

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 26, 1008

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 60, Lake County, Illinois, convened in regular session in the Library at Juarez Middle School, 201 North Butrick Street, Waukegan, IL at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Mr. Mark Hawn
Mr. Bill Anderson
Mrs. Rita Mayfield-Jedkins
Mr. Michael Rodriguez
Ms. Anita Hanna
Mr. Domingo Garza
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, appointments, leaves, 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. Fred Howard was present for discussion of personnel matters.

Minutes of the closed session are on file in the Superintendent's confidential file, pages 10903-10905.

BOARD RECONVENES IN OPEN SESSION

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

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

Also present for open agenda items were: Ms. Alison Moran of WKRS Radio, and Mrs. Bonnie Kuss, recorder.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Richard Hyde led the Board and audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS TO ILLINOIS SPOTLIGHT SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT SCHOOLS

Dr. Batiste introduced the special guests who were present to celebrate the achievement: Waukegan Mayor Richard Hyde; Regional Superintendent of Schools Roycealee Wood; and Waukegan Aldermen Sam Cunningham, Tony Figueroa, Richard Larsen, Greg Moisio, Rafael Rivera, and Larry TenPas. He commented that Mayor Hyde has worked to foster revitalization of the City; the school district is an integral part of the community. He noted that it is important to recognize that the teachers, Board, and Administration have worked hard to move the District forward.

Dr. Batiste introduced Mrs. Judy Green, Director of School Improvement. Mrs. Green commented that two groups of schools have been recognized by the State Board of Education for their academic achievement as demonstrated by their 2006-2007 test scores. The first group of schools demonstrated at least a 15-point improvement in both reading and math scores over three years. Clearview Elementary, Glen Flora Elementary, Little Fort Elementary, Abbott Middle School, Benny Middle School, Jefferson Middle School, Juarez Middle School, and Webster Middle School were awarded the Illinois Academic Improvement Award. Administrators and staff members who were present came forward to be recognized and to receive a plaque to celebrate the award. Juarez was further recognized as one of the most improved middle schools in Illinois.

Mrs. Green then introduced winners of the Illinois Spotlight Award: Clark Elementary, Glenwood Elementary, Greenwood Elementary, North Elementary, Oakdale Elementary, and Lyon Elementary. She noted that Lyon had an overall reading and mathematics average of 83.7% on the 2007 ISAT/IMAGE. This is the third consecutive year that Clark and Lyon have been named as Illinois Spotlight Schools.

Each school received congratulations from the Board, guests and audience. Dr. Lamping thanked the staff of each building and noted that Waukegan Schools take seriously the mandate that No Child (should be) Left Behind.

Mrs. Maguire thanked Mr. Hyde, Mrs. Wood, and the Aldermen for their attendance at the celebration. In turn, Mr. Hyde expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the District and stated that Waukegan will be heard from academically.

Mrs. Wood thanked the Board and commented that the Region contains 45 school districts; Waukegan is the largest. She thanked the administration and staff for their outstanding efforts.

At 7:45 p.m., Dr. Batiste asked that the Board take a 10 minutes recess to afford the opportunity for individuals to offer personal congratulations to honorees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After the Board reconvened, a motion was made by Mr. Hawn and seconded by Mr. Garza that the minutes of the regular meeting of February 12, 2008, be approved.

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Pamela Woods, 2840 Darrow Lane, Waukegan, IL, commented that her grandson attends Jefferson Middle School. She expressed her appreciation for the leadership of Ms. Nicole Fishman, current Interim Principal for that building. She urged the Board to appoint Ms. Fishman to that position on a permanent basis.

Mr. Robert B. Evans, Sr., 337 George Ave., Waukegan, IL, congratulated the schools on their demonstrated improvement and commented that the process, which was set in motion three years ago, is finally coming to fruition.

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 CONTRACT WITH OMBUDSMAN

Dr. Batiste asked that this item be tabled for further study by the administration.

