

**MINUTES**  
Community Unit School District #205  
Board of Education  
April 14, 2009

Call To Order/Roll Call

The Community Unit School District #205 Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 7:00 PM at 932 Harrison St., Galesburg, IL. The meeting was called to order by President Swanson. The roll was read and the following Members responded: Harrison, Lindstrom, Panther, Strauch, Swanson (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Roll Call #1

Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

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

Recognition of Visitors – none

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Panther that the Minutes of the special meeting of March 3, 2009, regular meeting of March 9, 2009, special meeting of March 11, 2009 and special meeting of March 23, 2009 be approved without further reading or additions. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Panther, Strauch, Harrison, Swanson (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #2

Approval of Payrolls and Claims

Upon presentation by Member Strauch of payrolls and claims filed in the Ledger Book as #530 as of April 14, 2009, which exhibit is incorporated herein and by reference made a part hereof, it was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Harrison that the same be approved and allowed for payment as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Strauch, Harrison, Lindstrom, Swanson (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #3

Approval of Consent Agenda

Member Strauch requested that Item B—Approve Membership for Galesburg High School in the Illinois High School Association for 2009-2010 be taken off of the Consent Agenda and action to be taken on it separately.

It was moved by Member Lindstrom and seconded by Member Panther that the following items be approved on the Consent Agenda as presented and recommended:

- A. Approve Lombard Middle School Membership and Churchill Jr. High School Membership in the Illinois Elementary School Association for 2009-2010 (Insert)
- C. Assistant Superintendent/Director for Finance and Operations Job Description

On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Strauch, Harrison, Lindstrom, Swanson (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #4

At the request of Member Strauch, President Swanson moved Consent Agenda Item B—Approve Membership for Galesburg High School in the Illinois High School Association for 2009-2010 from the Consent Agenda for action to be taken separately. It was moved by Member Harrison and seconded by Member Panther to approve membership for Galesburg High School in the Illinois High School Association for 2009-2010 as presented. Member Strauch expressed his frustration with IHSA, adding that he feels the Board should not be voting on the topic. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Harrison, Lindstrom, Swanson (3) NAY: Strauch, Panther (2) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #5

Correspondence – none

#### Committee Reports

##### Budget

Member Strauch stated that the Budget Committee has not met since the last meeting. The next meeting will be later this month to review the investment portfolio versus benchmark.

##### Buildings and Grounds Committee

Member Lindstrom stated that the Buildings and Grounds Committee last met on April 2, 2009 to review bid results for the GHS Learning Center Wing asbestos abatement and renovation projects, and to review the list of projects planned for Fiscal Years 2010-2013. The next meeting will be before the May board meeting to review bid results for restroom renovation projects at GHS and Churchill.

##### Insurance Committee

Member Harrison stated that the Insurance Committee has not met since the last meeting. The fund balance to date is reported at \$470,446.77. The committee will review the request for proposals (RFP) recently received with the consulting committee on April 23, 2009 and the next regular meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2009.

Recruitment for Educational Diversity

The R.E.D. Committee last met on December 8, 2008. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Student Council

Jane Simkins, Student Council President, informed the Board that they are getting ready to clean up the court yard for Earth Day on April 22, 2009, they will be hosting Breakfast of Champions on April 24, 2009. The blood drive will be held on May 1, 2009 in the learning center, state convention is from May 7-9, 2009 and a student council trip to Adventureland on May 16, 2009.

Old Business

A. Alternative School Presentation/Recommendation—Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Joel Estes thanked the Board, the committee members and Wes Olson who all worked on the Alternative School process. Joel Estes then introduced Wes Olson to present the recommendation to the Board. (Insert) Wes Olson detailed the recommendations for the alternative school. Mr. Olson addressed issues of the drop out problem with supported facts such as high school drop outs are more likely to be unemployed, on welfare assistance, Medicaid or medical assistance and are eight (8) times more likely to be incarcerated than a graduate. There are eight-hundred and eighty-eight (888) students who dropped out of Galesburg High School this year alone and of those eighty-eight percent (88%) are still living in Galesburg or Knox County. Sixteen percent (16%) of those who dropped out are unemployed and seventy-nine percent (79%) are enrolled, trying to enroll or want to enroll in a program to finish their high school education. Additionally, Mr. Olson stated that the committee used four data points to identify the risk of the current three hundred sixty-three (363) freshmen to evaluate those who are at risk of dropping out and not graduating. The committee found that forty-two (42) had the four (4) major academic risk factors and one hundred twenty-seven (127) had at least one (1) of those four risk factors. Mr. Olson then stated that the committee recommendations are to open an alternative school that is linked with Galesburg High School but that will award an alternative school diploma, follow a two (2) year implementation plan where fifty (50) students would be enrolled for the 2009-2010 school year and one hundred (100) students would be enrolled for the 2010-2011 school year and assess the school at the end of the 2010-2011 school year. The committee recommends opening the alternative school at Rose Hoben Welch which would require renovating it to accommodate one hundred (100) students and recommend to the KWSED executive board to relocate the Phoenix Program. The committee recommends developing a district wide strategic drop out prevention plan, taking the current programs used in the district; coordinate them and look at areas of deficiency. In addition implementing an early warning system to identify students who show signs of risk including addressing these needs in the middle schools. Lastly, to retain the Director position. Questions by members of the board and discussion

