

COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205

Board of Education

7:00 PM –Monday, February 10, 2014

932 Harrison Street—Galesburg, Illinois

Regular Meeting

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Recognition of Visitors  
*(This is the time when visitors may request to address the Board of Education on any item germane should stand, give their name and address and begin their statements. Persons are asked to refrain from making any personal comments regarding any individual. The Board President reserves the right to limit presentations to five minutes.)*
- V. Approval of Minutes  
Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 13, 2014, Special Meeting of January 9, 2014 and Special Meeting of January 21, 2014
- VI. Approval of Payrolls and Claims  
Reported by Member Panther
- VII. Approval of Consent Agenda  
*(All items listed under the consent agenda are considered to be routine by the Board of Education and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these unless a Board member or citizen so requests in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered individually.)*
  - A. Approval of Change Orders
  - B. Approval to Submit School Maintenance Project Grant
- VIII. Correspondence
- IX. Committee Reports
  - A. Budget
  - B. Buildings and Grounds
  - C. Insurance
  - D. Recruitment for Educational Diversity
  - E. Student Council

- X. Old Business
  
- XI. New Business
  - A. Approve Personnel Agenda
  - B. Approval of Community Unit School District 205 Strategic Plan Revisions
  - C. Approval of Closing Cooke Elementary School
  - D. Approval of Cost Containment Plan
  - E. Approval of Resolution Authorizing \$5 Million Dollar Line of Credit
  - F. Approval of Resolution Authorizing Working Cash Loan in the Amount of \$2,085,250
  - G. Adopt Resolution Abating a Portion of the Taxes Levied for the Year 2013 to Pay Debt Service on the General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2011A, of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois
  - H. Adopt Resolution Abating a Portion of the Taxes Levied for the Year 2013 to Pay Debt Service on Alternate Revenue Bonds Series 2011B, of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois
  - I. Approval of 2014-2015 School Calendar
  
- XII. Administrative Reports
  - A. Director for Human Resources
  - B. Knox-Warren Special Education Director
  - C. Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
  - D. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction/Superintendent
  
- XIII. Comments By Board of Education
  
- XIV. Closed Session
  - A. Discuss the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Employee(s)
  
- XV. Adjournment

*Next Meeting—Monday, March 10, 2014*

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Consent Agenda VII. A:

Approval of Change Orders

Background:

These are the final change orders which reconcile the contingency for both Steele and Lombard. Both contingencies were overspent so these change orders also include a new guaranteed maximum price.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented

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Consent Agenda VII. B:

Approval to Submit School Maintenance Project Grant

Background:

On the afternoon of February 4, 2014, we received notification from ISBE that it had released funding for another round of maintenance grants. These are matching grants of \$50,000 for approved Life Safety maintenance projects. There is significant masonry work required at the GHS building. Bob Johnson will submit the application funding masonry work for the \$50,000 matching grant to the State of Illinois. The application deadline is February 28, 2014.

Recommended Action:

Direct administration to work with the architect firm of Klingler and Associates to develop and submit the application for the \$50,000 (round two) School Maintenance Grant.

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New Business XI. B:

Approval of Community Unit School District 205 Strategic Plan Revisions

Background:

On January 21, 2014, the district administration and board met to finalize the adoption of the strategic plan. The eleven (11) value statements and six (6) goals were identified. The value statements and goals, along with the mission statements will be the guiding documents as we move into the future. Strategic planning is based on community values and beliefs, representative of all segments of the school and community; a dynamic and interactive process; a focusing of commitment and vision; a concentration of resources on mutually determined measurable outcomes; and long term 3-5 years.