APPROVAL OF WIDE AREA NETWORK E-RATE CONTRACT

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the contract with Sunesys, LLC to install and maintain a new wide area network at a monthly cost of \$27,000 and a net monthly cost of \$5,130 after E-Rate discounts; effective July 1, 2008.

A motion was made by Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Garza that the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the administration to approve the contract with Sunesys, LLC as presented.

Mr. Pattison was asked to come forward to clarify the use of E-Rate funds to provide an opportunity to upgrade technology for instruction and learning. He explained that E-Rate is a federal program, which reimburses school districts for upgrades in technology; the rate of reimbursement is based upon the number of students who are eligible for free or reduced fee meals. Waukegan is eligible for an 81% reimbursement rate for FY 2008-2009. It would permit District #60 schools to replace outmoded infrastructure and to provide a level of access to information needed by students to realize their potential in today's technological era.

Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins stated that even with an 81% reimbursement rate, there is a substantial cost to the District and asked for more information. Mr. Garza responded that this topic has been under discussion at meetings which are designated Committee of the Whole to permit members of the Board and public to be informed about District plans and financial matters. Dr. Batiste commented that these meetings have been duly posted and the public has been invited to attend.

Mr. Anderson added that E-Rate has very strict guidelines and a very short window of opportunity to make application for funds. He noted that bids must be sought on a nationwide basis; none of the proposed contracts will become viable until approved by the Board. Discussion followed.

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

APPROVAL OF INTERNAL CONNECTIONS E-RATE CONTRACT - NETWORK SWITCHES

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education enter into a contract with MNJ Technologies to supply Enterasys network switches, software, and support necessary to redesign the District's computer network. This contract has a gross cost of \$456,667 and a net cost after E-Rate of \$86,767.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Hanna that the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the administration to approve the contract with MNJ Technologies as presented.

Mr. Pattison explained that the current network system is not capable of supporting the current needs of staff and students. The proposed contract includes the types of equipment needed to make the fiber optic network capable of handling the data traffic. Nationwide bidding was done; four vendors responded.

Mr. Gaudin noted that this was discussed at a meeting of a Committee of the Whole to which the public was invited. Mr. Garza noted that Waukegan had the same opportunity to apply as any other district.

Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins expressed her concern that the funding would not be forthcoming. Mr. Pattison explained that a letter of commitment would be sent to the District; the E-Rate reimbursement rate will not change. This is a one-time cost which will be included in the budget for 2008-2009.

Mr. Gaudin commented that this is an opportunity for the District to support future needs at a substantially reduced cost; it is prudent to take advantage of the opportunity. Mr. Hawn concurred that this is a fiscally responsible procedure.

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

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO PURCHASE SERVERS/STORAGE THROUGH THE E-RATE PROGRAM

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the contract with Apple Computer for the purchase of Server Computers and RAID storage devices at a gross cost of \$80,238 and a net cost of \$15,245 after E-Rate discounts effective July 1, 2008.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Hanna that the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the administration to approve the contract with Apple Computer as presented.

Mr. Anderson stated that the need has been identified and thoroughly discussed in open meetings. He expressed his belief that this is a very favorable opportunity which will ultimately save District costs for upgrade and maintenance of a viable computer system.

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

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 Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Hawn that the Board of Education approve the Appointments listed on Enclosure VII. B. 1 – Schedule F-669; and the Leaves of Absence listed on Enclosure VII. B. 2 - Schedule N-518.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDATES TO FILL PRINCIPAL POSITIONS

Dr. Batiste introduced the newly appointed Principals to fill positions which have been held by interim administrators during 2007-2008, and/or vacancies which will be created due to June 30, 2008 retirements. He introduced each appointee and provided background information on the qualifications of each individual.

Appointees included: Mr. Brian Carr, Hyde Park Elementary; Ms. Nicole Fishman, Jefferson Middle School; Ms. Alba Avellino, Lyon Elementary; and Ms. Arlene Vombrack, McCall Elementary. Each new principal offered his/her thanks to the Board and appreciation for the opportunity to become a part of the administrative team.

Copies of personnel schedules are appended to these minutes.

