

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 27, 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, Dr. Steve Perry and Mrs. Millicent Roth.

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

Mrs. Jackson began the public hearing on the Bloomington Area Career Center and McLean/Dewitt Regional Vocational System for 2008-09 by stating, "In accordance with Section 17-1 of the School Code, the Board of Education will now hold a public hearing on the 2009 budgets for the Area Career Center and the Regional Vocational System.

The ACC and RVS prepared tentative budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 which this Board reviewed at its June 11, 2008 meeting.

The tentative budgets have been on file for public inspection at the Educational Services Center for District 87 for over thirty days and public notice of the availability of the budgets was published in *The Pantagraph* on July 15, 2008. The tentative budgets are on display in the rear of the room.

During the public hearing, Tom Frazier, Director of the ACC and RVS, will summarize the budgets and the Board and members of the public will be given an opportunity to discuss the budgets.

When all discussion has concluded, the public hearing will be adjourned.

At this time, Mr. Frazier will present a summary of the 2009 budgets.

Is there any discussion from the Board?

Is there any discussion from the public?

The Public Hearing is now concluded."

Mrs. Jackson presented the Minutes for approval. It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mrs. Smith that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Board of Education held on August 13, 2008, be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Dirks, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Butcher, Mr. Harrison, and Mrs. Roth voted "Aye." Dr. Perry voted in abstentia. Motion carried.

Dr. Nielsen stated that Board action items B, C, D and E would be moved up on the agenda.

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mr. Butcher that the B.E.S.P. Program Assistants' Agreement be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all members

voted "Aye. Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 08-27-08/3).

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Roth that the B.E.S.P. Custodial & Maintenance Staff Agreement be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted "Aye." Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 08-27-08/4).

It was moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Butcher that the Letter of Understanding for Program Assistants be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted "Aye." Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 08-27-08/5).

It was moved by Dr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Dirks that the Letter of Understanding for Custodial and Maintenance Staff be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all members voted "Aye." Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 08-27/08/6).

Mrs. Jackson stated that there would be a closed session at the end of the regular session for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of District 87, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity and to consider 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.

Dr. Perry stated that he enjoyed meeting the new teachers at the beginning of the year and was excited to learn a little bit about them and what they hope to bring to District 87.

Mrs. Smith - No report.

Mr. Dirks - No report.

Mr. Harrison - No report.

Mr. Butcher - No report.

Mrs. Roth stated that her daughter, a 2nd grader at Oakland, is excited to have a Smartboard in her classroom this year. Mrs. Roth wanted to reaffirm that the Board of Education's investments are making a difference in kids' lives.

Mrs. Jackson attended the City Council meeting on August 25th with Dr. Nielsen, Mr. Tim Moore, and Ms. Debbie Armendariz to receive the City of Bloomington's Beautification Awards for Bloomington High School and Bent School. The City awarded nine non-residential awards this year.

Dr. Nielsen introduced State Representative Dan Brady. Rep Brady stated that District 87 received a \$25,000 grant which is being used to install the security lights on the southwest side of Bloomington High School.

Representative Brady also informed the Board that the governor signed a bill on August 26, 2008 which Representative Brady has worked on for some time. The bill allows the Superintendent and/or Human Resources personnel to

be able to release information to potential employers requesting background information on former employees. If a mandated report was made to DCFS, that information must be shared with any future employer. It would also hold harmless the Superintendent and/or Human Resources personnel reporting that information. There would be penalties, however, if the information is not shared with a future employer of that former employee. Dr. Nielsen thanked Representative Brady for his support. Mr. Wood thanked Representative Brady for his work in ensuring that school districts receive 22 state aid payments instead of 24 payments.

Dr. Teresa Hill presented information regarding 2008 Summer School.

- District-Wide Elementary Summer School and Extended School Year Program ran for five weeks from June 9-July 10, 2008. Sessions were held on Mondays - Thursdays at Bloomington Jr. High School.
- Elementary and Extended School Year program components included 70 hours of instruction focusing on literacy and mathematics, pre and post assessment of skills, and research based curriculum (phonemic awareness/phonics; vocabulary; comprehension; problem solving; and computation), professional development and collaborative planning for teachers, and student support (breakfast; daily transportation; tuition free for eligible students with free/reduced lunch; open to other recommended students for \$200 tuition).
- Bloomington Jr. High School Components included the focus on reading, writing and math.
- Middle school and high school transition programs are short programs to help targeted students with the transition from 5th to 6th and 8th to 9th grades. The program enrollment was increased by over 50% this year.

Dr. Teresa Hill presented information regarding Response to Intervention (RtI).

RtI is a model for meeting the needs of all students. RtI focuses on providing three tiers of support:

- Tier 1 - Core Curriculum/General Education;
- Tier 2 - Extra Support/Strategic Intervention ; (Reading Intervention Teachers at elementary level)
- Tier 3 - Intensive Intervention/Special Services).

In the RtI model, all students receive scientifically research-based instructional method. In District 87, RtI works as follows:

- Students are universally screened.
- Core curriculum and instruction are enhanced.
- Students in need of support are identified.
- Strategic and intensive interventions are provided.
- Provision of special services as appropriate.
- Benchmark data is used to measure progress.

- Assessment is ongoing to guide instruction.
- Building level teams support decision making (5-6 team members in each building). This work is done during the school day.
- The district level team provides district-wide guidance.

In the future:

- A district-wide plan will be created to provide three tiers of support to students at all levels.
- RtI will be included in district and school improvement planning by January 2009, and
- We will begin to use RtI as a way of determining eligibility for special education students by 2010-2011.

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Consent Agenda (Human Resources Report, Bills, Treasurer's Report, District Three-Year Lawn Maintenance Bid Recommendation) be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 08-27-08/1)

Dr. Nielsen reminded the Board of the following dates:

Friday, August 29th: - Sheridan Back to School Parade - 9:00 am
 Monday, September 1st - Labor Day - No School
 Saturday, September 6th - BHS Booster Steak Fry @ Sale Barn - 5:30 pm
 Monday, September 8th - Stanford Achievement Tests for Grades 1-8

Dr. Nielsen gave enrollment figures for 2008 as compared to 2007.

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>+/-</u>
Sarah Raymond	208	222	+ 14
Elementary	2363	2568	+205
BJHS	1163	1197	+ 34
BHS	1445	1483	+ 38
Total	5179	5470	+291

Dr. Nielsen reported that Bent is "bursting at the seams". District-wide, we have significant growth at K, 1 and 2 grade levels. There is no more classroom space at Bent; therefore, Kindergarten parents at Bent were contacted and offered the opportunity to move their child to Irving. Two teachers will be hired at Irving.

ISAT test results are back for grades 3-8. All six elementary schools made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as did BJHS. Dr. Nielsen commended our staff, teachers, and administrators in ensuring that our students make AYP.

Dr. Nielsen gave all Board members window clings which all of the schools received and are distributing to parents and staff.

Dr. Nielsen welcomed Stephanie from WJBC.

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Roth, that the 2009 Legal Budgets for Bloomington Area Career Center and McLean/Dewitt Regional Vocational System be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present

voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 08-27-08/2)

It was moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Board go into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of District 87, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity and to consider 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.

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

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President

Secretary