

**MINUTES**

Community Unit School District #205  
Board of Education  
October 13, 2015

Call To Order/Roll Call

The Community Unit School District #205 Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 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: Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel, Welty (5) Absent: Cervantez, Statham (2) Roll Call #1

Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

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

Members Cervantez entered the meeting at approximately 7:15pm and Statham entered the meeting at approximately 8:15pm.

Recognition of Visitors

Mr. Jim Jacobs addressed the board regarding his support for increasing the District tax levy.

Good News Items

Ms. Corrine Wascher, Galesburg High School agriculture teacher and FFA chair, presented highlights of the FFA program to the Board along with FFA representatives Bethany Petentler, Alex Wilt, Marissa Casteel, Katelyn Davis, and Kennedy Meinert.

Mr. Jon Bradburn, Director for human Resources, introduced members of the Streaks Dads and Moms program. Each member received a certificate of appreciation from the District.

Twenty-nine additional students were recognized and presented plaques for Academic Excellence from the 2014-2015 school year.

Mr. Jason Spring highlighted staff and students of GHS North and the programs that are offered and the impact GHS North has on students. GHS North graduate Amy Frank and current students, Amanda Landon, Makenzie Bailey, Lakota Beach, and Jon Reed were in attendance to discuss their GHS North experience.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Member Welty and seconded by Member Cervantez that the minutes of the regular meeting of September 14, 2015, special meeting of September 28, 2015, special meeting October 5, 2015, and closed session of September 14, 2015 be approved without further reading and without correction or addition. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel, Statham, Welty, Cervantez (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #2

Approval of Payrolls and Claims

Upon presentation by Member Pickrel of payrolls and claims filed in the Ledger Book as Exhibit #609 as of October 13, 2015, which exhibit is incorporated herein and by reference made a part hereof, it was moved by Member Gibb and seconded by Member Glasnovich that the same be approved and allowed for payment as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel, Statham, Welty, Cervantez, Gibb (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #3

Approval of Consent Agenda

A. Consider Approval of Superintendent Performance Objectives

B. Consider Approval of Lease for Three (3) School Buses from Midwest Bus Sales

It was moved by Member Gibb and seconded by Member Welty to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Pickrel, Statham, Welty, Cervantez, Gibb, Glasnovich (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #4

Action Items

A. Consider Approval of Proposed Revisions to Board Policies (Second Reading and Adoption)

Policy 2:160, Policy 2:260, Policy 4:50, Policy 5:50, Policy 5:170, Policy 5:270, Policy 5:290, Policy 6:140, Policy 7:10, Policy 7:40, Policy 7:325, Policy 8:10, Policy 8:80. It was moved by Member Gibb and seconded by Member Cervantez to approve the board policies as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Pickrel, Statham, Welty, Cervantez, Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #5

President Lindstrom stated that items B and C regarding closed minutes would be voted on following closed session.

D. Consider Approval of After-School Support Plan

Mr. Grimm stated that the dollars spent to fund after school tutoring are Title 1 dollars and that the plan presented to the board is attempting to maximize the available dollars and provide as much year long support as possible. It was moved by Member Welty and seconded by Member Glasnovich to approve the After-School Support Plan as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Statham, Welty, Cervantez, Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #6

E. Consider Approval of Revision to List of Authorized Depositories

Mr. Grimm stated that one bank, Ipava State Bank, is being added to the depository list. It was moved by Member Gibb and seconded by Member Welty to approve the Revision to the Authorized Depository List. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Welty, Cervantez, Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel, Statham (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #7

Personnel Report

Mr. Jon Bradburn, Director for Human Resources, stated that the Personnel Report is presented with no changes. It was moved by Member Gibb and seconded by Member

Pickrel to approve as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Cervantez, Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel, Statham, Welty (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #8

#### Discussion Items

##### A. District FY 15 Audit Report

Ms. Hamm introduced Mr. Ron Hilton, District Auditor to give an overview of the audit, which will be brought forward for approval in November. Mr. Hilton went over the audit findings, highlighting specific areas in each fund.

##### B. Review Proposed District-Owned Technology Plan

Mr. Grimm stated that the District-Owned Technology Plan is being brought forth as a discussion item. The plan has been discussed with principals and administration. The plan being presented addresses many concerns with technology in the District. Discussion ensued. The plan will be brought forward on the November agenda for consideration and approval.

