

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 13, 2004

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. Keith Davis, Mrs. Millicent Roth, Mrs. Janet Smith, Mr. John Hanson and Mr. John Dirks, Vice-President (acting President for this Board meeting). Mrs. Cheryl Jackson, Board President and Mr. Uvaldo Herrera were absent.

Present from the administrative staff were Dr. Robert Nielsen, Dr. Roger Kilpatrick, Mr. Barry Reilly, Mrs. Sally Tucker and Mr. David Wood.

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

Present from the news media was Ms. Michelle Steinbacher, The Pantagraph and Ms. Jayme Monicelli from WJBC Radio Station.

Mr. Dirks presented the Minutes for approval. It was moved by Mr. Hanson, seconded by Mrs. Smith, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 22, 2004 and the Minutes of the Closed Meeting held on September 22, 2004 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Hanson, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Roth and Mr. Dirks, voted "Aye". Mr. Davis abstained as he did not attend the last Board Meeting. Motion carried.

Mrs. Connie Mueller, Director of Food Services was recognized for receiving the *2004 Award of Excellence* from the American Dietetic Association (ADA). This national award, given by the ADA's School Nutrition Services Dietetic Practice Group, honors a member who has demonstrated strong leadership, management and innovation. Mr. Dirks thanked Mrs. Mueller for everything she does for District 87 and asked her to come forward and received congratulations from the Board.

Mr. Hanson reported that he attended a Regional Planning Commission meeting. He stated that discussion occurred regarding effective communication between the different bodies that appoint people to the commission.

Mrs. Smith reported that she attended a Judge John M. Scott Vocational Education Trust Fund meeting on September 30th. The committee reviewed investments and found them to be near the same level as they were in 2001, before the market dropped. The group also transferred money out of the account to help fund Summer School for District 87.

Mrs. Smith thanked Dr. Kilpatrick for his years of service to District 87. Mrs. Smith's acknowledgments were echoed by fellow Board members. Dr. Kilpatrick has accepted the position of Associate Superintendent at Morton Public Schools. His last day in District 87 is October 15.

Mr. Dirks reported that he attended a recent presentation at Normal Community West High School on House Bill (HB)750 which discusses a proposal to change the way public education in Illinois is currently funded. Mr. Dirks stated that it was an interesting introductory presentation.

Mr. Barry Reilly presented this year's *Fall Housing Report* as well as 2005-06 enrollment projections. Although the report shows a slight decline in enrollment over the past couple of years this trend will likely level off next year and will remain constant.

- Sarah E. Raymond Early Childhood Center currently enrolls 148 students
- Bent School currently enrolls 310 students
- Irving School currently enrolls 388 students
- Oakland School currently enrolls 443 students
- Sheridan School currently enrolls 447 students
- Stevenson School currently enrolls 524 students
- Washington School currently enrolls 410 students
- Elementary enrollment equals 5,557 students
- Bloomington Junior High School (BJHS) currently enrolls 1,348 students
- Bloomington High School (BHS) currently enrolls 1,539 students
- Teaching staff equals 187, down from 200 last year
- FTE staff equals 387, down from 408 last year and 427 in 2002-2003.

The complete report will be available on the District website under presentations: <http://www.district87.org/esc/superintendent/>.

Mrs. Cindy Helmers, BHS Principal, and Mr. Tim Moore, BHS Associate Principal, presented the Course Description Book changes for the 2005-06 school year which are:

- The increased graduation requirements approved by the Board of Education starting with the Class of 2009 will be included in the beginning of the book.
- The *Techniques in Reading* course changes from a senior elective to a required course for all Freshman Lit/Comp Essential students. This addresses the need for remedial help for students who enter BHS reading below grade level.
- The *Materials Tech* course changes to *Intro to Engineering* to better align with the *Project Lead the Way Grant* elements. This prepares students for capstone experiences in Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD), Architecture, Construction, and career opportunities in Engineering. A *Basic Materials Tech* course will still be offered for special population students.

A CD containing the full text of Course Description Guide 2005-2006 was given to each Board Member.

Mr. Tim Custis from District 87's audit firm, Gorenz & Associates, presented a summary of the annual audit that was conducted for Bloomington Public Schools. The financial reports for the District this year reflect a significant improvement in the operating deficits. While the net equity of the operating funds decreased for the year, the amount of decrease was the lowest in the last 3 years and reflects the progress that the District has made in reducing the annual operating deficits, primarily in the Education Fund. Revenues recorded in the Education Fund totaled 101% of the budget, and expenditures totaled 100% of budget. The District experienced about \$250,000 of one-time tax amnesty funds from the state as well as a catch-up payment for reimbursement for special education. These two items account for the small percentage excess of actual revenues over budget. The average daily attendance decreased by 48 students or approximately 1%, and the operating cost per

pupil increased by only 1% which is the result of the slight decrease in enrollment.

The financial results helped the District to maintain the Financial Profile Designation of Financial Recognition established by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE); the highest designation of the four categories established by ISBE.

Local revenues represent 74% of the total operating revenues of the District. Currently state revenues comprise only 17% of the total operating revenues of the District, and federal funds provides 9% of revenues for operating revenues. Salaries and benefits represented 75% of the total operating expenditures of the District. Therefore, reductions in budgets naturally have a significant impact on personnel. Purchased services represented 10% of total operating expenses with supplies and materials representing another 10%. All other operating expenses represented only 5% of total operating expenditures.

The assessed values for the District have continued to increase, and the District has been able to maintain a very consistent tax rate over the last several years with a slight reduction during that time. The average daily attendance has remained within a narrow range over the last several years reflecting a relatively stable enrollment.

Mr. Custis commended the Board of Education and Superintendent for their attention to their fiscal responsibilities and the progress that the District has made in reducing the operating deficits.

Mr. Dirks presented the Consent Agenda for approval. Mr. Davis asked that Item K, Education Services Center (ESC) Roof Replacement Bid Recommendation be moved to Board Action C.

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mr. Davis that the Consent Agenda (Personnel Report, Bills, Payroll, Treasurer's Report, Financial Summary, Resolution: Treasurer, District 87 Board of Education, BHS Chiller Plant Addition Bid Recommendation, BHS Chiller Plant Installation Bid Recommendation, BHS Fire Alarm System Bid Recommendation, ESC Fire Alarm System Bid Recommendation, District Lawn Maintenance Three Year Contract Bid Recommendation, Life Safety Building Permit Applications, BJHS Addition Feasibility Study Request for Architectural Services Recommendation, Letter of Understanding-BJHS Outdoor Education, Tuition-Based Enrollment, and Sheridan School Air Cooled Chiller Equipment Bid Recommendation) be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-13-04/1

Dr. Nielsen thanked Dr. Kilpatrick for his service to District 87, especially during our recent budget deficit. Dr. Nielsen stated that he admired, respected and valued Dr. Kilpatrick's professionalism, friendship and sense of humor.

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Davis that the Board approve the SHOR 0405-1. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-13-04/2)

It was moved by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hanson that the Board approve the Audit Report, 2003-04. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 10-13-04/3)

Mr. Davis asked why the bids came in so much higher than the estimates that we had budgeted for the Educational Services Center (ESC) Roof Replacement? Dr. Kilpatrick stated that in part of the ceilings there are skylights that have been covered up. Part of the design was to do some work around those. We think through redesign we can get bids at a more reasonable level.

Mr. Davis asked what the current condition of the roof is? Dr. Kilpatrick stated that we have moved equipment out of rooms because the roof had leaked on equipment. Right now we try to patch the roof when we have problems, but it needs to be replaced entirely.

It was moved by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hanson that the Board go into Closed Session for the purpose of the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hanson, seconded by Mrs. Roth, that the Board return to the Regular Meeting. Upon a roll call vote all members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Dirks adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President

Secretary