

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 12, 2008

6:30 P.M.

Educational Services Center

The Board of Education of the Bloomington Public Schools, School District 87, McLean County, Illinois, met in Regular Session.

Ms. Wilma Gleason, Board Secretary, established a quorum and the following Members were present: Mrs. Cheryl Jackson, President, Mr. John Dirks, Mrs. Janet Smith, Mr. Joe Butcher, Mr. Michael Harrison, Mrs. Millicent Roth and Dr. Steve Perry.

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

Mrs. Jackson presented the Minutes for approval. It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mr. Butcher that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on October 22, 2008 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education held on October 31, 2008 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Dr. Perry - No report.

Mrs. Smith - No report.

Mr. Dirks reported that the Achievement Gap Task Force met last week. The Task Force will now be called the Achievement Matters Task Force. Tom Laxton, a State Farm employee who is being "loaned" full-time for 2008-09 to Unit #5 and District 87, will be helping coordinate activities of the task force.

Mr. Harrison - No report.

Mr. Butcher attended the Regional Planning Commission recently.

Mrs. Roth - No report.

Mrs. Jackson - No report.

Mr. David Wood presented the 2008 Levy Report for the 2010 Budget. The timeline for the levy is as follows:

- November 12 - Tax Levy Report
- November 28- Publish Hearing Notice
- December 10 - Public Hearing & Levy Resolution
- December 12 - File Levy with County
- March/April - Verify Levy & Extension
- May/June - County Sends Tax Bills
- Collections Begin

The levy is important because:

- Property tax is the largest revenue source, a growing percent of revenue; and the most stable and reliable revenue source.
- Property Tax arrives early and earns interest.
- The Levy is approved months before the fiscal year it funds.

The Levy is:

- The dollar amount the Board needs from the property tax next year (2010).
- The maximum amount that can be received from the property tax.
- Based on estimates of EAV, other revenue sources and spending.
- Reduced by the extension and collection rates.

Levy Guidelines:

- The County calculates the final tax rate and sets the extension based on the levy, the actual EAV.
- The County must adjust the final tax rate for the maximum statutory tax rates - \$3.12 Education Fund.
- The following funds already have statutory maximum rates: Education, O & M, Special Ed, Working Cash, and Lease (Technology & Facilities).
- Life Health Safety and Transportation are not at the maximum, and we are proposing that they go up.
- The following funds have no statutory maximum rates: IMRF, Tort, Social Security & Medicare, Bonds & Interest.
- A public tax levy hearing must be held if the levy is 105% of the prior year's extension.
- A resolution is necessary today to estimate the property tax revenues we believe are necessary for 2010, to establish the date of the required public hearing, and to approve publishing notice of the public hearing.

Initial Levy Assumptions are:

- Keep the overall tax rate equal to or less than the prior year.
- Fund debt service schedule to repay bonds.
- Phase in health life safety rate for maintenance.
- Project 2010 budget and EAV growth.

In order to estimate the Levy amount:

- We estimate that by 2010 education fund expenditures are projected at \$49.0M.
- We assume the property tax remains approximately 58% of revenues.
- To balance the budget, we need \$28.4M from the property tax.
- If we assume 6% EAV growth, the levy raises the same amount as the extension.
- The overall tax rate increases from \$4.51 in 2009 to \$4.55 in 2010, an increase of \$0.03 (numbers do not add due to rounding).
- If EAV growth is closer to 2.8%, the Levy raises \$28.2M but the Extension raises only \$27.4M and Collections raise only \$27.1M.
- The overall tax rate increases from \$4.51 in 2009 to \$4.57 in 2010, an increase of \$0.05 (numbers do not add due to rounding).
- In summary, we need \$28.4M; we receive only \$28.0M-\$27.1M.

In general, if a person's house is \$100,000, a taxpayer will pay approximately \$10-\$18 more next year.

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Consent Agenda (Human Resources Report, Bills, Payroll, Group Medical Insurance Actuary Agreement, and New Health/Life Safety Amendment - BHS) be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 11-12-08/1)

It was moved by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Perry, that the BJHS Technology Curriculum be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 11-12-08/2)

It was moved by Mr. Butcher, seconded by Mrs. Roth, that the Resolution for Levy be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried. (See with Original minutes, Attachment 11-12-08/3)

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Board go into Closed Session for the purpose of the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students. Upon a roll call vote, all Members voted "Aye." Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Jackson adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President

Secretary