APPROVAL OF NEW POSITION - STARS PURCHASING CLERK

This item was removed from the agenda

APPROVAL OF GRANTS

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT SCHOOL LIBRARY PROGRAM GRANT

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education accept the FY 2008 School Library per Capita Grant, in the amount of \$11,438.27.

A motion was made by Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Anderson that the Board of Education accept the School Library per Capita Grant as presented.

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

OTHER

NAMING THE CIRCLE DRIVE AT WAUKEGAN HIGH SCHOOL UPPER GRADE CENTER

Board Policy #1315 sets forth the procedure for consideration of a request for the naming of a school or portion of a school facility.

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education authorize the administration of the District to formally declare the circle drive at Waukegan High School Upper Grade Center to be named "Hank Clark Drive."

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Hawn that the Board of Education formally declare the circle drive at Waukegan High School Upper Grade Center to be named "Hank Clark Drive."

Mrs. Maguire noted that Board Policy stipulates that a committee be formed to consider requests to name school facilities. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Hawn had duly met to consider the request and make a recommendation to the Board. She noted that Mr. Clark, a counselor at Waukegan High School, had served as the Student Council Advisor for 30 years. The Student Council will raise funds to support the inauguration ceremony for the naming of this Drive.

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

APPROVAL OF THE K-6 SCIENCE TEXTBOOK ADOPTION

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the adoption of *Full Option Science System* materials for the core K-6 instruction of science which will be funded using Illinois Textbook Loan monies not to exceed \$317,662.

A motion was made by Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Garza that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the administration to adopt K-6 science curriculum materials as presented.

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

APPROVAL OF CUSTODIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the cost effective self-managed custodial care plan as presented, further, to immediately begin the transition to be prepared for the next fiscal year.

A motion was made by Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Hawn that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Administration to assume custodial management of the District and to immediately begin the transition in preparation for FY2008-2009.

Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins asked about the salaries for the two positions covered by this request; namely, General Manager and Night Custodial Supervisor. Mr. Gaudin responded that the salary schedule is a part of the Custodial/Maintenance contract.

Mr. Anderson commented that management fees will no longer be paid to Aramark; the District will have better control over custodial service and will have a better product. Mr. Hawn concurred and added that this will be a cost saving to the District.

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

APPROVAL OF OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVES FOR FIRST STUDENT

The Board had previously discussed the advisability of making changes to delivery of transportation service for students in regard to length of time for bus stop, return to site for students who have missed the bus, out of district service, and centralized pickup.

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the listed directives to First Student.

A motion was made by Mr. Hawn and seconded by Mr. Garza that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Administration to direct First Student to limit bus waiting time from 1 minute to 30 seconds, discontinue return to site for pick up of students who have missed the bus, discontinue service to out of District sites to child care providers, and centralized pickup for pre-K students.

Representatives from First Student were present to discuss delivery of service as it is currently provided. Mr. Hawn, Mr. Garza, and Mr. Rodriguez expressed the view that it should be the responsibility of parents to ensure that students are ready to board the bus in a timely manner; to do otherwise sends the wrong message. Discussion continued in regard to: discipline of students who are late for school, number of times a student is not present for pickup, number of buses needed to return for pick up, and unavailability of personnel at First Student to take calls from parents.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Ms. Hanna to table the motion.

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

Mr. Gaudin stated that this matter will be discussed further at the Operational Services Committee meeting on March 13, 2008.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION FOR A SCHOOL FACILITY SALES TAX REFERENDUM QUESTION

Background information previously provided to the Board presented information on Public Act 95-0675 regarding funding options for Illinois school districts. The Act provides the opportunity for initiation of a referendum question to allow school districts to share in sales tax revenue to fund capital improvements or reduce indebtedness.

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution calling for the county to place the question of a 1% School Facility Tax before the voters on November 4, 2008.

A motion was made by Ms. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Garza to accept the recommendation of the Administration to adopt the Resolution requesting the County Board of Lake County to certify the question of imposing a 1% sales tax for school facility purposes.

