

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 11, 2006

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.

Mrs. Janet Smith, Board President, established a quorum and the following Members were present: Mr. Joseph Butcher, Mrs. Cheryl Jackson, Mr. John Dirks, Mr. Keith Davis and Mrs. Millicent Roth.

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

Ms. Linda Aschenbrener, Public Relations Facilitator, was also in attendance.

Present from the news media was Ms. Sharon Wolfe, The Pantagraph, Mr. Eric Stock, WJBC Radio and Ms. Nora Cushing, TV10.

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Jackson, that Ms. Aschenbrener be appointed Secretary Pro Tem. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Mrs. Smith asked to move Board Action A: Resolution To Fill Vacancy on Board of Education to this point in the meeting.

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that Mr. Michael Harrison, Sr., be appointed to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Uvaldo Herrera's resignation to be effective 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 11, 2006 until the next regular school board election at which time there will be a 4-year term that must be filled. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-11-06/1)

Mrs. Smith asked Mr. Harrison to come forward and asked him to recite the Oath of Office as required by the State, which became effective July 1, 2006. Mr. Harrison stated the following:

"I, Michael Harrison, do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Member of the Board of Education of the Bloomington Public Schools, District #87, in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

I further affirm that I shall respect taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of the school district's assets;

I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board Members and others who seek a hearing before the Board, while respecting the privacy of students and employees;

I shall recognize that a Board Member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a public Board Meeting; and I shall abide by majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels."

Mr. Harrison joined the other Board Members at the Board table.

Mrs. Smith welcomed Mr. Harrison to the Board.

Mrs. Smith presented the Minutes for Approval. It was moved by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on September 27, 2006, the Minutes of the Closed Meeting of the Board of Education on September 27, 2006, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education on October 3, 2006, the Minutes of the Closed Meeting of the Board of Education on October 3, 2006, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Education on October 4, 2006 and the Minutes of the Closed Meeting of the Board of Education on October 4, 2006 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Roth, Mr. Davis, Mr. Dirks, Mr. Butcher and Mrs. Smith voted "Aye". Mr. Harrison stated "Present". Motion carried.

Mr. Reilly stated that Members of ShareFest are in attendance tonight. The group helped District 87 in the following ways:

Raymond School and Sheridan School received extensive landscaping, trees, shrubs and pavers; Bent School's courtyard, by the kindergarten area off of Lee St., received landscaping; Oakland School's Butterfly Garden was cleaned up; and Irving School had weeding and cleanup done.

Stevenson School's volunteers came from National City Bank and they worked on cleaning up the Butterfly Garden and planted shrubs along the front foundation.

Mrs. Smith thanked the group for their hard work and volunteering their time and efforts to District 87. She asked them to come forward and receive personal appreciation from the Board Members.

Mr. Butcher stated he planned on attending the upcoming Area Vocational Center Board Meeting.

Mrs. Jackson reported that she attended the fall meeting of the insurance committee a couple of weeks ago and they are going to look into adding vision and dental insurance to the plan which will be voluntary for the employees.

Mrs. Smith stated she attended the McLean County Regional Planning Committee Meeting the first Wednesday of October. Mr. Butcher attended also. There was a presentation of what the role of a regional planning commissioner is. She stated that we are working towards Mr. Butcher being the District's representative, beginning in January.

Mrs. Roth stated she attended the Evergreen Cemetery Walk and one of the characters highlighted on the walk this year was Ms. Eva Jones who was the first African American District 87 Board Member. She also discussed making tough financial decisions during that time. It was right after the one and only strike in D87 when she was elected

Mrs. Smith stated she attended a Partners in Planning Seminar last Thursday, and they talked about poverty and how it impacts students in education. It was very interesting. Mrs. Smith stated that she has materials from the seminar to share with those who are interested.

Ms. Stephanie Ramsey, Gorenz & Associates, reported on the District 87 Audit for 2005-06. In summary:

Other highlights:

Total cash received: \$48,685,920, up \$2,229,183 over 2005
Total cash expenditures: \$45,471,937, up \$1,457,645 over 2005
Excess cash revenue received: \$3,213,983, up \$771,538 over 2005

Sources of Operating Revenues:

Real Estate Taxes -	62%
Federal & Flow Through -	9%
General State Aid -	7%
Other Local Sources -	15%
Other State Sources -	7%

Total Operating Funds: \$45,471,937

Ms. Ramsey stated the audit went very well. District 87 has a good administration and staff. She stated there is very good internal control. She also congratulated the Board for exhibiting concerns that make things go forward.

Ms. Ramsey said the opinion on the Audit Report is an unqualified opinion under the regulatory basis of accounting. It is adverse under the general accepted accounting principal because we do not have the GASB 34 reporting in it. Under the regulatory basis, from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), the District has an unqualified report which is the best report the District can have.

Mrs. Smith thanked Ms. Ramsey for her report and stated the Board appreciates the hard work that Mr. Wood and Mrs. Beverly Keller, Director of Accounting, do.

Mrs. Cindy Helmers, Bloomington High School (BHS) Principal, presented the details of what having the BHS graduation at the U.S. Cellular Coliseum involved. The biggest positive is the ability to have room to allow all students to have all of their friends and family attend this event. She stated that the senior class officers and the sponsor were in favor of having the event at the Coliseum. Many parents have also lent their support to the idea. Mrs. Helmers stated that they have worked with representatives from the Coliseum to plan how the event would be handled and they have been very accommodating to make this event very special for the graduating seniors.

Mrs. Helmers stated that graduation would be Sunday, June 3, 2007 at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Manahan stated that the District is getting ready to go out for bids to re-grade and seed the area to the south of the tennis courts. This also includes new sidewalks, new fencing, and an irrigation system as alternate bids. Mr. Manahan stated that the bid recommendations for this work will be brought back at the October 25, 2006 Board Meeting for Board consideration. Once complete, this area will be usable space for a variety of activities to include band, physical education, and football practice.

Mr. Reilly stated that on the agenda there are several Board of Education Policies listed for First Reading: 4.060, Purchases and Contracts; 4.170, Safety Program; 5.090, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting; 5.100, Staff Development Program; 5.186, Temporary Illness or Temporary

Incapacity. They have been reviewed by the BEA and the Board Policy Committee. He asked the Board for any changes/suggestions to those and stated that the policies will be brought back at the October 25, 2006 Board Meeting for second reading and then be brought back at the November 8 Board Meeting for Board consideration.

Mr. Reilly stated that there are several Board Policies on the agenda listed for second reading: 2.030, School Board Elections; 2.040, School Board Membership; 2.200, Regular Meetings; 2.202, Closed Meetings; 2.210, Organizational School Board Meetings; 2.224, Minutes: Regular, Special, Adjourned, Emergency, Closed; 4.010, Fiscal and Business Management; 4.150, Facility Management and Building Programs. He stated that these will be brought back at the October 25, 2006 Board Meeting for Board consideration.

Mrs. Jackson stated that there was one minor typo on Board Policy 5.090. In the second paragraph, the third word needs to be "employees".

Mr. Davis asked that a copy of the Board Policies which will be under Board Action at the next Board Meeting be included in the Board Packet.

Mr. Davis stated that, for everyone's consideration, in Board Policy 4.060, Fiscal Management, Purchases and Contracts, it says that we have to follow the law and we have to spend our money for a recognized purpose of the District, which he thinks is superfluous.

Mrs. Smith presented the Consent Agenda for Approval. It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Roth, that the Consent Agenda (Human Resources Report, Bills, Payroll) be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Roth, Mr. Davis, Mr. Dirks, Mr. Butcher and Mrs. Smith voted "Aye". Mr. Harrison stated "Present". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-11-06/2)

It was stated by Mr. Reilly that Dr. Nielsen is in Texas at an education conference and there will be no Superintendent's Report this evening.

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mrs. Jackson, that the Prairie City Soccer League/City of Bloomington/District 87 Soccer Proposal be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Roth, Mr. Davis, Mr. Dirks, Mr. Butcher and Mrs. Smith voted "Aye". Mr. Harrison stated "Present". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-11-06/3)

It was moved by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mrs. Jackson that the SHOR 0607-1, be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Roth, Mr. Davis, Mr. Dirks, Mr. Butcher and Mrs. Smith voted "Aye". Mr. Harrison stated "Present". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-11-06/4)

It was moved by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Butcher that the SHOR 0607-2, be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Roth, Mr. Davis, Mr. Dirks, Mr. Butcher and Mrs. Smith voted "Aye". Mr. Harrison stated "Present". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-11-06/5)

A community member spoke about an incident that happened on a bus last school year and asked the Board Members and the District to address bullying and harassment in the District.

Three District 87 parents addressed two Suspension Hearing Officer Reports (SHOR) and believed the punishments were too harsh and the appeal process was not meaningful.

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

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President

Secretary Pro Tem