

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 10, 2007

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.

Board President Mrs. Janet Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Mr. Joseph Butcher, Mr. John Dirks, Mr. Mike Harrison, Mrs. Cheryl Jackson, Dr. Steve Perry, Mrs. Millicent Roth, and Mrs. Janet Smith.

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

Present from the media was Sharon Wolfe, The Pantagraph.

Minutes from the September 26, 2007, Board meeting were presented. Dr. Nielsen stated that the minutes should be corrected to reflect that Sharon Wolfe from the Pantagraph was present and not Phyllis Coulter. Motion was made and seconded that corrected minutes from September 26, 2007, be accepted. Motion carried

Mrs. Smith stated there would be no call for closed session this evening.

Mrs. Jackson announced that several board members attended a Corn Belt Division meeting on Tuesday October 9, 2007 in Streator. She stated that Dr. Nielsen forwards legislative updates from ISBE, and if you are interested, you can get these updates directly from ISBE. She distributed a form for Board members to sign if interested.

Mrs. Roth stated a Sesquicentennial survey is being conducted to collect feedback to present to Dr. Nielsen and/or the Board for future inductees into the Hall of Fame.

Mr. Perry announced that as part of the Area Vocational Committee, he met with Tom Frazier and toured the AVC/RVC facility. He felt this was a very informative meeting.

Dr. Nielsen announced that there was no special business scheduled.

Mr. Harrison announced that approximately 20 Bloomington High School students, as well as students from other schools in the area, attended the Human Resource Trade Fair sponsored by State Farm. The trade fair is an excellent opportunity for students to learn about the entrepreneur experience of the business exchange and to listen to guest speakers. Students have attended for many years, and Mr. Harrison reported that the trade fair will be back in Bloomington for the next two years.

Administrative Reports

A. *State Testing Reports – Teresa Hill*

Mrs. Hill presented a report on the Illinois School Report Cards which included reports from every District 87 school as well as an overview of district-wide data. Questions were asked and answered regarding the information presented. The school report cards will be made available on the district's website as well as hard copies will be available at all schools.

B. *Board Policy 7.110 (First Reading)*

Dr. Nielsen stated that this will be brought back in two weeks for a second reading, and back for adoption in a month.

C. *BHS Band Trip to San Antonio in March 2008*

Mr. Max Chernick, BHS band director, and Mr. Tim Moore, Principal, presented information regarding the 2008 band trip to San Antonio, Texas. The band typically takes a band trip every two years, and this year they will travel to San Antonio over Spring Break to perform at Sea World as well as sightsee and participate in other activities. Board members were presented with a copy of the itinerary and a handout with copies of commitment forms and information sheets which were distributed to students and parents for signatures. Each student must pay \$835, and the initial down payment is due next week. Students have the opportunity to fundraise for the trip throughout the school year; if students need financial assistance, there will be six \$50 drawings. Students may also apply for the Marching Raider Spirit Award which will provide small monetary awards.

Dr. Nielsen commended Mr. Chernick and Mr. Moore for the agenda and the time involved in planning the trip.

Mr. Dirks commented that the marching band field show is spectacular this year

Dr. Nielsen also commented that as students are recognized throughout the year for various reasons, Mr. Chernick is often named a favorite educator by his students.

It was moved by Dr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Harrison, that the Consent Agenda (Human Resource Report, Bills, and Treasurer's Report) be approved. Dr. Nielsen stated that a correction should be made to the personnel report to show that Donald Mosely should be 6.75 hours per day instead of 3 hours per day. Mr. Mosely is employed at BHS, not Raymond. Dr. Nielsen further stated that the SHOR report should be moved from Consent to Action. Mr. Harrison moved that we accept the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Butcher. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-10-07/1.)

Dr. Nielsen commended Mrs. Hill on the State Report Card presentation. Dr. Nielsen also showed a binder which has elementary student's data in them to indicate the volume of data that

is given to principals and teachers to help our students achieve at a higher level. He further stated that the Board is to be commended for their approval to create the data analysis position for the district. Dr. Nielsen believes that the principals and teachers now have significant amounts of information available to them based upon multiple data points which will help student achievement.

Board Action

A. 403b Plan Update – David Wood

Two weeks ago, Mr. Wood presented a 403b Plan update. Mr. Wood stated that it is his recommendation that the Board approve a third party administrator (TPA) to administer the district’s 403b program. Mrs. Jackson moved that we approve this recommendation, seconded by Mrs. Roth. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted “Aye.” Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-10-07/2).

B. Letter of Understanding – October 26, 2007 – Parent/Teacher Conference Day

This letter of understanding is between the district and BEA. Parent/teacher conferences have been restructured whereby teachers are given greater flexibility to meet with parents. This letter of understanding is to allow our program assistants to mirror the same schedule as teachers. The district is working on a program for future parent/teacher conference days. It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Perry that this letter of understanding be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted “Aye.” Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-10-07/3).

C. SHOR Report – 07-08-1

Mr. Reilly recommended that the Board uphold this suspension. It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mrs. Jackson, that this suspension be upheld. Upon a roll vote, all Members present, voted “Aye.” Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-10-07/4).

There was no public comment.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Approved:

Attest:

President

Secretary