

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 13, 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.

Ms. Marianne Clancy, Board Secretary, established a quorum and the following Members were present: Mr. Michael Harrison, Mr. Joseph Butcher, Mrs. Cheryl Jackson, Mr. John Dirks and Mr. Steve Perry. Mrs. Millicent Roth and Mrs. Janet Smith were absent.

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

Present from the news media was Ms. Sharon Wolfe, The Pantagraph.

Mrs. Jackson presented the Minutes for approval. It was moved by Mr. Butcher, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on May 23, 2007 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Mr. Dirks stated that the Beyond the Books Educational Foundation grants were awarded to the recipients at the end-of-the-year teacher recognition events at each building.

Mr. Dirks reported that the Achievement Gap Task Force (AGTF) continues to meet. He stated that he, Mrs. Hill and Dr. Nielsen met with the subcommittee working on the communication strategy and that we should have that concluded and voted on by the full group at the July meeting.

Mr. Perry reported that he attended the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) workshops on Finance and Law and that he thought they were very beneficial.

Mrs. Jackson stated that she, Dr. Nielsen and Mrs. Smith attended the retirement reception for Dr. Alan Chapman, McLean County Unit District #5 (Unit 5) Superintendent. She said it was very nicely done. She stated that he was very good to work with and they all wish him well in his retirement.

Mrs. Jackson stated that last week she, Dr. Nielsen and Mrs. Smith attended the intergovernmental meeting with Unit 5, the Town of Normal, the City of Bloomington and District 87. District 87 is attending these meetings on an informal basis. She stated we attend when there are parts of the agenda that are of interest to us. She stated there was a good discussion regarding coordinating anti-violence programs in Bloomington and Normal with all the interested parties. The goal being everyone working together and not competing and wasting resources.

Mrs. Roth entered the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Mrs. Hill reported on the District and Title I Plans. In summary her report included:

- ✦ NCLB requires a District Improvement Plan and Title I plan to be submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).
- ✦ All schools in the district create an annual School Improvement Plan.
- ✦ School Improvement Plans for BHS and BJHS are being submitted for state approval.
- ✦ Student achievement has improved in Reading and Math for all grade levels and all groups.

- ✦ The achievement gap has diminished between low income and non low income students and between students of different ethnic groups.
- ✦ District Goals
  - All students will read proficiently at each grade level as evaluated using District assessments.
  - All students will communicate clearly both verbally and in written form at each grade level as evaluated using District assessments.
  - All students will acquire the mathematical skills and concepts at each grade level, as evaluated using District assessments, to ensure their successful completion of algebra and geometry by the end of tenth grade.
- ✦ Action Plan
  - Continue to provide professional development for all teachers
  - Continue to all align all curricula, instruction and assessment to the Illinois Learning Standards
  - Continue to provide support for programs to enhance student achievement at all levels (e.g. After school reading programs, Summer School)
  - Promote parental involvement through events and outreach
  - Continue to implement and expand the Response to Intervention (RTI) program
  -
- ✦ The district serves 4 elementary schools with Title I funds.
- ✦ All of these schools continue to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).
- ✦ District-wide Title I funds will be used to do the following:
  - Provide professional development for teachers and administrators
  - Support elementary summer school
  - Support events and services to promote parental involvement
  - Provide supplemental supplies and materials
- ✦ Bloomington Junior High School achievement rates have improved each year since 2001.
- ✦ There has been an increase in ethnic and socioeconomic diversity.
- ✦ All BJHS teachers are Highly Qualified.
- ✦ Action Plan
  - Continue to provide professional development for all staff members
  - Complete the articulation of the curriculum at each grade level
  - Continue to align of instruction with the Illinois Learning Standards
  - Continue to implement plan for math course options
- ✦ Student achievement rates in Reading and Math at Bloomington High School improved for All students and all groups in 2006.
- ✦ There has been an increase in ethnic and socioeconomic diversity.

- ✦ All BHS teachers are Highly Qualified.
- ✦ Key Areas of Focus
  - Relationships
  - School Structure
  - Curriculum Delivery
  - Standards Alignment
- ✦ Action Plan
  - Identify students in need of assistance and provide interventions to meet their needs
  - Update course offerings to include additional options and support in Math and Reading
  - Provide professional development for teachers and staff
  - Continue to align curriculum and instruction with the Illinois Learning Standards
  - Promote increase parent involvement with additional parent contacts, parent workshops and home visits
- ✦ Submit district and school plans to ISBE
- ✦ Analyze student achievement information to update plans for 2007-08 and beyond
- ✦ Tailor professional development, programs and services to meet the ongoing needs of students

Mrs. Hill reported on the SAT 10 Results-2007 Spring Assessment Results. In summary, her report included:

