

BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE **OPEN SESSION**
Regular MEETING
September 11, 2007

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:

Mr. Michael Rodriguez
Mr. Domingo Garza
Mr. Mark Hawn
Mr. Bill Anderson arrived at 6:10 p.m.
Mrs. Rita Mayfield-Jedkins
Mrs. June Maguire
Ms. Anita Hanna

Absent:

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, employment status, 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. Donaldo 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. Howard was present for discussion of personnel matters and Mr. Pattison was present for discussion of personnel matters related to the reorganization of the Information Technology Services Department.

Minutes of the closed session are on file in the Superintendent's confidential file, pages 10757-10759.

BOARD RECONVENES IN OPEN SESSION

At 7:00 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and seconded by Mr. Rodriguez that the Board reconvene in open session in the Board Room.

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

Mrs. Molly Schaefer led the Board and audience in the recitation of the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR MATTHEW MEDLICOTT

Mrs. Maguire read a letter from Mr. Chris Dreyer in which he proposes that a memorial flag pole be installed at the AOEC to commemorate the life of Lance Corporal Matthew Medlicott, a former Waukegan student who was recently killed in action in Iraq. Mr. Dreyer's letter proposed that donated funds be sought to underwrite the cost of the memorial. Mrs. Maguire asked for a moment of silence in memory of Matthew Medlicott, the victims of the 9/11 attack, and their families.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Hawn and seconded by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins that the minutes of the regular meeting of August 28, 2007, be approved.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Garza and seconded by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins that the minutes of the special meeting of September 4, 2007, be approved.

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and seconded by Mr. Rodriguez that the minutes of the special meeting of September 5, 2007, be approved.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Fred Bairstow, 800 Clayton, Waukegan, IL, stated his beliefs about teaching. He suggested that members of the public might meet informally for discussion prior to the open session meeting of the Board.

Phil Carrigan, 1944 Ash St., Waukegan, IL, asked that the Board support the request of the Township for use of the Trapp Auditorium to hold a fund raiser for Staben Center and Staben House.

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.

PURCHASES AND CONTRACTS

None

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ITEMS

A motion was made by Mr. Garza and seconded by Mr. Rodriguez that the Board of Education approve the Appointments listed on Enclosure VII. B. 1 - Schedule F-659, and the Resignations listed on Enclosure VII. B. 2 - Schedule L-632.

Mr. Garza commented that most of the appointments listed on the schedule are needed to replace staff which have left the District; the new positions are needed in certain subject areas due to enrollment.

Dr. Batiste read the list of administrative appointments with the salary for each position.

Mr. Anderson commented that the individual who is recommended for the position of Substitute Principal at Benny Middle School was recently featured in an article in the *Chicago Tribune* and is an excellent teacher.

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

Copies of the personnel schedules are appended to these minutes.

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

There were no grants or donations to consider.

OTHER

APPROVAL FOR RENTAL OF WAUKEGAN HIGH SCHOOL TRAPP AUDITORIUM

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the use of the Waukegan High School/Upper Grade Center Trapp Auditorium for a musical performance benefit on May 17, 2008, hosted by the Waukegan Township Staben Center, with waiver for the facility charge totaling \$2,700 and a charge only for security, custodial, sound and lighting, at a cost totaling \$1,902, as so indicated on the facility request charge estimate.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and seconded by Mr. Hawn that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Administration to approve the use of Trapp Auditorium as presented.

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE STOP-LOSS INSURANCE

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Insurance Plan Board to purchase Stop-Loss Insurance, and authorize the administration to purchase this insurance at a cost of no more than \$358,459.32. Funds sufficient to cover this expense are available in various departmental insurance (employee benefit) accounts contained within the education fund.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and seconded by Mr. Hawn to accept the recommendation of the Administration to purchase Stop-Loss Insurance as presented.

Mrs. Maguire explained that stop-loss insurance is used to cover particularly large claims for employee health benefits.

Mr. Rodriguez asked about the amount of savings which could be realized. Mr. Anderson responded that there is a slight decrease in rates; this insurance will be bid again next year.

Mr. Gaudin noted that this type of insurance is a small part of the overall insurance plan.

