

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 22, 1008

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 60, Lake County, Illinois, convened in regular session in Room 120 at Lincoln Center, 1201 North Sheridan Road, Waukegan, IL at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The President called the meeting to order. It was found that the following members were present:

Ms. Anita Hanna arrived at 6:04 p.m.  
Mr. Domingo Garza arrived at 6:14 p.m.  
Mr. Mark Hawn  
Mr. Bill Anderson  
Mrs. Rita Mayfield-Jedkins  
Mr. Michael Rodriguez  
Mrs. June Maguire

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez and seconded by Mr. Hawn that the Board recess and reconvene in closed session pursuant to applicable Open Meetings Act exceptions for the purpose of discussing student discipline, appointments, leaves, resignations, retirements, employment status, collective bargaining, approval of closed session minutes, and status of pending or threatened litigation.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a roll call vote and all members present voted aye. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION

Also present for the closed session were: Dr. Donald R. Batiste, Superintendent; Mr. Jules Gaudin, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Operations Officer; Dr. Mary Lamping, Chief Academic Officer; and Mr. Thomas Morris, attorney for the Board of Education. Mr. Douglas Stiles, Mr. Mark Neiberg, Mr. William Newby, and Mr. Eric Christianson were present for student discipline matters. Mr. Fred Howard was present for discussion of personnel matters.

Minutes of the closed session are on file in the Superintendent's confidential file, pages 10876-10878.

BOARD RECONVENES IN OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and seconded by Mr. Hawn that the Board reconvene in open session in the Board Room.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a voice vote. The following members present voted aye: Hanna, Garza, Hawn, Anderson, Mayfield-Jedkins, Rodriguez, Maguire. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Also present for open agenda items were: Mr. Ryan Pagelow of the *News Sun*, Ms. Alison Moran of WKRS Radio, and Mrs. Bonnie Kuss, recorder.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Jean Windberg led the Board and audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND PRESENTATIONS

#### RESOLUTION OF HONOR FOR KARL WINDBERG

Dr. Batiste introduced Mrs. Jean Windberg and close friends and colleagues of Mr. Karl Windberg who were present. He then read the inscription on a plaque to honor the life and community service of Mr. Windberg who had passed away on January 1, 2008. Members of the Board offered their condolences.

Mrs. Windberg thanked the Board and Administration for honoring her husband and noted that he and she together had given a total of 63 years in the service of public education. She averred that education is a truly important factor in the future of the community and the nation.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez and seconded Ms. Hanna to adopt the Resolution as read.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a voice vote. The following members present voted aye: Hanna, Garza, Hawn, Anderson, Mayfield-Jedkins, Rodriguez, Maguire. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

A copy of said Resolution is appended to these minutes.

#### UPDATE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD PARTNERS IN COLLABORATION (EPIC)

Dr. Kearby introduced grant administrator Mrs. Pat Cassidy who thoroughly reviewed the needs and activities associated with the EPIC program for 3 and 4 year old children in preparation for entrance into kindergarten. Mrs. Cassidy emphasized the community need for the program and the process used for selection of eligible children to be served by the 2.5 hours-per-day, 5 days-per-week grant supported program. She distributed packets containing information about student/family data collected and risk factor criteria. She noted that approximately 98% of the children in the program are of Hispanic origin.

Ms. Hanna asked if language is the determining factor used to select students for the program. Mrs. Cassidy responded that among risk factors which include: health, social/emotional/physical development, speech/language, environment, and adaptive skills; language is only one factor.

Mrs. Cassidy, Dr. Kearby, and Dr. Lamping responded to questions and comments regarding screening procedures, numbers of students currently in the program and numbers waiting for service, needs for additional resources, recruitment advertising, curriculum, assessment, and longitudinal study results.

Dr. Lamping announced that Mrs. Cassidy will be retiring in April. Members of the Board were invited to visit sites to observe the program in action.

#### SMALLER LEARNING COMMUNITIES STATUS REPORT

Mrs. Molly Schaefer thoroughly reviewed progress being made to implement the Smaller Learning Communities model which was authorized by the Board at the November 13, 2007 meeting. She commented that the plan will be implemented for grades 9 and 10 in the 2008-2009 school year, with full implementation to take place the following year. In preparation for implementation next year, timelines have been put in place for: construction, staffing and staff development, student registration and orientation, and curriculum writing and sequencing. Plans have been made to make presentations to the Latino Coalition and LUDA; invitations to present to other groups are welcome.

Mr. Garza asked about assignment of siblings to the same campus/Community. Mrs. Schaefer responded that parent requests will be honored if at all possible.

Mr. Anderson asked about staff concurrence. Mrs. Schaefer and Maj. Carter Bell replied that the results of a teacher survey indicated that 75% of the responding teachers were very familiar with the proposal; the Union is very supportive.