##### C. Potential Use of the Northwest Evaluation Association Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Student Assessment System

Mrs. Hamm stated that the District is currently using multiple different assessments throughout the District. The conversation was started about the possibility of exploring an assessment that focuses on one universal assessment. Many of the principals have used MAP before and felt that it was worth exploring at a more in depth level. Mrs. Hamm stated that MAP presented to the principals and that the District is interested in pursuing the conversation for the K-12 assessment. The District currently uses AIMS web, which is not linked to the progress-monitoring piece with the State of Illinois, and MAP is.

##### D. 2015 District Tax Levy

Mr. Grimm stated that he wanted to have a preliminary conversation about what kind of tentative tax levy Board members would like to be presented with in November and then approved in December. Mr. Grimm stated that there are many uncertainties, like tax caps, stagnant EAV, declining enrollment, things taking place in Peoria that will have a rippling effect here in Galesburg. Relative to tax caps he stated that there is a need to be concerned not just with what is taking place in general funds but also in bond funds. Several different options can be considered going forward. Raising the tax levy, raise the levy to legally voter approved max in all funds, increase TORT, IMRF, and social security funds, attempt to borrow additional dollars in working cash, or a combination. Mr. Grimm requested direction for the November tentative tax levy. In November, the tax levy will be on the agenda and then final approval in December. Member Cervantez stated that it would seem unfair to make a promise that the District can't raise taxes, she went on to state that she knows it's hard to hear that the District might raise taxes and that the community hasn't rebounded like communities around us after closures of companies. Member Welty stated that unless he is convinced otherwise, he is of the opinion that we should raise the levy to the legal amount and that he would hate to see our children suffer for the ineptitude of the State. Member Statham stated that it is very

unfortunate the way education is funded in Illinois, but that if you look through the major funds in the audit report you can look at each fund and at each revenue, the lowest percentage is the education fund, operations and maintenance appears to be the highest of all the funds. Member Statham stated he does not like the idea of paying an unwieldy property tax and that he will look at the tax computation report and will have more opinions but that he hates the position the seven members have been put in but that he wants to be able to educate children. Mr. Grimm stated that he has looked at where the District is short and the biggest area is transportation fund by about 10 cents and 3 cents in the education fund. Mr. Grimm stated that it would take twenty-two cents to increase to 4.99. He again stated that there are several factors to consider including enrollment, EAV, pension cost shift among others. Member Statham stated that he agreed with everything but that the counter balance of that is we also need to maintain a property tax that the community can afford and he would like a tax computation report for last year. Mrs. Hamm stated that there is a 10-year analysis of the EAV in the documentation from the special board meeting. Member Gibb stated that striking a balance between the community and what the District needs to do for students. The tax cap bill as understood by Member Gibb would be to raise the levy but not tax at that rate. Mrs. Hamm stated she asked Kevin Heid if we could abate the levy and he said no. Member Glasnovich questioned if there was a chance that the tax freeze would move forward. Member Cervantez questioned that there were already districts in the state that had a tax cap and questioned if it was possible that it is more of a done deal that not and once its put in place it will be really unpopular for local government to raise the rate on a tax cap. Member Glasnovich stated that equating it to a family, it would be a freeze on your salary but all expenses still go up. Member Gibb stated that the community could pass a referendum if we wanted to raise the rates. Member Lindstrom stated that he has always been reluctant to agree to a tax increase until we can show the taxpayers we are spending their dollars wisely. Member Lindstrom stated that we need to right size the district and that the committee that has been formed is a good starting point and he is not one to believe that the tax cap is an automatic. He feels the state leaders are angry and that if they are going to push the pension to taxpayers and skip tax caps. He went on to say that tax caps don't limit your tax bill, that if you assessment goes up, your tax bill goes up. A tax cap here isn't addressing the issue of not raising the communities tax bill. He feels that the District needs to go to the voters. The voters are paying the tax bill at the end of the day and they should be allowed to vote just as they voted for the penny sales tax. Member Statham stated that he felt the District has a short time to show the community that the Board is going to right thing and that there are a large size of the community members who the District hasn't spent their money wisely in the last few years. Member Lindstrom stated that the District wants the best facilities and the best teachers in those facilities but that the process needs to play out. Mr. Grimm stated that he has direction from previous meetings and that there is a need to convince the community the district is staffed correctly and that we are offering services that are of priority and address the needs of students. All of the programs in place he believe at one point had a need but that hat we can no longer operate in that fashion and that we have to evaluate and look at everything. He will bring options to address the revenue side and work with the committee to address the expenditure side.

