

**MINUTES**

Community Unit School District #205  
Board of Education  
November 14, 2011

Call To Order/Roll Call

The Community Unit School District #205 Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Monday, November 14, 2011 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: Colclasure, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Welty (6) Absent: Swanson (1) Roll Call #1

Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

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

Recognition of Visitors

Mr. Joel Estes, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, introduced members present of "The Lunch Spot" stating that when District #205 planned an expended 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. Dr. Gene Denisar, Superintendent and Board President, Mr. Rick Welty presented members of The Lunch Spot with a certificate of appreciation for their support of District 205 students.

Ms. Colleen Noonan spoke stating that she wanted to bring a positive message to the Board and praised Board, administration and GEA for all their hard work.

Mr. Gary Tomlin spoke regarding the Lombard Zephyr Dome.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Colclasure that the Minutes of the 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 be approved without further reading and without correction or addition. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Welty, Colclasure, Palmer, Kessler (5) Abstained: Panther (1) Motion carried. Roll Call #2

Approval of Payrolls and Claims

Upon presentation by Member Panther of payrolls and claims filed in the Ledger Book as Exhibit #\_\_ as of November 14, 2011, which exhibit is incorporated herein and by reference made a part hereof, it was moved by Member Panther and seconded by Member Kessler that the same be approved and allowed for payment as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Welty, Panther, Lindstrom, Palmer, Colclasure, Kessler (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #3

Approval of Consent AgendaA. Review and Approve Submission of Grant for School Library Program

Mr. Joel Estes, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, stated that the grant is a yearly application that is for approximately \$3500 and is alternated yearly between the elementary level and middle school level.

B. Coordinator of Special Education Services

Mrs. Diane VanHootegeem, Director for Human Resources, stated that 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.

It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Panther to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. On roll call the following members voted AYE: Palmer, Panther, Welty, Colclasure, Kessler, Lindstrom (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #4

Correspondence—noneCommittee ReportsBudget

Member Panther reported that the Budget Committee met last week. Administration presented a five year budget forecast in the context of the recent contract settlement with the GEA, flat property value growth and other revenue and expenditure inputs. The auditor reported his findings giving the district a clean audit and noting the board has achieved its budgetary goals including another year of ISBE "financial recognition". The committee was updated on the fiber wide area network deployment and the early childhood grant application.

Buildings and Grounds

Member Kessler reported that the committee met to review and endorse plans for the submission of an early childhood grant and a revised high school rendering. Administration updated the Committee on the work of the Master Facility Committee's subcommittee on the Zephyr Dome. Separately, administration updated the Committee on the fiber wide area network deployment and efforts to leverage the district's investment for the broader communities good.

Insurance

Member Lindstrom reported that the Insurance Committee last met on October 13, 2011. The fund balance to date is reported at \$1,351,300.59. The next committee meeting is scheduled to meet during December/January.

Recruitment for Educational Diversity

Member Colclasure reported that the R.E.D. Committee last met on November 10, 2011. Several new members attended the meeting and a subcommittee emerged with plans to develop a power point or video to showcase the rich ethnic history of Galesburg. The video would be shown to potential candidates during their visit to the District. The committee is also interested in hosting social events to assist the new hires in making connections within the community. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 5:15 p.m.

Old BusinessA. Concussion and Head Injury Board Policy 730.02a—Final Reading

Mr. Joel Estes, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, stated that 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. Member Panther commented that he felt there should be one addition that included interscholastic practices as well as games/competitions so that a physician release is required for students to participate in practices and games once a head injury has occurred. Mr. Estes clarified that part 1B would read “a student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest or practice for a possible concussion or head injury would not be permitted to return to the interscholastic contest or practice without release from a physician. It was moved by Member Colclasure and seconded by Member Kessler to approve the board policy 730.02 with the changes. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Welty, Colclasure, Kessler, Lindstrom, palmer (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #5

#### New Business

##### A. Approve Personnel Agenda

Mrs. Diane VanHootegem, Director for Human Resources, stated that the Personnel Agenda stand as presented and recommended its approval. It was moved by Member Panther and seconded by Member Kessler that the Board approve the Personnel Agenda as presented and recommended by the administration. (Insert Personnel Agenda) On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Welty, Panther, Colclasure, Palmer, Kessler (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #6

##### B. Approval of the Agreement Between the Galesburg Education Association and Galesburg Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois— August 19, 2011 through July 31, 2014.

Mrs. Diane VanHootegem stated that 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. It was moved by Member Colclasure and seconded by Member Panther to Approve the Agreement as Presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Welty, Colclasure, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #7

##### C. Accept Audit

Mr. Guy Cahill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations stated that 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. It was moved by Member Panther and seconded by Member Kessler to Accept the Audit as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Colclasure, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Welty (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #8

D. Adopt Resolution Setting the 2011 Tentative Tax Levy

Mr. Guy Cahill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations stated that 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. It should be noted that while the total levy amount will not change—*after* abatement. 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. Mr. Tom West, Attorney, read the resolution. It was moved by Member Panther and seconded by Member Kessler to Adopt the Resolution Setting the 2011 Tentative Tax Levy as recommended. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Lindstrom, Welty, Kessler, Palmer, Welty, Colclasure (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #9

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

Mr. Guy Cahill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations stated that 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. Attorney, Mr. Tom West read the resolution. It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Panther to approve the Resolution Directing the Transfer of Funds from the Working Cash Fund of Community Unit School District 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Welty, Colclasure, Kessler (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #10

F. Adopt Abatement Resolutions

F1. Adopt Resolution Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2011 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Schools Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2011B, of Community Unit School District No. 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

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. Attorney, Mr. Tom West read the resolution. It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Colclasure to Adopt Resolution Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the year 2011 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Schools Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2011B, of Community Unit School District No. 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Palmer, Panther, Welty, Colclasure, Kessler, Lindstrom (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #11

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 No. 205, Knox and Warren Counties, Illinois

Mr. Guy Cahill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations stated that the District is to levy \$836,518.76 in ad valorem taxes to pay the first installment on the Series 2011 A 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. It was moved by Member Panther and seconded by Member Colclasure to adopt the Resolution. On roll call the following Members responded AYE: Panther, Welty, Colclasure, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer (6) Motion carried. Roll Call # 12

G. Authorize Submission of Preschool Construction Grant Application

Mr. Guy Cahill, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations stated that 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. It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Panther to Authorize the Submission of Preschool Construction Grant Application. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Welty, Colclasure, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #13

#### Administrative Reports

Comments were made by Mr. Joel Estes

#### Comments By Board of Education

Comments were made by Members Kessler, Panther and Colclasure

#### Adjournment

It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Panther that the regular meeting be adjourned—8:03 PM. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Panther, Welty, Kessler, Palmer, Colclasure (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #14

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Rick Welty, President

ATTEST:

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Barry L. Swanson, Secretary