- All students in grades 1 & 2 participated in a post test in April 2007
- Data analyzed in Reading & Math
- Teachers received training on using test results
- Teachers received individual and class test results
- Parents received a report on student performance
- Principals received information about school-wide results
- Principals can access individual student and class scores to plan programs and services
- Principals and teachers use school, grade level and class results to plan ways to continually improve the achievement of all students
- 2006-07 is the baseline year
- Scores interpreted using National Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE)
- Analysis based on two measures
  - Average NCE for each grade level
  - Percent of students meeting the benchmark (NCE 45)
- Higher benchmark compared to prior years
- Students in grades 1 - 8 will participate in SAT-10 testing in Fall 2007
- Cohort data will be analyzed over time
- School and grade level data will be used in school improvement planning

Mr. Tom Frazier, Bloomington Area Vocational Center (BAVC) Director, introduced the 2008 Tentative budgets for the McLean-DeWitt Regional Vocational System (RVS) and the Area Vocational Center (AVC). He stated both budgets are balanced. The RVS budget increases 2.4% over the previous fiscal year, with revenues and expenditures totaling \$977,724. The AVC budget

increases 5.6% from the previous year with revenues and expenditures totaling \$1,117,829.

Mr. Frazier stated that the RVS revenue comes from the federal Perkins and Tech Prep grants as well as the state Career and Technical Education Improvement and Agricultural Incentive grants. In 2008, the Perkins grant decreases \$14,911, the Career and Technical Education Improvement grant increases \$34,042, the Tech Prep grant increases \$1,756, and the Agriculture Incentive grant increases \$1,400. The majority of RVS expenditures are for salaries and benefits (24%) and operations of the BAVC (52%).

Mr. Frazier stated that AVC revenue comes from annual tuition payments for students enrolled at the AVC (\$559,725), the Career and Technical Education Improvement grant (\$394,443), and the Tech Prep, WIA, and other grants and income (\$163,661). He stated that tuition in 2008 remains the same as 2007 (\$1,275 per student). The majority of AVC expenditures are for salaries and benefits (67%) and other operating costs and program improvements (33%).

Mr. Wood notified the Board of the results of the recent Property and Casualty Insurance Request For Proposal (RFP). The District chose to not accept any of the bids as either non-responsive to the specific RFP specifications or as more costly than the existing Suburban School Cooperative Insurance Pool (SSCIP). The main compliance issue was that the District used the SSCIP specifications for comparison purposes, including \$35 M in secondary pool coverage. Many insurance companies do not offer more than \$10 M in individual district policies. Mr. Wood stated that the District will review the specifications and re-bid property and casualty insurance this fall timed to the expiration of its current policy with SSCIP at the end of December 2007.

Dr. Nielsen stated that Ms. Karen Schindler's name should be removed from the Human Resources Report as she will not be hired for the 2007-08 school year.

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mrs. Roth, that the Consent Agenda (Human Resources Report, Bills, Payroll, Life Insurance Contract, BHS Exterior Signage Bid Recommendation, Applications for Building Permits, BHS North Side Landscaping Bid Recommendation, Custodial Supplies Bid Recommendation, Milk Bid recommendation for 2007-08 and the Bread Bid Recommendation for 2007-08) be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/1)

Dr. Nielsen stated that he received a call from Representative Dan Brady this afternoon and Representative Brady said he and the Republican Party are urging the Governor and the Administration in Springfield to release the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> General State Aid payments to school districts. Dr. Nielsen stated that if we receive those by June 30<sup>th</sup>, that money is included in this year's budget. If the State says they are not issuing the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> payments until after July 1, then we have to absorb that loss of General State Aid. When the State did this previously the State didn't make up those payments to Districts. Dr. Nielsen stated that it may be helpful for anyone inclined, to contact the Governor's Office and encourage him to release these payments.

Dr. Nielsen stated the construction projects in the District are off to a good start.

Dr. Nielsen stated the Sesquicentennial committees are moving forward and have some great plans for the upcoming year.

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mr. Harrison, that the June 27, 2007 and the July, 2007 Board Meetings Cancellations be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/2)

It was moved by Mr. Butcher, seconded by Mrs. Roth, that the Resolution: Establishing Prevailing Wage Rates be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/3)

It was moved by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the Superintendent's Contract be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/4)

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mr. Harrison, that the Assistant Superintendents'/Chief Financial & Legal Officer's and Principal's Contracts be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/5)

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the ECE Pre-K Curricular Materials be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/6)

It was moved by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the LUDA Membership be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/7)

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Authorization for Payment of Bills be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/8)

It was moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the SHOR 06-07-5 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/9)

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mr. Harrison that the SHOR 06-07-6 be approved.

Mrs. Roth asked to go into closed session to discuss this matter.

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the Board go into Closed Session for the purpose of considering a student disciplinary matter. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the Board return to the regular meeting. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye" to approve the SHOR 06-07-6. Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/10)

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the SHOR 06-07-7 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 06-13-07/11)

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

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary