

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 9, 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, Mrs. Millicent Roth, Mr. John Dirks, and Mrs. Janet Smith, Board President. Mr. Keith Davis was absent.

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

Present from the news media was Ms. Sharon Wolfe, The Pantagraph, and Mr. Bret Lemoine, WMBD/WYZZ TV.

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mrs. Jackson that the Regular Meeting adjourn sine die. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 9, 2007

6:33 P.M.

Educational Services Center

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

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Roth that Mrs. Smith be appointed Temporary Chairman. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Roth that Ms. Clancy be appointed Temporary Secretary. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Mr. Stephen Perry took his seat as a new Board Member.

Mr. Joseph Butcher, Mr. Stephen Perry and Mr. Michael Harrison, as newly elected Board Members, read the following oath separately:

I, (name), do solemnly swear (or 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 swear (or 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.

It was moved by Mr. Butcher, seconded by Mrs. Roth, that Mrs. Smith be elected President of the Board of Education for a one-year term. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Harrison, that Mrs. Jackson be elected Vice-President of the Board of Education for a one-year term. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Dirks that Ms. Clancy be appointed Secretary of the Board of Education. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Perry, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that Mr. Wood be appointed Treasurer of the Board of Education. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Roth to approve all current Ad Hoc Committees and Other Appointees. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 05-09-07/1)

It was moved by Mr. Dirks, seconded by Mrs. Jackson that the Board approve the Calendar of Regular Board Meetings from May 23, 2007 to June 25, 2008. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 05-09-07/2)

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Butcher, that the Board approve all Existing Contracts and current Board of Education Policies. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried.

Mrs. Smith presented the Minutes for approval. It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mrs. Roth, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on April 25, 2007 and the Minutes of the Closed Meeting of the Board of Education held on April 27, 2007 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Dirks, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Butcher, Mrs. Roth and Mrs. Smith voted "Aye". Mr. Perry abstained as he had not been sworn in as an official Member of the Board at that time. Motion carried.

Dr. Nielsen recognized Mr. Tim Moore, Bloomington High School (BHS) Associate Principal, as the new BHS Principal effective July 1, 2007.

Mr. Moore introduced Mr. Bryan Wolfe, current Bloomington Junior High School (BJHS) Physical Education teacher, as the new BHS Assistant Principal effective August 1, 2007.

Mrs. Smith congratulated Mr. Moore and Mr. Wolfe on their new positions and asked them to come forward and receive personal congratulations from the Board.

Mr. Butcher stated he met with Mr. Tom Frazier, Bloomington Area Vocational Center (BAVC) Director and it was a very informative meeting.

Mr. Dirks stated that there were 35 grant requests for the Beyond the Books Educational Foundation (BTB) to review and 16 grants will be awarded for \$12,903 at the end-of-the year staff recognitions.

Mrs. Jackson stated that she, Mrs. Smith and Dr. Nielsen attended the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Cornbelt meeting in Fairbury last week where Mr. Mark Harms from Flanagan School Board was elected as Director, replacing Mrs. Jackson in that position. Mrs. Jackson stated that she was elected Chairman of the Cornbelt Division and Mr. Steve Hammer, Olympia School District, was elected Vice-Chairperson.

Mrs. Smith received a few emails from concerned parents in the Bent School area wondering if there was some way the District could contact parents quicker when emergencies occur e.g. the recent attempted abduction near Bent School. She stated the parents recommended the District look into some email system where we would notify people immediately when something of that nature happens. She asked the Board to think about this suggestion and determine if changes are needed in the way we disseminate information currently to parents.

Mrs. Smith stated that she, Dr. Nielsen, Mr. Wood and Mr. John Pratt, attorney, attended a meeting at Mayor Steve Stockton's office concerning the Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District in downtown Bloomington and what taxation venues we could use to help with downtown redevelopment, but not at the expense of the school district or other taxing bodies. She stated that there will be a committee formed to discuss the guidelines and the principles to be followed as we work with funding streams for redevelopment. Mr. Wood, Mr. Pratt and Mrs. Smith will be the District 87 representatives on this committee.

Mr. Dirks suggested putting together an educational piece on how this process will work.

Mr. Wood presented the suggested Student/Parent Handbooks changes for the 2007-08 school year. Changes will affect the following areas:

Student Handbooks, 2008 Standard Provisions

- General Building & Security
- Student Accident Insurance
- Transportation
- Missing Children Records Act
- Special Diets
- Sex Offender Community Notification

Student Handbooks, 2008 Routine Changes

- Names, Dates, Pictures & Other Factual Descriptions
- Spelling & Grammar
- Minor Editorial Purposes

Student Handbooks, 2008 Elementary

- Standard Provisions
- English as a Second Language
- Medical Excuse for P.E. classes
- Excused Absences
- Tardiness/Leaving Early
- Lunch Program

- Student Discipline
- Student Appearance

Student Handbooks, 2008 BJHS

- Standard Provisions

Student Handbooks, 2008 BHS

- Standard Provisions
- Unapproved Absences
- Dress and Grooming, Personal Appearance, Student Attire
- Identification Cards
- Gross Misconduct or Disobedience

Changes recommended concern the language for emergency sirens in *Transportation* and clarification regarding the use of electronic devices within the Gross Misconduct and Disobedience section of *Student Discipline*. These changes will be applied at all grade levels.

Mr. Wood stated that he would make suggested changes and bring them back for Board consideration at the May 23, 2007 Board Meeting.

Dr. Nielsen presented the following Board of Education policies for Second Reading and asked for any suggestions or changes: 2.010 School District Governance; 2.020 Powers and Duties of the School Board; 2.040 School Board Membership; 2.080 Board Member Oath and Conduct; 2.110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers; 2.130 Board-Superintendent Relationship; 2.140 Communications To and From the Board; 2.150 Committee Organization; 2.200 Regular Meetings; 2.202 Closed Meetings; 2.206 Special Meetings; 2.208 Emergency Meetings; 2.210 Organizational School Board Meetings; 2.220 Agenda; 2.222 Voting Method; 2.224 Minutes: Regular, Special, Adjourned, Emergency, Closed; 2.240 Board Policy Development; 6.235 Access to Electronic Networks.

Mr. Perry stated that in Board Policy 2.208, Emergency Meetings, the new paragraph that is suggested is about Regular Meetings, not Emergency Meetings. This paragraph should go into policy 2.200, Regular Meetings.

Mr. Perry stated that in Policy 2.240, Board Policy Development, in the last paragraph on page 1, the last full sentence is repeating the sentence before it and should be omitted.

Dr. Nielsen stated these changes will be made and brought back at the next Board Meeting for Board consideration.

Mr. Reilly presented a proposed plan for summer training for the District's Office and Technical Employees (OTE) through the introduction of an OTE Moveable Feast.

The OTE Feast will be similar to the already available Feasts offered to teachers and administrators. Topics for training will include: communication skills, Skyward financials; textbook tracking; data mining, fee management, dealing with challenging/difficult people and situations and evaluations. Staff who complete the training will be eligible for a stipend and an increase in their hourly rates. The OTE Feast is scheduled to take place on July 30 and 31st and can accommodate up to 70 staff members.

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the Consent Agenda (Human Resources Report, Bills, Payroll, BHS North Entrance Bid Recommendation, BHS North Parking Lot Bid Recommendation and the Contract for

Facilities Use) be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 05-09-07/3)

Dr. Nielsen stated that he passed out a list of Staff Recognitions that will be held in May and June and asked the Board to sign up to attend the ones that their schedules allowed. He stated that we would like a Board Member at each event. He also noted that the BTB will be presenting the BTB grants at these recognitions.

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Dirks, that the 2006-07 Amended School Calendar be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 05-09-07/4)

It was moved by Mrs. Roth, seconded by Mrs. Jackson, that the First Student Contract Extension be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 05-09-07/5)

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Harrison, that the Resolution: Intervention in 2006 Appeals to the Property Tax Appeal Board, be approved. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present, voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, Attachment 05-09-07/6)

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

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

APPPROVED:

ATTEST:

President

Secretary