

COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 205

Board of Education

7:00 PM – Monday, November 14, 2011

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 to the role and function of the Board of Education. When the Board President so directs, persons 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.)

-The Lunch Spot

V. Approval of Minutes

Approve minutes of regular meeting of October 10, 2011, special meeting of October 10, 2011, special meeting of October 25, 2011 and special meeting of November 2, 2011

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. Review and Approve Submission of Grant for School Library Program

B. Coordinator of Special Education Services

VIII. Correspondence

IX. Committee Reports

A. Budget

B. Buildings and Grounds

C. Insurance

D. Recruitment for Educational Diversity

E. Student Council

- X. Old Business
 - A. Concussion and Head Injury Board Policy 730.02a—Final Reading

- XI. New Business
 - A. Approve Personnel Agenda
 - B. Approval of the Agreement Between the Galesburg Education Association and Galesburg Community Unit School District No. 205—August 19, 2011 through July 31, 2014
 - C. Accept Audit
 - D. Adopt Resolution Setting the 2011 Tentative Tax Levy
 - E. Approval of Resolution Directing the Transfer of Funds from the Working Cash Fund of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois
 - F. Adopt Abatement Resolutions
 - 1. Adopt Resolution Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2011 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2011B, of Community Unit District No. 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois
 - 2. Adopt Resolution Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2011 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation School Bonds (General Obligation Source), Series 2011A, of Community Unit School District No. 205, Knox and Warren Counties
 - G. Authorize Submission of Preschool Construction Grant Application

- XII. Administrative Reports
 - A. Director for Human Resources
 - B. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
 - C. Knox-Warren Special Education Director
 - D. Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
 - E. Superintendent

- XIII. Comments By Board of Education

- XIV. Closed Session

- XV. Adjournment

Next Meeting—December 12, 2011

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

Recognition of Visitors:

The Lunch Spot

Background:

When District #205 planned an extended winter break during the 2009-2010 school year, the question of feeding students in need came to the attention of several local community organizations. They banded together with parents and community members to ensure that lunch would be provided for students on a daily basis during the two week extension. Calling themselves “The Lunch Spot”, the group worked with the District and mobilized forces in the community to publicize their efforts, gather donations, organize volunteers, and oversee registration. The result was that nearly 500 hungry children across the city were fed every day. When students from Knox College learned about the team’s efforts, they quickly joined in and donated unused meal swipes from their own meal plans and volunteered their services wherever needed. “The Lunch Spot” not only fed children’s bodies, the group taught them about the power of cooperative action. Their concern and compassion nourished the community and inspired the people of Galesburg.

On October 22, 2011, “The Lunch Spot” team was recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education at its annual “Those Who Excel” banquet. The team received the highest designation in the program, an Award of Excellence, for their efforts. Tonight, we recognize them in front of the Board as an outstanding symbol of cooperation and support for our students.

Recommended Action:

Informational Only

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

Approval of Consent Agenda VII. A:

Review and Approve Submission of Grant for School Library Program

Background:

Annually, the Illinois State Board of Education makes funds available to support the purchase of library books for libraries in the schools. Funds are limited, and this year should total approximately \$3,500.00. The use of these funds is alternated between elementary and secondary schools. This year the funds will be allocated to the secondary schools on a per pupil basis. The Board is asked to approve the grant request submission.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

Approval of Consent Agenda VII. B:

Coordinator of Special Education Services

Background:

The District has employed Coordinators of Special Education Services for many years. A job description needed to be developed to reflect the positions' duties and responsibilities.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

Old Business X. A:

Concussion and Head Injury Board Policy 730.02a—Final Reading

Background:

Effective August 1, 2011, Governor Quinn signed House Bill 200, which protects student athletes from concussions and other brain injuries. The law requires every Illinois school board to adopt a concussion policy that complies with the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) guidelines. The new guidelines prevent students who are removed from a game or practice due to a possible head injury from returning without being evaluated and cleared by a medical professional. In addition, school boards must partner with the IHSA to develop materials to educate coaches, student athletes, and their parents about concussions. Board Policy 730.02a is being presented for approval by the Board. The policy has been based on a template provided by the IASB and is substantively the same as the draft presented in September. The language has been submitted to Attorney West for review.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

New Business XI. B:

Approval of the Agreement Between the Galesburg Education Association and Galesburg Community Unit School District No. 205—August 19, 2011 through July 31, 2014

Background:

The Galesburg Education Association and the Board's bargaining team came to a tentative agreement on Monday, November 7, 2011. The GEA membership ratified the agreement on Wednesday, November 9, 2011.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

New Business XI. C:

Accept Audit

Background:

State Statute provides that school board have an independent audit of their financial condition performed each year. In April the Board engaged the firm John E. Meister, CPA to conduct the district's audit. Principal auditor Ron Hilton has performed the audit of the district's financial accounts including Knox-Warren Special Education Association, Area Vocational Center and District 205. There were "no findings" to report nor adverse conditions which might give rise to concern.

Under separate cover will be found a copy of the respective audits and accompanying schedules and opinions or the ISBE required "Annual Financial Report."

Recommended Action:

Accept Audit for Knox-Warren Special Education, Area Vocational Center and CUSD 205 as Presented

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

New Business XI. D:

Adopt Resolution Setting the 2011 Tentative Tax Levy

Background:

The district requires \$ 52,848,492 to meet its ordinary and necessary expenses for the last half of Fiscal 2011 and first half of Fiscal 2012.