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

APPROVAL OF RATE INCREASE TO THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION (HMO) PLAN

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Insurance Plan Board to allow a 2.6% increase to the Waukegan Public Schools HMO Plan for FY07-08 period, at a cost approximating \$72,000. Funds sufficient to cover this expense are available in various departmental insurance (employee benefit) accounts contained within the education fund.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and seconded by Mr. Rodriguez to accept the recommendation of the Administration to allow a 2.6% increase in Waukegan Public Schools' HMO Plan for FY07-08 as presented.

Mr. Hawn asked for clarification. Mr. Anderson responded that this is a pass through increase from Blue Cross.

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

APPROVAL OF RATE INCREASE TO THE PREFERRED PROVIDER ORGANIZATION (PPO) PLAN

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Insurance Plan Board to allow a 5% increase to the Waukegan Public Schools PPO Plan for the FY07-08 period, and a 25% increase to the Waukegan Public Schools Dental Plan. Funds sufficient to cover this expense are available in various departmental insurance (employee benefit) accounts contained within the education fund.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and seconded by Mr. Hawn to accept the recommendation of the Administration to allow a 5% increase in Waukegan Public Schools PPO Plan and a 25% increase in Waukegan Public Schools Dental Plan for FY07-08 as presented. Funds sufficient to cover this expense are available in various departmental insurance (employee benefit) accounts contained within the education fund.

Mr. Garza noted that there has been no increase in the Dental Plan for the past 20 years.

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

APPROVAL TO RENEW TRANSPLANT INSURANCE POLICY

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Insurance Plan Board to renew the Comprehensive Transplant Insurance at a cost of \$101,057.96. Funds sufficient to cover this expense are available in various departmental insurance (employee benefit) accounts contained within the education fund.

A motion was made by Mr. Garza and seconded by Mr. Hawn to accept the recommendation of the Administration to renew the Comprehensive Transplant Insurance as presented.

Mrs. Maguire noted that there is a possibility that 3 District employees might require this surgery in the future.

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

HEARING ON THE BUDGET FOR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008

Mr. Luosa commented that the development of the FY 2007-2008 Budget was reviewed during the 6 budget workshops held previously and was prepared with a stringent adherence to fiscal responsibility; general state aid was not known. The document has been open for public inspection since August 4, 2007.

Mr. Garza commented that the budget must be filed in Springfield by September 30, 2007, but can be amended during the fiscal year.

Mr. Gaudin commented that the new requested positions were discussed at Budget Workshop #6 and are included in the document in the appropriate budget line item.

The President declared open the hearing on the District Budget for Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

Mrs. Jane Vester, 2229 Ottawa, Waukegan, IL, commended Mr. Gaudin and Mr. Luosa on the budget workshops and the transparency of the process. She noted that teachers are now working without a contract and asked that any additional moneys be devoted to teacher compensation.

Mr. Gaudin commented that he appreciated the comments and thanked his staff for the effort to pull together the various elements of the workshops. He thanked the Board and Superintendent for their support.

Mr. Anderson commented that this budget is zero base and that the next budget will be a budget by objective.

Mr. Hawn commented on the Opening Day meeting and the comments made by Union leaders. He expressed confidence that all unions will be treated fairly.

Mr. Gaudin noted that contract negotiations are going well; there is mutual respect among all parties. Any raises will be retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year.

Mr. Garza spoke in support of the contract process and noted that the children should be the beneficiaries of the process.

At 8:40 p.m. the President declared the hearing closed.

APPROVAL OF THE FY 2007-2008 ORIGINAL BUDGET

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education approve the FY 2007-2008 Original Budget as presented on the official Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) form with the total disbursements as shown. (A copy of the Original budget is on file in the Business Office.)

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez and seconded by Mr. Hawn to approve the FY 2007-2008 Original Budget as presented.

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

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR JULY 2007

The recommendation of the Administration was: that the Board of Education accept the subject financial reports for the month of July 2007, which have closing balances, total revenues and expenditures, as indicated on the schedules.

A motion was made by Mr. Hawn and seconded by Mr. Garza that the Board accept the subject financial reports for the month of July 2007, as presented.

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

A copy of these financial statement is appended to these minutes.