Mr. Hawn asked about the proposal for special education student inclusion. Mrs. Schaefer cited two possible models to be used. This will be determined on an individual basis.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Requests were made by Mr. Rodriguez and Dr. Batiste for correction of typographical errors.

A motion was made by Mr. Hawn and seconded by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 8, 2008, as corrected, be approved.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a roll call vote. The following members present voted aye: Garza, Hawn, Mayfield-Jedkins, Rodriguez, Maguire. Pass: Hanna, Anderson. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

### OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Bernard Carpenter, 673 S. Jackson, Waukegan, IL, stated that his son had worked hard to gain eligibility to play basketball only to be severely limited in opportunity to play. He declared that this situation has affected his son's morale and attitude toward school, generally.

Colleen Gray, 3300 Rigby Ct., Waukegan, IL, noted that her son has had similar experience; senior students should be afforded the opportunity to participate on a more equitable basis.

No other members of the audience requested an opportunity to speak.

### CONSENT ITEMS (ACTION)

Under the current format for information provided for the Board and the public, each agenda action item is accompanied by a rationale and an administrative recommendation for Board action.

### APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ITEMS

Mrs. Maguire noted that a revised personnel listing had been provided to the Board and audience.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins that the Board of Education approve the Appointments listed on Enclosure VII. B. 1 – Schedule F-667; the Leaves of Absence listed on Enclosure VII. B 2 - Schedule N-517; the Resignations listed on Enclosure VII. B. 3 – Schedule L-638; and the Retirement listed on Enclosure B. 4 - Schedule G-414.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a roll call vote. The following members present voted aye: Hanna, Garza, Hawn, Anderson, Mayfield-Jedkins, Rodriguez, Maguire. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Maguire noted the January 14, 2008, retirement of Mr. Richard Jankowski, bilingual second grade teacher at Little Fort who has given 23.5 years of service to District #60.

Copies of personnel schedules are appended to these minutes.

### OTHER

### AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT THE ISBE TRUANT'S ALTERNATIVE AND OPTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (TAOEP) GRANT

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to accept the additional funding through the TAOEP Grant and approve the bilingual liaison position for which these funds will pay.

A motion was made by Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Garza that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the administration to authorize the Superintendent to

accept the additional TAOEP funds and, further, to approve a new position for a bilingual liaison.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a roll call vote. The following members present voted aye: Hanna, Garza, Hawn, Anderson, Mayfield-Jedkins, Rodriguez, Maguire. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

### RATIFICATION OF PAYMENT OF IMPREST AND MANUAL CHECKS FOR NOVEMBER 2007

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education ratify the payments made by Manual and Imprest checks for the month of November, 2007, in the amount of \$2,223,218.83.

A motion was made by Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Hawn that the Board of Education ratify the payments made by Manual and Imprest checks for the month of November, 2007.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a roll call vote. The following members present voted aye: Hanna, Garza, Hawn, Anderson, Mayfield-Jedkins, Rodriguez, Maguire. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE FOR JANUARY 2008

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the bills payable for the month of January 2008, in the amount of \$3,805,828.15.

Mr. Rodriguez asked for clarification of one item; Mrs. Green responded.

A motion was made by Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Hawn that the Board of Education approve the bills payable for the month of January 2008, as recommended.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a roll call vote. The following members present voted aye: Hanna, Garza, Hawn, Anderson, Mayfield-Jedkins, Rodriguez, Maguire. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

Copies of said financial statements are appended to these minutes.

## REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS COMMITTEES

Mr. Anderson commented that the Neighborhood School Committee is on track to complete the preliminary plan for neighborhood schools by the end of the 2007-2008 school year. If adopted, implementation would take place for the 2009-2010 school year.

He noted that the Operations Services Committee discussed the proposal for a 1% sales tax add-on to finance school construction, pre-k facility site selections, and e-rate as a revenue source.

Mrs. Maguire noted that the Neighborhood Schools Committee report will be given by Mr. Christianson at its meeting on February 20, 2008. Candidates who wish to serve on the Voting Committee must submit their applications before the February 11, 2008 deadline. Random selection of Voting Committee members will take place at the February 12, 2008, meeting of the Board of Education.

#### SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Batiste commented on a number of matters:

Shiloh School will hold its annual Winterfest on January 23, 2008.

The Student Achievement Committee will meet on January 23, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

The Waukegan Arts Integration Project will hold events at Carman-Buckner on January 24, 2008, and the Benny Cultural Center on January 26, 2008.

The Neighborhood School Committee will hold its next meeting on February 20, 2008; members of the community are invited to attend.

Residency referral cases for the period December 7, 2007, through January 15, 2008, have identified 5 students from 2 families. These families have voluntarily withdrawn their children from Waukegan schools which represents a savings of \$40,210 (based upon the annual \$8,040 per pupil expenditure).