ensued. It was moved by Member Harrison and seconded by Member Panther to approve the Alternative School recommendations. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Strauch, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #6

B. Ratification of Appendix and Addendum to Gatekeeper Administration and Consulting Agreement—Paul Woehlke, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Stated that Gatekeeper, the third-party administrator of our 403b Plan, sought urgent approval of a revised appendix to their contract with us, at the request of one of our 403b investment vendors, VALIC. VALIC contended that the wording of the appendix did not adequately give Gatekeeper authority to administer our 403b Plan on our behalf. On advice of the Board’s attorney, we have already approved the revised appendix to avoid any further delays in administration of our Plan. In addition, we have approved an addendum to the Gatekeeper agreement that changes their third-party administrator duties to “compliance only” status. Gatekeeper will no longer be responsible for remitting funds to our 403b investment vendors, but will still conduct all auditing and analysis necessary to ensure that our 403b Plan complies with applicable government regulations. This status change includes a reduction in Gatekeeper’s fees for service. It was necessitated by vendors’ failure to create systems to handle bulk processing of fund remittances via third-party administrators. The Board is asked to ratify both these actions (Insert) It was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Lindstrom to approve the ratification. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Strauch, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #7

#### New Business

##### A. Approve Personnel Agenda

Diane VanHootegem, Director for Human Resources, stated that the Personnel Agenda and addendum stand as presented and recommended its approval. It was moved by Member Harrison and seconded by Member Panther 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, Harrison, Lindstrom, Swanson (5) Absent: Osborn, Panther (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #8

##### B. Acceptance of Pupil Transportation Bid

Paul Woehlke, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, stated that the District’s contract with First Student for pupil transportation services will complete its five-year cycle at the end of this school year. State law calls for a bid process to be followed to secure a new contract, so in early February an Invitation for Bid was sent to four pupil transportation services companies that had expressed an interest in bidding for our business. Only two of the four companies attended a mandatory pre-bid meeting and only one submitted a bid. The administration recommends acceptance of the sole bid submitted. It was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Panther to accept the Pupil Transportation bid as presented. On roll call the following Members voted

AYE: Strauch, Swanson, Panther, Harrison, Lindstrom (5) Absent: Nelson, Osborn (2)  
Motion carried. Roll Call #9

C. Acceptance of Copy Paper Bid

This is a routine annual bid. Five bids were received and the lowest is recommended for acceptance. The price of paper will decrease 4.1% next year, after two years of increases. It was moved by Member Lindstrom and seconded by Member Strauch to approve the copy paper bid. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Harrison, Strauch, Swanson, Lindstrom, Panther (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #10

D. Acceptance of Custodial Supplies Bid

This is a routine annual bid. Twelve vendors submitted bids to supply products on our bid list. The lowest bid for each product that meets our specifications is recommended for acceptance. On a comparable basis, the aggregate bid this year is 0.8% higher than last year. It was moved by Member Harrison and seconded by Member Lindstrom to accept the custodial supplies bid. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Harrison, Strauch, Swanson, Lindstrom, Panther (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #11

E. Acceptance of 2009 ½ Ton Pick Up Truck with Snow Plow Bid—Bids were solicited for a ½ ton pick-up truck with snow plow to replace a 1995 model snow plow truck needing repairs costing more than its useful value. Four bids were received, and the lowest bid is recommended for acceptance. It was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Harrison to accept the 2009 ½ ton pick Up Truck with Snow Plow Bid. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Harrison, Strauch, Swanson, Lindstrom, Panther (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #12