Administrator ReportsBuilding and Grounds

Mrs. Hamm thanked everyone who joined the building tour of the new Silas Willard Elementary School. She stated that at the November meeting Mrs. Tiffany Springer, Silas Willard Elementary Principal, will present a proposal for the new playground at Silas Willard along with the committee that will convene regarding the timeline that will display inside the new Silas Willard. The committee will decide what important events will be placed on the piece and present them to the Board for approval. Mrs. Hamm stated that the GHS occupancy permit was received and reminded the board that the ceiling will be completed during winter break. Mr. Grimm stated that the 10-year Health and Life Safety Survey has been submitted to ISBE and that he and Mrs. Hamm will be meeting with Mr. Phillips about the timeline for completing the life safety projects.

Curriculum

Mrs. Tammie Bolden stated that the Bright Futures program was awarded the Golden Circle of Quality Award, which means they are ranked in the top 10% of preschools in Illinois. Readermania and Illinois Young Authors both kick off in October. The rotary club has again donated money for the purchase of books in the elementary and middle schools and Reading at the Crossroads has received funds for the middle schools.

Human Resources

Mr. Bradburn stated that in addition to his report he wanted to let everyone know that on October 8, 2015, he had a meeting with District secretaries for some professional development and concerns in the district were discussed. Marte Glas has begun the vision and hearing screenings that are mandated.

Knox-Warren Special Education

Dr. Dawn Michaud stated that they have been working with transfer students from Chicago and started visits from Camp Big Sky. The students attend once a week and experience vocational and transitional goals with kids from other Districts. Bradley University sponsors the event. The cooperative has taken on the initiative to provide staff training to the staff outside of District training programs regarding teacher-training models regarding goal writing, analyzing students and their behaviors.

Committee ReportsBudget

Member Gibb reported that the Budget Committee had not met.

Buildings and Grounds

Member Statham reported that the Building and Grounds Committee has not met.

Insurance

Member Welty reported that the Insurance Committee has not met. The fund balance is reported at \$3,833,610.61.

Recruitment for Educational Diversity

Member Cervantez stated that she met with Mr. Grimm to discuss membership and ideas in the area of diverse staff recruitment and retention and professional development for current staff and administration. As a result the plan is to explore mentorship programs for new staff and helping them connect within the community, emails and/or newsletters regarding diversity; specifically as an opportunity for continued development, book study/discussion, on-going professional development program that is in line with the standards already designated with the possibility of professional development hours. Member Cervantez will make contact with specific individuals to assist with the committee's charge.

Comments By Board of Education

Comments were made by Member Welty, Gibb, Pickrel, Glasnovich, Statham, Cervantez, and Lindstrom.

Closed Session

It was moved by Member Statham and seconded by Member Gibb to move to closed session for the purpose of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee(s) and review of closed meeting minutes. Action will be taken in open session—9:52pm. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel, Statham, Welty, Cervantez (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #9

Following the closed session, it was moved by Member Welty and seconded by Member Cervantez that the regular meeting be reconvened. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel, Statham, Welty, Cervantez, Gibb (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #10

B. Approve Destruction of Closed Meeting Minutes

In accordance with Board Policy #2:220, "After 18 months have passed since the meeting at which the audio recording was made, the Board may approve the destruction of the audio recording of the particular closed meeting, if it has approved the written minutes of the same closed session." Eighteen (18) months have passed since the attached referenced audio recordings of closed meetings for the period of April 2013-April 2014 were made and they are now recommended for destruction. It was moved by Member Welty and seconded by Member Gibb to Approve the Destruction of the Closed Meeting Minutes for the period of April 2013-April 2014 as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Pickrel, Statham, Welty, Cervantez, Gibb, Glasnovich (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #11

C. Approve Closed Meeting Minutes

The recommendation that the closed session minutes for the period referenced above remain closed, released or partially released as previously approved and that the closed meeting minutes for the period of April 20, 2015—October 12, 2015 remain closed or

released as indicated (Insert). It was moved by Member Welty and seconded by Member Statham that the closed meeting minutes for the period of April 20, 2015—October 12, 2015 remain closed as recommended. On roll call the following Members votes AYE: Pickrel, Statham, Welty, Cervantez, Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #12

Adjournment

It was moved by Member Statham and seconded by Member Glasnovich that the regular meeting be adjourned—11:28 PM. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Statham, Welty, Cervantez, Gibb, Glasnovich, Lindstrom, Pickrel (7) Motion carried. Roll Call #13

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Robert Lindstrom, President

ATTEST:

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Rick Welty, Secretary