Ms. Beth Ragsdale representing the Waukegan Business Association has contacted the District regarding two scholarship opportunities. Application forms will be available during the first week in February.

Ms. Lynn Tracy of United Way of Lake County has contacted the District to again offer teams of volunteers to help the District refurbish buildings and grounds.

A letter was received from Mr. Anthony Giltner regarding the success which his son has had while attending Waukegan schools. Mr. Giltner commended each of the teachers who have been a part of his son's success.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Garza asked for an update on his request for information on the exit of bilingual students and on the high school students who chronically absent themselves from classes and wander through the hallways.

Dr. Lamping commented that these two topics will be discussed at the Student Achievement Committee meeting on January 23, 2008. She also noted that student registration for 2008-2009 and the Ombudsman program will be on the agenda.

## NEW BUSINESS

### STATUS OF THE ELEVATOR AT THE NINTH GRADE CENTER

Mr. Otahal reported on the elevator at the Ninth Grade Center which is currently out of service. He noted that the equipment will soon be out of compliance with building code, the manufacturer is no longer in business, and the wiring has melted. Discussion was held on the advisability of replacement rather than repair; length of time service will not available; compliance with OSHA regulations; provision of service for disabled staff, students, and members of the public; and the need to address the matters of architectural oversight, necessary bid process, and availability of equipment. Mrs. Maguire asked that the administration move quickly to remedy the situation due to safety and legal concerns.

### LEGAL ADVISOR'S REPORT STUDENT DISCIPLINE ACTION

#### EXPULSION OF STUDENT #4612113

The following Resolution was read by Mr. Anderson:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Waukegan Community School District No. 60, did through its hearing officer on January 15, 2008, hold a hearing concerning possible expulsion of Student #4612113; and

WHEREAS, the evidence taken at said hearing shows that; Student #4612113 has been found guilty of gang activity in violation of a Discipline Conference Contract, which is in violation of the rules and regulations of this School District, the *School Code of Illinois*, and the statutes of the State of Illinois;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT; Student #4612113 is expelled, effective immediately, from attendance at said Community Unit School District No. 60 (Waukegan Public Schools) for the remainder of the 2007-2008 academic year (ending June 9, 2008); provided, the expulsion will be stayed to permit transfer to an alternative placement at the discretion of the administration for provision of educational services.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Garza that the Resolution, as read, be adopted.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a roll call vote. The following members present voted aye: Garza, Hawn, Anderson, Rodriguez, Maguire. No: Mayfield-Jedkins. Pass: Hanna. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

BOARD MEMBER TIME

Mr. Hawn thanked Dr. Lamping for the tour of Greenwood and Clark schools. He also thanked Mrs. Papandreou and the wrestling coach for holding a reunion of former athletes at the former East High School. Mr. Hawn is looking for progress on the transportation issues which he has raised. In reference to the residency investigation, Mr. Hawn commented that it is important to send a message to the public regarding compliance with legal requirements concerning school registration.

Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins gave kudos to Mr. Rafael Mendez for his work on the residency investigations and noted that she is looking forward to the implementation of neighborhood schools. In reference to parental concerns about participation in basketball play, she noted that education is the primary objective of the school and students who have demonstrated academic success should be rewarded for their efforts.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked Dr. Kearby for her work with the EPIC program and urged the Board to support and expand this worthwhile program. He also thanked Mrs. Schaefer for her report and work on the Smaller Learning Communities project. He offered condolences to Mrs. Windberg, and noted the contribution Mr. Windberg has made to the community. In matters of school safety, Mr. Rodriguez reported that he has visited Carman-Buckner and observed dangerous conditions on the playground.

Mr. Garza thanked Dr. Kearby and Mrs. Schaefer for the reports on EPIC and SLC. He also commented that a key card system could be used to track student entry into buildings.

Ms. Hanna asked for an update on the athletic program, particularly on the evaluation of new coaches. She noted that it is important to build positive relations with students going to college through athletics. In reference to the letter from Mr. Giltner, Ms. Hanna commended the student and his teachers.

Mr. Anderson offered his condolences to Mrs. Windberg and noted that Mr. Windberg had provided valuable advice. In reference to the report on the EPIC program, Mr. Anderson urged that the Board expand the program to operate at full capacity.

Mrs. Maguire reported on the death of Mr. James E. Winfrey, a former member of the District #61 Board of Education. She noted her attendance at the celebration of life service for Mrs. Roslyn Woolf. Music was performed by former Cooke students and by members of the band of which Mr. David Woolf is a member.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:45 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Rodriguez that the meeting be adjourned.

After due consideration thereof, the President called for a voice vote. All members present voted aye. Whereupon the President declared the motion carried.

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 President

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 Secretary