F. Acceptance of 2009 ¾ Ton Pick Up Truck with Snow Plow Bid— Bids were solicited for a ¾ ton pick-up truck with snow plow to replace a 1991 model snow plow truck needing repairs costing more than its useful value. Three bids were received, and the lowest bid is recommended for acceptance. It was moved by Member Panther and seconded by Member Lindstrom to accept the 2009 3/4 ton pick Up Truck with Snow Plow Bid. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Harrison, Strauch, Swanson, Lindstrom, Panther (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #13

G. Acceptance of GHS Learning Center Asbestos Abatement Bid—As the Board was made aware last year, the Learning Center Wing at GHS is at ongoing risk of emergency shutdown for asbestos abatement if we do not take proactive steps to remove the asbestos on a timetable of our choosing. For that reason, asbestos abatement and renovation of the area was budgeted for summer 2009. Six bids were received for the asbestos abatement portion of the project. One bid was later rescinded by the bidder. A second bid was disqualified for being incomplete. The lowest of the four remaining bids is recommended for acceptance. That bid is under budget and significantly under the amount approved by

the State Board for Life Safety Funding. It was moved by Member Lindstrom and seconded by Member Panther to accept the GHS Learning Center Asbestos Abatement Bid. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Harrison, Strauch, Swanson, Lindstrom, Panther (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #14

H. Acceptance of GHS Learning Center Renovation Bid—As the Board was made aware last year, the Learning Center Wing at GHS is at ongoing risk of emergency shutdown for asbestos abatement if we do not take proactive steps to remove the asbestos on a timetable of our choosing. For that reason, asbestos abatement and renovation of the area was budgeted for summer 2009. Six bids were received for the renovation portion of the project. The lowest bid is recommended for acceptance. That bid included a voluntary alternate bid for lower-quality seating in one lecture hall. The administration recommends rejection of the voluntary alternate bid, for quality reasons. In addition, all bids included an additive alternate bid for higher-quality floor tile throughout the renovated area. The recommended bid additive alternate is also recommended for acceptance. The higher-quality floor tile will be cheaper to maintain and should last substantially longer than the base bid tile. The recommended bid, including additive alternate, is substantially lower than budgeted. It was moved by Member Lindstrom and seconded by Member Harrison to accept the GHS Learning Center Renovation Bid. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Harrison, Strauch, Swanson, Lindstrom, Panther (5) Absent: Osborn, Nelson (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #15

Administrative Reports-None

Comments by Board of Education

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

Dr. Denisar stated that he would like to make a recommendation that the board approve the May 11, 2009 meeting. Last year the Board meeting schedule was approved in April 2008 for May 2008-April 2009. Due to the election being held on April 7, 2009 and the certification process not being completed by the April 14, 2009 board meeting we must approve the May meeting which will be a regular meeting and a reorganizational meeting. During the May meeting we will approve the next board meeting schedule. It was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Lindstrom to approve the May 11, 2009 regular and organizational board meeting. On roll call the following members voted AYE: Strauch, Panther, Lindstrom, Swanson, Harrison (5) Absent: Nelson, Osborn (2) Motion Carried. Roll Call #16

Closed Session—It was moved by Member Harrison and seconded by Member Lindstrom to move to closed session for review of closed meeting minutes as required every six (6) months, personnel and negotiations. Action will be taken in open session. On roll call the following members voted AYE: Strauch, Lindstrom, Panther, Swanson, Harrison (5) Absent: Nelson, Osborn (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #17

Following the closed session it was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Panther to return to open session. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Strauch, Panther, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom (5) Absent: Nelson, Osborn (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #18

Approve Settlement Agreement Between District #205 and Sandra Cantu—It was moved by Member Lindstrom and seconded by Member Panther to approve the settlement agreement between District #205 and Sandra Cantu. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Strauch, Panther, Swanson, Harrison, Lindstrom (5) Absent: Nelson, Osborn (2) Motion Carried. Roll Call #19

I. Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Panther to approve the recommendation that the closed meeting minutes for the period of July 1, 2001 to October 14, 2008 remain closed, released, or partially released as previously approved and the closed meeting minutes for the period of October 14, 2008 to April 14, 2009 remain closed. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Swanson, Strauch, Lindstrom, Panther, Harrison (5) Absent: Nelson, Osborn (2) Motion carried. Roll Call # 20

Adjournment

It was moved by Member Strauch and seconded by Member Panther that the meeting be adjourned—9:48 PM. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Panther, Strauch, Harrison, Swanson (5) Absent: Nelson, Osborn (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #21

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Barry L. Swanson, President

ATTEST:

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Robert Lindstrom, Secretary