

Call to Order/Roll Call

The Community Unit School District #205 Board of Education met for a special meeting to discuss the superintendent search with Donna Johnson from the IASB at 6:00PM prior to the regular board meeting at 932 Harrison St., Galesburg, IL. The meeting was called to order by President Panther. The roll was read and the following members were present: Gibb, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther (5) Absent: Colclasure, Welty (2) Motion carried. Roll Call #1

Ms. Johnson presented to the board the results from the superintendent search survey and from those results discussion was had between board members and the community members in attendance, Ben and Jenny Bredemeier. Additions and changes were made to the brochure and vacancy following that discussion. A superintendent salary range was determined for the vacancy posting. Ms. Johnson discussed the timeline for applications and interviews.

It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Gibb to adjourn the special meeting. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Kessler, Gibb, Lindstrom, Panther, Palmer (5) Motion carried. Roll Call #2

**MINUTES**

Community Unit School District #205  
Board of Education  
November 17, 2014

Call To Order/Roll Call

The Community Unit School District #205 Board of Education met in a regular meeting on Monday, November 17, 2014 at 7:00 PM at 932 Harrison St., Galesburg, IL. The meeting was called to order by President Panther. The roll was read and the following Members responded: Colclasure, Gibb, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther (6) Absent: Welty (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

Terry Jackson and Roxanne Green addressed the board.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Gibb that the Minutes of the regular meeting of October 14, 2014, special meeting of October 16, 2014 and special meeting of October 23, 2014 be approved without further reading and without correction or addition. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Gibb, Kessler, Palmer, Colclasure, Panther, Lindstrom (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #2

Approval of Payrolls and Claims

Upon presentation by Member Gibb of payrolls and claims filed in the Ledger Book as Exhibit #598 as of November 17, 2014, which exhibit is incorporated herein and by reference made a part hereof, it was moved by Member Gibb and seconded by Member Kessler that the same be approved and allowed for payment as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Gibb, Palmer, Lindstrom, Kessler, Colclasure (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #3

Approval of Consent Agenda—None

Correspondence—None

Committee Reports

Budget

Member Gibb reported that the Budget Committee last met on November 4, 2014. The committee heard a presentation from Howard Crouse regarding the financial outlook for the district. David Black will be reviewing that presentation with the board on tonight's agenda. The committee also reviewed the 2014 Tentative Tax Levy and the amended budgets for FY15. The committee's recommendations are being brought tonight for board approval.

Buildings and Grounds

Member Kessler reported that the Building and Grounds Committee last met on November 3, 2014. Bid package 2 for Silas Willard Elementary was reviewed and recommended for approval. A special meeting was held on November 3, 2014 to approve the bid package.

Insurance

Member Lindstrom reported that the Insurance Committee has not met. The fund balance is reported at \$2,939,786.48. The next committee meeting has not been set.

Recruitment for Educational Diversity

Member Colclasure reported that Mr. Keith Doc Patterson is providing Diversity Training in all of the buildings throughout the year. The next RED Committee has not been set.

Student Council

Student Council representative stated that this month there isn't a large agenda but that they will be voting on the top three names for swirl which is in February via the chromebooks.

Instructional PresentationA. Ron Clark Academy 2014

Mrs. Diane VanHootegem, Director for Human Resources, stated that there would be four members presenting. Mr. Matt Lingafelter spoke to the board along with Ms. Barb Baker Sandstrom, Ms. Cindy Barshinger, and Ms. Teresa Powell presented their experience to the board and then introduced the members of RCA 2014 that were present and showed a short presentation of the trip. The RCA group then presented certificates of thanks for financial support to Wells Fargo, The Galesburg Community Foundation and Galesburg Public Schools Foundation.

Old BusinessA. Operation Re-Build Presentation—Steve Baumann

Mr. David Black, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, stated that due to finances it was time to discuss priorities of the building projects. Mr. Steve Baumann with Russell Construction presented information regarding possible options for continuing Operation Re-build. Discussion between board members ensued.

New BusinessA. Approve Personnel Agenda

Diane VanHootegem, Director for Human Resources, stated that the Personnel Agenda stand as presented and recommended its approval. It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Colclasure 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, Panther, Gibb, Colclasure, Kessler, Palmer (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #4

B. Discussion of Board Policy 6.310

President Panther stated that board policy 6.310 was amended in March 10, 2014 and due to the request of board members, the policy was brought for discussion. Ms. Tammie Bolden, Director for Curriculum stated that with the rise in technology the policy is in need of change. Member Palmer stated that the policy needs updated to take in consideration students who are taking online college credit courses and classes outside of the school day along with the policy having clearer language. Discussion between members ensued. No action was taken.

### C. Acceptance of Audit

Mr. David Black stated that the State Statute provides that school boards have an independent audit of their financial condition performed each year. 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. Mr. Hilton presented to the board since there was no opportunity to present to the budget committee. There were no findings or weaknesses. It was moved by Member Colclasure and seconded by Member Kessler to approve the District 205 Audit as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Palmer, Kessler, Colclasure, Gibb, Panther, Lindstrom (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #5

It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Lindstrom to accept the GAVC Audit as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Kessler, Gibb, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Colclasure (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #6

It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Gibb to approve the KWSED Audit as presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Colclasure, Gibb (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #7

### D. Adopt Resolution Setting the 2014 Tentative Tax Levy

Mr. David Black, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations presented the district financials from PMA showing the different revenue sources, EAV estimates, expenditure analysis, historical analysis and projections. Mr. Black stated it was important to review the information prior to discussing the tax levy. Mr. Black also stated that the 2014 tax levy payable in calendar year 2015 for use in both fiscal years 2014-15 and 2015-16 has tentatively been set at \$20,465,857 *before* a planned debt service levy abatement of \$1,782,170 bringing the net levy to \$18,683,687. This represents a \$1,043,531 change over the prior year's extension of \$16,623,271. It is made up of \$15,973,043, in "corporate" and "special purposes" property taxes representing a minus 4.99% change over the prior year's extension of \$15,226,364. Also included is \$4,492,814 *before* abatement or \$2,710,644 *after* abatement in debt service property taxes. The District's levy was based upon an equalized assessed valuation ("EAV") expected to increase only 0.18% to \$395,598,701. The EAV base does not include \$9,777,580 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 *increase* by roughly \$86 annually *after abatement* (and assuming no year-over-year change in the value of his/her property). It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Lindstrom to approve the tax levy as presented and recommended. Discussion ensued between Members. Member Colclasure asked when would the district run out of money if the proposed tax levy is not passed and Mr. Black responded that it would be in 2018. Member Palmer stated we are again having the same conversation as November 2013 and that last year we raised the rate to try and combat the issue knowing it would not resolve the issue and her concern is that we are going to have to evaluate what we do in the district and how we do it and once

that is done then some community discussions should be held to see what is valued most, second and so on. Member Palmer went on to say that once those two things are done that then we should go on to say what the district needs as far as it that a referendum, raising taxes, or other options. Member Palmer went on to say that, she would like to get away from the piece meal approach to the problems. Mr. Black stated that last year the deficit was \$4-5 million and that the board voted to raise the tax levy rate and cut \$2 million, which is reflected in that there is now a \$2.2 million deficit. The raising of the levy does not solve the problem but it does get the district to a better financial place without having to make additional cuts at this point. Member Lindstrom stated that he felt it was important that the community understands what the district is dealing with and that the presentation tonight was informative and the community needs to understand the dilemma and seriousness of the district because the community thinks that because we are building and renovation that we have money to spend. Mr. Arthur pointed out that we spend at the bottom per pupil and that should change and raising the tax levy to be at a higher rate that reflects what other communities in our state are at is important for our students. Member Gibb stated he just is not sure that the tax levy presented solves the issues of our district and that more should be done to get community input and let the community know what is taking place with the district finances. Discussion ensued between board members, Mr. Black and the district attorney regarding the timeline for approving a different tax levy rate. While Mr. Luke Feeney, District attorney checked rules on filings for the tax levy President Panther stated the meeting would keep moving and return to the tax levy for roll.