Recommended Action:

Presented to the Board of Education for Consideration and Approval

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New Business XI. C:

Approval of Closing Cooke Elementary School

Background:

In light of the recent cutbacks from the State of Illinois, the administration is recommending the closure of Cooke Elementary School beginning with the 2014-2015 school year. Anticipated savings will be \$930,321. More importantly, Cooke Elementary is out of compliance with the special education law, which states that the balance of regular education and special education in individual classrooms is mandated to be 70% regular education and 30% special education.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented

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New Business XI. D:

Approval of Cost Containment Plan

Background:

The administration proposes that the Board act to accept as a package, the cost saving, revenue enhancement plan. Said action will yield \$1,843,235 in dollars to cover the anticipated deficit in next year's budget.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented

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New Business XI. E:

Approval of Resolution Authorizing \$5Million Dollar Line of Credit

Background:

Currently, the balance of the Working Cash Fund stands at \$5,448,436. The budget shows that we will need to transfer \$3 million before the end of the year from this fund to cover the expansion of the GHS Multipurpose Facility expansion that occurred in January of 2013. Because some funds have been under levied and therefore underfunded, and because we are required to loan \$2,085,250 from the Working Cash to cover the tax abatement, there is no “safety net” Working Cash and other operating fund balances. A cash shortfall could occur from any number of reasons including delayed payments from the state for general state aid, any categorical, or any grant; an unforeseen construction cost overrun; any building or equipment issue that requires immediate repair. The money would be used on a short-term basis to cover a short-term funding issue.

Because it is easier to get a line of credit when you really don’t need it, I began investigating this course of action awhile back. This would be a \$5 million line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank at a favorable rate that would be renewable on an annual basis. There will be no charge for the line of credit if we do not use it. It would merely be available funds for short-term use as a prudent backup plan.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented



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New Business XI. F:

Approval of Resolution Authorizing Working Cash Loan in the Amount of \$2,085,250

Background:

When Knox County passed the County Facilities Sales Tax, the District issued Alternate Revenue Bonds and abated taxes in an amount that had not yet been collected by the school district. Because bonds were issued and payments pledged from funds that had not been collected yet, because of overly optimistic forecasting and because of the requirement to have 125% of the amount being abated available in the fund at the time of abatement, we need to loan \$2,085,250 to the bond and interest fund.

Recommended Action:

Approve the resolution loaning \$2,085,250 from working cash to the bond and interest fund to be reimbursed to the working cash fund from the taxes levied for bond and interest purposes for the year 2013 when such taxes shall be received.

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New Business XI. G:

Adopt Resolution Abating a Portion of the Taxes Levied for the Year 2013 to Pay Debt Service on the General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2011A, of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Background:

In December, the district levied \$2,153,481 in property taxes to pay this year's installment on the Series 2011A bonds (Health-Life-Safety Source). The master facility plan provided for the abatement of a portion of said levy by utilizing the proceeds from the County School Facility Tax. The amount of this abatement varies according to the amount of distributions received from this tax. This year, the amount of tax to be abated is \$859,981. This reduces the amount of tax to be extended from \$2,153,481 to \$1,293,500. This abatement allows the overall property tax rate of \$4.46 per \$100 EAV as promised by the Board of Education in December.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution Abating a Portion of the Taxes Levied for the Year 2013 to Pay Debt Service on the General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2011A, of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

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New Business XI. H:

Adopt Resolution Abating a Portion of the Taxes Levied for the Year 2013 to Pay Debt Service on Alternate Revenue Bonds Series 2011B, of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Background:

In December, the district levied \$1,225,269 in property taxes to pay this year's installment on the Series 2011B bonds (Alternate Revenue Source). These bonds are financed entirely by the County Facilities Sales Tax revenues collected throughout the year. As we have received sales tax revenues sufficient to cover the entire amount of the installment due, it will be abated in its entirety. As a result, the tax levy passed by the board in December will remain at \$4.46 per \$100 EAV.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution Abating a Portion of the Taxes Levied for the Year 2013 to Pay Debt Service on Alternate Revenue Bonds Series 2011B, of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

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New Business XI. I:

Approval of 2014-2015 School Calendar

Background:

The 2014-2015 Calendar Committee, comprised of faculty, staff, and parents, met and is ready to bring a recommendation to the Board. The committee has considered survey results, and personal input from staff, in making this recommendation. A complete calendar template will be shared with and explained to the Board at the February 10, 2014 meeting.

We may be required to change the scheduled date of the County Teachers Institute based on the desire of the newly elected Regional Superintendent of the consolidated Regional Office of Education.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented