

MINUTES

Community Unit School District #205
Board of Education
February 8, 2010

Call To Order/Roll Call

The Community Unit School District #205 Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Monday, February 8, 2010 at 7:00 PM at 932 Harrison St., Galesburg, IL. The meeting was called to order by President Lindstrom. The roll was read and the following Members responded: Harrison, Lindstrom, Nelson, Osborn, Panther, Strauch, Swanson (7) Roll Call #1

Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was observed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of Visitors

President Lindstrom introduced Dr. Tom Chiles, Galesburg High School Principal. Dr. Chiles addressed the Board congratulating Mr. Steve Eisemann on being named the State of Illinois Assistant Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principal's Association (IPA). Mr. Eisemann has worked for District #205 for 32 years. He worked at Churchill Junior High for 6 years as a science teacher, then transferred to Galesburg High School as a dean of students for 6 years, and has been an assistant principal for the last 20 years! He was nominated for the award by fellow Assistant Principal, Sharon Gonzalez. Steve was honored on Tuesday, February 2nd, at the IPA's Assistant Principals' Convention in Lisle. By winning the award, Steve is the State of Illinois nominee for the National Assistant Principal of the Year, which will be named later this spring at the national convention in Washington, D.C.

Member Swanson welcomed his Knox College students to the meeting.

Mr. Jeremy Day O'Connell addressed the Board regarding his son who attends Costa Catholic preschool and the issues his family is having with bus transportation and the lack of it being available to his family.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Member Harrison and seconded by Member Panther that the Minutes of the regular meeting of January 11, 2010 be approved without further reading and without correction or addition. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Welty, Osborn, Panther, Strauch, Swanson, Harrison (6) Abstained: Lindstrom (1) Motion carried. Roll Call #2

Approval of Payrolls and Claims

Upon presentation by Member Lindstrom of payroll and claims filed in the Ledger Book as#540 as of February 8, 2010, which exhibit is incorporated herein and by reference made a part hereof, it was moved by Member Welty and seconded by Member Strauch that the same be approved and allowed for payment as presented. On roll call the

following Members voted AYE: Welty, Osborn, Panther, Strauch, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #3

Approval of Consent Agenda - None

Correspondence – None

Committee Reports

Budget

Member Osborn stated that the Budget Committee last met week to receive a preview of the draft Operation/Program Job Save FY 2010-2011 Budget Re-Alignment Plan prepared by administration after receiving staff input. Administration will be continuing dialogue with staff and building stakeholders over the next weeks in preparation for a Board Committee of the Whole meeting later this month. No meeting has yet to be scheduled.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Member Swanson stated that the Buildings and Grounds Committee met last month to review the final change orders of the past summer's construction and to review the several emergency repairs that occurred during winter break. The committee is not expected to meet again until April at which time it is expected to receive a copy of the proposed Master Facility Plan and recommendations.

Insurance Committee

Member Harrison stated that the Insurance Committee last met January 25, 2010. The fund balance is reported at \$135,712.87. Discussion regarding the staff education process for the high Deductible health Plan (HDHP), building based meetings have been scheduled and sent to staff. A meeting has also been scheduled for Wednesday, March 31, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. to reach special education staff working outside of District #205. Due to the critically low balance the medical fund had reached recently the

committee asked that the plans base rate be increased by 4% effective March 1, 2010 to assist in maintaining a medical solvent plan. This also brings the plan to the consultant recommended 10% for the 2009-2010 school year.

Recruitment for Educational Diversity

Member Swanson stated that the RED Committee last met on February 1, 2010 to discuss recruitment for the 2010-2011 school year, although many (if any) openings are not anticipated. The committee plans to attend in hopes of cultivating interest for the 2011-2012 and/or 2012-2013 school years. It is planned to attend Illinois State University, Eastern Illinois University and University of Illinois on March 2,3 and 4, 2010 respectfully and Bradley University on March 9, 2010. The next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2010.

Student Council

Sarah Main, Student Council President reported that Student Council has been preparing for Swirl week which began today. The annual student/faculty basketball game will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$2.00 with all proceeds being donated to Haiti relief. An assembly will be held on Friday, February 12, 2010 and the "When In Rome" dance is scheduled for Saturday, February 13, 2010. For the charity of the month student council is teaming up with Dr. Chiles and donating \$100 to CASA, which is an organization that provides legal support and mentoring to children.

Instructional Presentation

PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support)—Lombard

Mr. Joel Estes, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, introduced Mr. Neal Thompson and Mrs. Tiffany Springer to present how Lombard is addressing social and emotional learning standards through PBIS. Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Tiffany Springer and staff consisting of Mr. Dave Wilt, Ms. Jamie Helderman, Ms. Heather Galbreath, and Ms. Debbie Cratty; explained how they have implemented PBIS at Lombard. (Insert)

Old Business—NoneNew BusinessA. Approve Personnel Agenda

Diane VanHootegem, Director for Human Resources, stated that the Personnel Agenda stands as presented and recommended its approval. It was moved by Member Swanson and seconded by Member Welty to approve the Personnel Agenda as presented and recommended by the administration. (Insert Personnel Agenda) On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Strauch, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom, Welty, Osborn (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #4

B. Approve Revisions to Board Policy 400.00

Guy Cahill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, stated that at the December meeting of the Board's Budget Committee, in the context of reviewing the audit and certain financial reports, a suggestion was made by the Chair that we consider a policy specific to our fund balances and cash availability. Noting that the state uses these two indicators plus the balancing of the budget as the key measures (there are two other lesser measures) in determining a district's financial health, administration crafted two objectives to append onto the existing "Operational Service" goals and objectives. They include having 180-days "cash on hand" and a "revenue to fund balance" ratio of 4:1. Both these measures plus balancing the budget garner the district the maximum point value in scoring its financial health. With the close of last fiscal year the district had a balanced budget, a 4:1 revenue to fund balance ratio but less than 180-days cash. (Actual days cash on hand stood at 170 year end; this was down from 199 the year before.) Mr. Cahill recommended approval of Revisions to board Policy 400.00. Member Harrison moved to approve the Revision to Board Policy 400.00 and Member Osborn seconded the motion. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Strauch, Swanson, Welty, Harrison, Lindstrom, Osborn, Panther (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #5

C. Approve Internet Service Provider Contract

Guy Cahill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, stated that our current district internet connection is neither fast nor reliable enough given our needs. On most school days this connection is maxed out and therefore we can't add any new services like distance learning, additional web based curriculum or other bandwidth intensive services. All district buildings are connected to the high school and from there our centralized internet connection is located. This connection feeds the entire district with internet access. This connection also passes outside traffic for our email server, district web site and outside Skyward access. Currently we are winding down a five year contract with EduNet. This contract is due to expire on July 1st of this year. This connection provides a maximum bandwidth of 6mbps (mega bits per second). The connection has not been a very fast or reliable connection. One of the reasons for this is the nature of the connection. The service is based on wireless access points using public shared frequencies. Five years ago this connection was state of the art but that no longer

is the case. After e-rate reimbursement we pay \$562 per month for this connection. Proposed is replacing the EduNet internet connection with a service provided by Century Link. The lowest price came from Century Link from quotations obtained from AT&T, Sprint, and Verizon. The monthly price for this connection after e-rate reimbursement will be \$948 per month for five years. The connection is a fiber optic cable run from the local phone company office direct to our high school which will address the reliability issues of the existing system. Our current contract with EduNet expires on July 1st of this year. The new contract with Century Link, with Board approval, would start on July 1st. There will be no overlap of service. In order to be eligible for the e-rate discount we must have signed contracts in place by February 11th of this year. In summary, \$948 per month for new direct connect 50mbs speed service versus existing \$562 per month unreliable service at 6mbps speed. It was moved by Member Swanson and seconded by Member Strauch to approve the Internet Service Provider Contract as presented. (Insert) On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom, Welty, Osborn, Panther, Strauch (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #6

D. Approve Increase to Medical Base Rate by 4%

Diane VanHootegem, Director for Human Resources, stated that the consultant had recommended a minimum increase of 10% for the 2009-10 school year, however the committee decided to recommend a 6% increase, pending the contract negotiation settlement. At this time the committee is asking that the addition of 4% be added to the current base, effective March 1, 2010 (or as soon as possible) to maintain a solvent medical plan. Member Welty moved to approve the Increase to the Medical Base Rate by 4% and Member Osborn seconded the motion. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Harrison, Lindstrom, Welty, Osborn, Panther, Strauch, Swanson (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #7

Administrative Reports

Mr. Joel Estes, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, updated the Board on the restructuring progress at Galesburg High School. Presenting information on how Galesburg High School arrived at the point of needing restructuring, the work of the GHS School Improvement Team in writing the ISBE Restructuring Plan, themes associated with addressing the graduation rate decline at Galesburg High School, preliminary results from the community survey, plans for the community forum and a timeline for completion of the work. (Insert)

Ms. Susan Crawford, Director for Knox-Warren Special Education, presented the Board with information regarding the outcome of the ISBE Focus Monitoring visit. Ms. Crawford explained that the Special Education Programs requires each state to have a monitoring system that monitors the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by local education agencies and corrects noncompliance within 12 calendar months of identification. Focused Monitoring is an approach to determining compliance with federal and state special education laws and regulation which also addressing the critical performance areas identified in the State Performance Plan. For the 2009-2010 school year, the Illinois State Board of Education targeted Critical

Performance Indicator 5A of the State Performance Plan as the monitoring focus for local education agencies; percent of children with IEP's ages 6 through 21 served inside the general education setting 80% or more of the school day. In November 2009 a Focus Monitoring team from the Illinois State Board of Education visited the district to investigate a discrepancy in the percentage of students with disabilities spending more than 80% of the school day in the regular classroom. The ISBE team reviewed special education policies and procedures, the District Improvement Plan, Professional Development Plan, School Report Card, Special Education Profile, family/school collaboration and the Funding and Child Tracking System (FACTS) data. The ISBE also conducted a public forum, on-site interviews, student record reviews and staff surveys. The ISBE team issued a report in December 2009 to District #205. In the report the team identified one overarching major finding. That evidence demonstrated that placement decisions for students with disabilities are not made in compliance with federal regulations. Among the documentation reviewed in the student files demonstrated that the placement decisions for students with disabilities are not made by a group of people knowledgeable about the child and the placement options. The majority of the files reviewed stated that the parent team member was missing from those meeting (71%) and in 26% of the files reviewed there was no evidence of an appropriate parent/guardian notification of conference inviting a parent to the annual review. The Focus monitoring team concluded that parents are not a part of the team decision making process for determining placement for their children with disabilities, there is a lack of systemic professional development on how to serve students with disabilities in the general education setting and that the district needs to specifically examine co-teaching, provide professional development for paraprofessionals and examine the four block schedule at GHS to determine its effect on the placement of special needs students in general education classrooms. The district must provide evidence of corrective action by December 4, 2011. The corrective action must include at least 46.2% of the special education students must spend 80% or more time in regular education settings. Proposed DIP revision to the ISBE with school Board approval and a final DIP revision to ISBE by March 8, 2010, a meeting must be scheduled with the ISBE Team Leader in September or October of 2010 to establish evidence of correction. If the ISBE team is satisfied that evidence of completion has taken place by December 24, 2011 the process is completed. (Insert)

Mr. Guy Cahill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations presented the Board with the information regarding the Operation/Program Job Save FY 2010-2011 Budget Re-Alignment Plan. Mr. Cahill explained the proposals for re-aligning the budget, how the District arrived at the place it is in financially and numerous ways to attempt to save programs and jobs. (Insert)

Comments by Board of Education

Comments were made by Members Panther, Swanson, Osborn, Welty, Strauch, Harrison and Lindstrom.

Closed Session

President Lindstrom stated that the Board will move into a closed session for the purpose of personnel. No action will be taken. It was moved by Member Swanson and seconded by Member Harrison that the Board adjourn to closed session—9:09 PM. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Welty, Osborn, Panther, Strauch, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #8

Following the closed session, it was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Panther that the regular meeting be reconvened—9:07 PM. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Osborn, Panther, Strauch, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom, Welty (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #9

Adjournment

It was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Welty that the regular meeting be adjourned—9:35 PM. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Strauch, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom, Welty, Osborn (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #10

Robert Lindstrom, President

ATTEST:

Gloria Osborn, Secretary