The 2011 tax levy payable in calendar year 2012 for use in both fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13 has tentatively been set at \$18,820,541 *before* a planned debt service levy abatement of \$2,589,954 bringing to \$16,328,285 the *net* levy for comparison to the prior year's extension. (See separate "abatement" resolution.) This represents a zero change over the prior year's extension of \$16,328,285. It is made up of \$15,288,534 in "corporate" and "special purposes" property taxes representing a minus 1.64% change over the prior year's extension of \$15,543,008. (This calculation determines whether or not a "truth-in-taxation" hearing must be held; it does not.) Also included is \$3,532,006 *before* abatement or \$942,052 *after* abatement in debt service property taxes representing a 414% or 37% change, respectively, over the prior year's extension of \$677,029.

The District's levy was based upon an equalized assessed valuation ("EAV") expected to increase 0.05% to \$386,688,574, including nearly \$4,463,882 in new property. The EAV base does not include \$6,467,001 in tax increment financing ("TIF") or enterprise zone ("EZ") incentives.

A homeowner whose home is valued at \$100,000 fair market will see the District 205 portion of his/her tax bill *decrease* by roughly \$1 annually (assuming no year-over-year change in the value of his/her property).¹ Most of this change can be attributed to a modest increase in farm assessments and the capturing of new construction values.

It should be noted that while the total levy amount will not change—*after* abatement, the items and amounts levied have as more fully shown in Exhibit 1. The "lease" levy is diminished in 2011 while the "fire prevention & safety" levy is zeroed out—due exclusively to the Operation Rebuild-Achievement bond sales—with significant increases to the retirement levies offset by a decrease in the "tort" levy.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution Setting the 2011 Tentative Tax Levy as Presented *before* abatement.

¹ The TIF and EZ incentives, if accounted for, would have generated \$271,441 in additional income or decreased the tax levy by an equal amount and the corresponding tax rate by 7¢ (further lowering the \$100,000 homeowner tax bill by \$24).

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

New Business XI. E:

Approval of RESOLUTION Directing the Transfer of Funds from the Working Cash Fund of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Background:

Phase I of Operation Rebuild-Achievement was financed with the sale of three bonds Series 2011 A, B & C the principal and interest portion thereof to be repaid, in part, from proceeds derived from the County School Facilities Sales (“CTSFS”) tax backed by an ad valorem property tax. The CTSFS would be used to reduce the amount of ad valorem taxes needed to be collected in order to pay down the scheduled debt service (see separate “Abatement” resolutions). The district has begun to receive and has deposited into the debt service fund the proceeds from said same CTSFS tax. Collection and availability of sufficient CTSFS tax proceeds, the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes, abatement of any taxes and the payment of scheduled debt service do not sync-up with one another. To address this cash flow conundrum, the district has at its disposal the authority to loan moneys from its Working Cash fund to the Debt Service fund. The attached resolution sets forth the amount necessary to meet the cash flow needs of the Debt Service fund and the provisions for repaying the Working Cash fund.

The administration proposes a loan of working cash funds to provide for the payment of scheduled debt service, the use of CTSFS taxes to, effectively, replace the ad valorem tax collected for debt service and repay the working cash fund loan otherwise repaid upon the collection of said same ad valorem taxes.

Recommended Action:

Adopt RESOLUTION Directing the Transfer of Funds from the Working Cash Fund of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

New Business XI. F1:

Adopt RESOLUTION Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2011 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2011B, of Community Unit School District No. 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Background:

The District is to levy \$1,862,681.26 in ad valorem taxes to pay the first installment on the Series 2011 B bonds (Alternate Revenue Source). The bond covenants provided for the abatement of said levy utilizing the proceeds from the County School Facility tax. This resolution perfects the district's intent to reduce its levy by an amount equal to the first installment. This action along with a companion abatement of the Series 2011 A bonds () will allow the district to maintain its overall property tax levy and associated \$4.20 rate at the prior year's level, all as called for in the original 20-year master facility plan—Operation Rebuild-Achievement.

Recommended Action:

Adopt RESOLUTION Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2011 to Pay Debt service on General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2011B, of Community Unit School District No. 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

New Business XI. F2:

Adopt RESOLUTION Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the year 2011 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation School Bonds (General Obligation Source), Series 2011A, of Community Unit School District Number 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Background:

The District is to levy \$836,518.76 in ad valorem taxes to pay the first installment on the Series 2011A bonds (General Obligation Source). The master facility plan “Operation Rebuild-Achievement” called for the district to maintain, as practical and possible, its overall tax rate at \$4.20 per hundred dollars equalize assessed valuation. This resolution, when combined with New Business XI.E2, perfects that intent to maintain an overall tax rate of \$4.20 per hundred dollars equalized assessed valuation.

Recommended Action:

Adopt RESOLUTION Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the year 2011 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation School Bonds (General Obligation Source), Series 2011A, of Community Unit School District Number 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Community Unit School District No. 205
November 14, 2011

New Business XI. G:

Authorize Submission of Preschool Construction Grant Application

Background:

The Illinois Capital Development Board in conjunction with the Illinois State Board of Education is accepting grant applications for preschool construction. The CDB/ISBE program will make awards to successful applicants of up to \$5,000,000. The applicants must demonstrate a ten percent match to be eligible plus meet other conditions. The grant program is competitive.

The grant calls for the construction of a \$7,556,500 addition to the Lincoln Education Center of which the district will seek a \$5,000,000 grant. The preschool population currently housed at the Lincoln Education Center would be relocated to the new addition. The vacated portion of the Lincoln Education Center would then be available for any necessary, temporary relocation of primary school students during construction. (With the possible exception of work at Silas Willard—whether renovated or new—all other primary schools are expected to remain in session during the expected twelve month construction period.) *No work would be done to the district administration and KWSED offices.*

The District's Implementation Committee has reviewed the grant application and has endorsed the same to the Board's Building Committee which in turn has/will have accepted and supports administration's recommendation that the same be approved for submission.

Recommended Action:

Approve as Presented