY for violating Conduct Code #18 (Physical Confrontation with Staff) and Code #24 (Threats to/Intimidation of 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 7. Nays 0.

Employee Compensation (Exhibit "G")

Sue Grey moved, with a second by Kristine Chalifoux, to approve the adjustment of elementary principals to reflect the increase annual contract from ten and a half (10.5) to twelve (12) months, retroactive July 1, 2008. The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 6. Nays 1. Board member Novak voted Nay.

Employee Compensation (Exhibit "H")

Scott MacAdam moved, with a second by Nathaniel Banks, to approve the salary increases, equivalent to the CESP increase of 4.25%, for District Support Personnel (DSP). The motion carried on roll call. Ayes 7. Nays 0.

7/14/08

Regular Meeting

Adjournment

There being no further business, Greg Novak moved, with a second by Sue Grey, to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m. The motion carried on voice vote.

Board approved: August 11, 2008