

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 8, 2010

6:30 P.M.

Educational Services Center

Ms. Wilma Gleason, Board Secretary, established a quorum and the following Members were present: Mr. Joe Butcher, Mr. John Dirks, Mr. Michael Harrison, Dr. Steve Perry, Ms. Judith Webster, Mrs. Mary Yount, and Mrs. Millicent Roth, Board President.

Present from the administrative staff were Dr. Barry Reilly, Dr. Herschel Hannah, Dr. Teresa Hill, and Mr. David Wood.

Mrs. Roth stated that, "In accordance with the Truth in Taxation Law (35 ILCS 200/18-60) the Board of Education will now hold a public hearing on the 2010 Tax Levy for the Bloomington Public Schools, District #87.

The District prepared a 2010 Levy Report which the Board reviewed at its October 27, 2010 meeting. The Board also approved a resolution estimating the amount necessary from the property tax for the next fiscal year and approved publication of Notice of a Public Hearing on the 2010 Levy in *The Pantagraph* on November 26, 2010.

The proposed 2010 levy, including debt service, is \$41.6M, an increase of 1.86% over the 2009 levy and a 5.67% increase over the 2009 extension. The main use of additional funds is to pay increases in salaries, benefits, and to offset less state and federal funds which we received."

Mr. Wood summarized the 2010 levy and indicated that nothing had changed since the Levy Report was presented in October. He stated that the District was heavily reliant on the property tax and that the levy was set well in advance of the 2012 budget which it funds. He described how state and federal funds were unlikely to grow and that one time funds would be lost in coming years. He stated that the specific amount paid by each taxpayer will ultimately depend on their particular assessment and the final tax rate.

Mrs. Roth asked, "Is there any discussion from the Board?"

Dr. Perry expressed concern that the levy would again increase the tax rate which had already gone up 25 cents over the last few years. He suggested specific reductions in the levy to keep the tax rate level.

Mr. Dirks and Mrs. Roth spoke in favor of the proposed levy.

Mrs. Roth asked, "Is there any discussion from the public?"

There was no discussion from the public.

Mrs. Roth stated, "The Public Hearing is now concluded."

Mrs. Roth stated, "Bloomington District 87 is seeking to renew a modification of the Illinois School Code ILCS 18-8.05(F)(2)(d)(2) whereby the district proposes to add the following language to this section:

In lieu of school improvement days with students in attendance a minimum of three clock hours, a district may opt to combine two such sessions into one school improvement day without students in attendance up to two

times in a given school year. Each such day may be counted as a day of attendance provided that a sufficient number of clock hours have been accumulated beyond the five clock hours, which students would have been in session.

Bloomington School District 87 is seeking an extension of its current waiver regarding School Improvement Days. If approved, this waiver will allow Bloomington School District 87 to continue its practice of holding two School Improvement Days.

This waiver, if approved by the Illinois State Board of Education, will take effect with the start of the 2010-11 school year and will remain in effect through the 2015-2016 school year.

At this time, members of the public are invited to address the Board. As we have done in previous public meetings, we ask that everyone keep their comments to a limit of five minutes. Please state your name and address prior to making your statement. Board members are here to listen to input from the community; we will not engage in discussions with presenters."

Mrs. Roth asked "Is there any discussion from the public?"

There was no discussion from the public.

Mrs. Roth stated, "The Public Hearing is now concluded."

Mrs. Roth presented the Minutes for approval. It was moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on November 10, 2010, be approved. Dr. Perry asked that page 3, paragraph 4 of the minutes be changed to reflect that Dr. Perry voted "Aye" and Ms. Webster voted "Nay." Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Butcher, Mr. Harrison, Dr. Perry, Mrs. Roth, Ms. Webster, and Mrs. Yount voted "Aye." Mr. Dirks abstained due to his absence on November 10th. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Yount, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Board of Education held on November 10, 2010, be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Butcher, Mr. Harrison, Dr. Perry, Mrs. Roth, Ms. Webster, and Mrs. Yount voted "Aye." Mr. Dirks abstained due to his absence on November 10th. Motion carried.

Dr. Reilly introduced Boy Scouts' Troop 20 leaders and boys who were in attendance as part of a badge requirement.

Mrs. Tina Fogal, Principal at Stevenson Elementary School, and four staff members from Stevenson Elementary School were recognized and congratulated for their participation in the United States Department of Education's "Doing What's Right" website regarding reading comprehension for K-3rd grade students. This will be on the Department of Education's website in February.

Ms. Webster attended the BHS Choral Concert and Sheridan's holiday program.

Mrs. Yount attended a Beyond the Books meeting as well as Facilities and Insurance Committee meetings.

Mr. Butcher attended the Regional Planning Commission meeting and the Triple I conference. Mr. Butcher attended BHS' production of Julius Caesar.

Dr. Perry attended the Triple I. He attended Julius Caesar at BHS, the BJHS art fair at Barnes & Noble, and the BHS Choral Concert.

Mr. Harrison attended the Insurance Committee meeting and the Triple I conference.

Mr. Dirks attended the Facilities Committee meeting. He attended Julius Caesar at BHS.

Mrs. Roth attended the Triple I conference and suggests that we assign Board members to attend certain sessions in the future. She recently attended a racial justice summit at Illinois Wesleyan University with other community members. Mrs. Roth also attended Sheridan's holiday program.

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Dr. Perry, that the Consent Agenda (Human Resources Report, Bills, FOIA Report, Payroll, Treasurer's Report, Financial Summary, Co-op Fuel Purchase, Property Casualty Insurance Renewal) be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 12-08-10/1)

Dr. Reilly reported that he attended several sessions at the Triple I Conference and will attend a paperless board agenda webinar on December 13th.

It was moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the Resolution for Board Levy be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Butcher, Dirks, Harrison, Roth, Webster and Yount voted "Aye." Perry voted "Nay." Motion carried. See with Original Minutes, Attachment 12-08-10/2)

It was moved by Dr. Perry, seconded by Mrs. Yount, that the Facilities Plan be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried. See with Original Minutes, Attachment 12-08-10/3)

It was moved by Mr. Butcher, seconded by Ms. Webster, that the agreement with State Farm holding the assessed values of their properties at the 2009 level for five years be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Butcher, Perry, Webster and Yount voted "Aye." As employees of State Farm, Dirks, Harrison and Roth abstained. Motion carried. See with Original Minutes, Attachment 12-08-10/4)

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the School Improvement Day waiver be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried. See with Original Minutes, Attachment 12-08-10/5)

It was moved by Ms. Webster, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Board go into Closed Session for the purposes of considering an action against, affecting or on behalf of the District that has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting and to consider student disciplinary cases.

Upon return to the regular meeting, it was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mrs. Yount, that the SHOR Report 10-11-1 be approved. Upon a roll call

vote, Butcher, Dirks, Harrison, Perry, Roth and Yount voted "Aye." Webster voted "Nay." Motion carried. See with Original Minutes, Attachment 12-08-10/6

It was moved by Mr. Butcher, seconded by Dr. Perry, that the Board meeting be adjourned. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President

Secretary