E. Recommendation of Approval/Adoption of Adjustments to the Tentative Budget for 2014-2015 for: Knox-Warren Special Education, Galesburg Area Vocational Center and District #205

Mr. David Black, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, stated the proposed revised budgets for District 205, GAVC and KWSED will be found under separate cover. Accompanying those budgets are the respective resolutions for the filing of the same for public inspection. A budget was approved back in September to fulfill the state law. At the time it was passed, the strike had just ended and the payroll system needed a while to calculate an update each employee's rate of pay for FY15. Amounts for salaries and benefits have been updated. Mr. Black stated he has also made minor tweaks to make the budget as accurate as possible. All three budgets will have been reviewed by the Board's Budget Committee prior to final adoption and public hearing will be held prior to a special meeting of the board on December 18, 2014.

a. KWSED

It was moved by Member Gibb and seconded by Member Kessler to approve the Knox-Warren Special Education Tentative Budget Adjustments. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Gibb (5) Abstained: Colclasure (1) Motion carried. Roll Call #8

b. GAVC

It was moved by Member Palmer and seconded by Member Kessler to Approve the GAVC Tentative Budget Adjustments as Presented. On roll call the following Members

voted AYE: Panther, Gibb, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer (5) Abstained: Colclasure (1)  
Motion carried. Roll Call #9

c. District #205

It was moved by Member Kessler and seconded by Member Palmer to Approve the District #205 Tentative Budget Adjustments as Presented. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Panther, Gibb, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer (5) Abstained: Colclasure (1) Motion carried. Roll Call #10

Administrative Reports

Comments were made by Ms. VanHootegeem, Dr. Michaud, and Mr. Arthur

Comments By Board of Education

Comments were made by Members Gibb, Kessler, Panther, and Colclasure.

Mr. Luke Feeney stated that he found the answer and that a change a motion would need to be made to bring back a tax rate that does not include a tax increase and that the meeting could reconvene tomorrow and still be compliant. Member Palmer made a motion to bring back a tax rate that does not increase the tax levy and Member Gibb seconded the motion. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Gibb, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther (5) Abstained: Colclasure (1). Motion carried. Roll Call #11

Member Palmer made a motion to approve reconvening the regular meeting on November 18, 2014 at 4:30PM and Member Colclasure seconded the motion. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Gibb, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Colclasure (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #12

Closed Session

It was moved by Member Gibb and seconded by Member Colclasure to move to closed session for the purpose of Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of an Employee(s) and Negotiations. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Colclasure, Gibb (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #13

Following the closed session, it was moved by Member Colclasure and seconded by Member Kessler to return to open session. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther, Colclasure, Gibb, Kessler (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #14

Adjournment

It was moved by Member Colclasure and seconded by Member Gibb that the regular meeting will reconvene on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 4:30PM —10:17 PM. On roll call the following Members voted AYE: Gibb, Lindstrom, Kessler, Palmer, Colclasure, Panther (6) Motion carried. Roll Call #15

Call to Reconvene Meeting of November 17, 2014

The Community Unit School District #205 Board of Education met in a reconvened meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 4:30 PM at 932 Harrison St., Galesburg, IL. The meeting was called to order by President Panther. The roll was read and the following Members responded: Colclasure, Gibb, Kessler, Lindstrom, Palmer, Panther (6) Absent: Welty (1) Roll Call #16

Mr. Black presented the board with the requested tax levy rate. Mr. Black stated that the dollar amounts in each are a little different to get the tax rate at the amount requested. Member Panther asked for a motion on the item so discussion could be had. It was moved by Member Palmer and seconded by member Gibb to Adopt the Alternate Resolution Setting the 2014 Tentative Tax Levy. Member Panther questioned the changes in the fund rates. Discussion ensued about getting the community involved in understanding the district finances and how to go about getting community involvement.

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Michael Panther, President

ATTEST:

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Joshua Gibb, Secretary