Mr. Gaudin thoroughly explained the issue at hand and the benefits to District #60 if the question is approved by the voters. If the issue is adopted countywide, District #60 could receive substantial revenue which could be used to make needed building repairs. Dr. Batiste affirmed that this is a sales tax, not a property tax.

Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Anderson noted that this would bring county dollars to the District #60. Ms. Hanna and Mr. Garza stated that the decision will be up to the voters.

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

A copy of said Resolution is appended to these minutes.

RATIFICATION OF PAYMENT OF IMPREST AND MANUAL CHECKS FOR JANUARY 2008 AND APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE FOR FEBRUARY 2008

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education ratify the payments made by Manual and Imprest checks for the month of January 2008, in the amount of \$1,344,888; and approve of the payment of bills payable for February 2008, in the amount of \$2,414,483.

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 January 2008, and approve the payment of bills payable for February 2008, as presented.

Mrs. Maguire stated that she has questions concerning two bills; Mr. Gaudin will respond.

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

Copies of said financial statements are appended to these minutes.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET ADOPTION PLAN

Mr. Gaudin had previously provided a timeline and schedule of workshops to be held to inform the Board and the public about the budget adoption process.

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the Budget Adoption Calendar and timelines for the development of the FY 2008-2009 Budget.

A motion was made by Mr. Hawn and seconded by Ms. Hanna that the Board of Education approve the Budget Adoption Calendar and timelines for the development of the FY 2008-2009 Budget as presented.

Ms. Hanna commented that preparation of the Budget is a complex issue. She urged members of the Board and public to attend the workshops in order to become familiar with the process and to gain insight into the financial needs of the District.

It was announced that the next Budget Workshop will be held on March 4, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at Lincoln Center.

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

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS COMMITTEES

Mrs. Maguire commented that a number of PE teachers had emailed her to thank the Board for permitting them to participate in a recent seminar. She also noted that Mr. Kenneth Gehrls, former District administrator, had recently undergone emergency heart surgery.

Mr. Anderson commented that the Neighborhood Schools Committee will meet on March 19, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. He urged the public to attend the meeting to gain insight into the process and to share their concerns.

Mr. Rodriguez noted that the Waukegan Schools Foundation is reviewing grant applications. The Foundation is attempting to raise additional money in order to fund more grants.

Ms. Hanna noted her attendance at the Operational Services Committee and Neighborhood Schools Committee meetings.

Mr. Garza noted his attendance at the last Budget workshop. He encouraged members of the Board and community to attend the workshops in order to have a better understanding of the issues being brought to the Board for approval. He commented that he had attended the Neighborhood Schools Committee: committee work is going well.

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Batiste commented on a number of matters:

- The Superintendent's Musical Instrument Initiative has received 13 instruments, a piano, and an electronic organ.
- A FOIA request has been received from SEIU for documents related to on-site review of food service contractor.
- A FOIA request has been received from the Illinois Policy Institute for information about the cafeteria, custodial, and transportation service providers.

Spelling Bee	2/27/08	7:00 p.m.	Novak King School
Health Clinic Advisory	2.28/08	7:00 p.m.	L.C. Room 120
Booster Club auction	3/1/08	6:00 p.m.	
JROTC Regimental Ball	3/1/08	6:00 p.m.	Midlane Country Club
Student Achievement	3/5/08	6:00 p.m.	L.C. Board Room

10916.

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2008.

Dr. Batiste thanked Dr. Cathy Watkins and the Juarez staff and students for their hospitality. He thanked Mr. Newby and the security staff for managing traffic and parking matters. He thanked Mrs. Judy Green for her leadership in school improvement.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Board received for first reading proposed Policies: #5001, Organizational Plan; #5144.8, Student Technology Usage; and Interim #5A, Supplementary Materials. Any Board member with additional information or changes is encouraged to contact Dr. Batiste as soon as possible.

The Board received a written mid-year status report on the Budget for 2007-2008.

OLD BUSINESS

STATUS OF THE ELEVATOR AT THE NINTH GRADE CENTER

Mr. Gaudin reported on the progress made to repair the out-of-service elevator at the Ninth Grade Center. A portion of the rewiring has been completed. Work has been impeded because a copy of the wiring diagram is no longer available; but will be completed as quickly as possible.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought forward.

LEGAL ADVISOR'S REPORT

Mr. Morris had no legal matters to report.

BOARD MEMBER TIME

Mr. Rodriguez offered congratulations to the schools which were honored earlier in the evening. He stated that Board members are asked to make far-reaching decisions but they are committed to making decisions to benefit the District and community. The Board is not seeking to raise taxes within the District. Revenue would come from outside the District; the decision is one which will be made by the voter. He then invited everyone to attend the Booster Club auction.

Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins congratulated the schools which have demonstrated academic achievement. She then expressed her opposition to a tax increase of any kind, and her disapproval of the committee decision to approve spending for technology. Because the library grant award is less than \$1,000 per building, she encouraged the Board to invest in school libraries. She also asked that Board and community members support the Booster Club auction.

Mr. Hawn acknowledged the successful increase in student achievement and thanked Dr. Batiste, Dr. Lamping, Mrs. Green, and past Boards of Education for their leadership. He stated that upgrading technology will allow students and staff greater access to needed information.

Mr. Anderson noted that an 81% free and reduced lunch rate is indicative of District need. The Adequate Yearly Progress increase has moved from elementary to middle school. The library grant is a per capita grant; it is not the only source of school library funding. Waukegan Public Library receives a similar grant.

Ms. Hanna thanked Dr. Watkins for hosting the meeting. She noted that she is pleased with the academic progress being made by students and stated that the previous Board had worked to make sure that the administration had the necessary support to continue to make progress. She expressed her appreciation for the continuing efforts being made by the teaching and administrative staff. She thanked Mr. Pattison for his work to make the E-Rate funds available to enhance the District technology.

Ms. Hanna read a prepared statement which averred that her name and reputation had been compromised and demeaned in the media. She stated that she takes her Oath of Office seriously and is personally and professionally disappointed in the way that she has been unjustly maligned. Her intent is to seek harmony, impartiality in words and deeds, and to work toward increased student achievement.

Mr. Garza congratulated the newly appointed principals, voiced his support for the Booster Club auction, and thanked Judy Green for her work on school improvement. He added his appreciation to Dr. Watkins and Miguel Juarez Middle School for hosting the meeting.

In reference to financial matters, Mr. Garza noted that the E-Rate proposals had been discussed at a prior meeting. Use of technology continues to increase and it is important for our students and staff to keep up with the changing times. A 1% countywide sales tax will bring much needed revenue to our schools; a substantial portion of the funds will come from outside the District. The Board is committed to making sound financial decisions.

Mr. Garza thanked Mayor Hyde for his attendance at the meeting and for his support of the schools.

Mrs. Maguire thanked the teachers and administration for their diligent efforts to increase student achievement. She also noted: Illinois Textbook Loan funds are used exclusively for textbooks; a county-wide referendum on a sales tax increase is a step toward school funding reform and will permit District #60 to make much needed repairs; and use of E-Rate funds to upgrade our technology system will help District #60 students be more competitive in future endeavors.

Mrs. Maguire noted her attendance at the President's Day celebration at Clark. During her visit to Benny, she observed that building repairs are necessary. The Waukegan High School Upper Grade Center students are involved in doing history projects; some involve Waukegan history.

Mrs. Elliott informed the Board and public that the Destination Innovation: Destination Imag!Nation Regional Tournament will be held at Juarez Middle School on March 1, 2008. Teams from Cooke, Little Fort, Jefferson, and Waukegan High School will be among the 49 competing teams from northern Illinois. Creativity and team problem solving are the focus of the parent-run program.

Mr. Hawn announced the Dr. Batiste will be setting up a special closed session Board meeting on Board professional development which will be facilitated by consultants from the Illinois Association of School Boards. The meeting date will be duly posted.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:28 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Hawn and seconded by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins 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.

President

Secretary