REPORTS

BOARD COMMITTEES

Mr. Anderson commented on the Insurance Plan Board meeting and the Student Achievement Committee meeting at which time the Board reviewed the proposal for restructuring of the Waukegan High School. He announced that a special community meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Trapp Auditorium at the high school to present the proposal to the public.

Mrs. Maguire noted her attendance at the Operations/Finance Committee meeting; Chartwells presented an overview of the changes in cafeteria operations. She also commented that a meeting had been held with Chief Biang and Mr. Ray Vukovich to discuss security. In reference to communication with the public, Mrs. Maguire commented that the District web site is being restructured to make it more user friendly.

As a part of high school restructuring, Mrs. Maguire commented that it is proposed that distance learning could facilitate instruction and avoid transportation of students between campuses. Incorporation of a Student Health Center at the Brookside campus, in partnership with the Lake County Health Department, is also part of the proposal.

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Batiste read a letter from the office of Governor Blagojevich which states the education funding level that has been approved by the State Senate. It was noted that the increased levels of support will not take effect until the bill has been approved by the House. The Governor asked that the Speaker of the House, Michael Madigan, be urged to implement a vote on this bill.

Dr. Batiste noted the invitation from the Literacy Foundation to celebrate its fifth anniversary. Borders Books will again participate.

Dr. Batiste extended an invitation to the public to participate in the special meeting to be held at the Brookside campus on Tuesday, September 18, 2007, to be informed of the proposed changes at the high school.

In reference to school enrollment, Dr. Batiste gave kudos to Mr. Eric Christianson and the staff of Student Support Services for the work which was done to facilitate registration of students at the start of the school year. Mr. Christianson noted that every school had also participated in the process. It is estimated that there are approximately 15,000 students registered currently.

INFORMATION ITEMS

PROPOSED POLICY 5111.11; NON-PUBLIC/NON-GRADED SCHOOL STUDENTS, INCLUDING HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS - FIRST READING

The Board had received a copy of the proposed Policy which addresses the enrollment of students in the District when they have not been in attendance in an accredited instructional program and for whom it could be difficult to determine an appropriate placement. The Policy also speaks to acceptance of students who have previously attended non-public or non-graded instructional programs.

Dr. Lamping commented that this is a new policy which provides consistent structure and authority for administrators working with parents/guardians seeking to enroll students in the District.

Mrs. Maguire noted that IHSA rules do not permit students to participate in extracurricular or co-curricular activities unless they are enrolled full time in the District, except under specific circumstances.

OLD BUSINESS

At the August 28, 2007 meeting, a motion was offered by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and seconded by Mr. Garza that the Board reconsider the appointments listed under New Positions. No action was taken on the motion at that meeting.

Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins and Mr. Garza stated that, after further investigation, they believe that the new positions do not duplicate the work of any current positions.

Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins withdrew her motion; Mr. Garza concurred.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to discuss.

LEGAL REPORT

Mr. Morris presented no other legal matters.

BOARD MEMBER TIME

Mr. Rodriguez commented that his service on the Board has been a learning experience. He assured the public that their concerns are heard and the Board will respond as questions are raised. He voiced his support of the Smaller Learning Communities restructuring proposal.

Mr. Garza reiterated that the members of the Board do listen to the concerns of the public. He stated that the Board makes decisions which affect all of the children in the District.

Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins congratulated Mr. Otis Hickman on his appointment as General Supervisor, gave kudos to Mr. Christianson for his work to get students enrolled in a timely way, and thanked Mr. Gaudin for the excellent budget workshops.

Mr. Hawn congratulated the football team on its fine start to the season. He stated that the Smaller Learning Communities steering committee is enthusiastic about the proposed restructuring which will present some major changes in the delivery of educational services. He voiced his support for the new starting time for Board meetings.

Mr. Anderson concurred and expressed his enthusiasm for the high school restructuring proposal.

Mrs. Maguire noted the approval of the request for use of the Trapp Auditorium by the Township. She also encouraged parents to attend the special meeting on Tuesday night to be informed about the proposed high school restructuring.

Athletic Director David Perkins announced a change in the football schedule due to the celebration of Yom Kippur. The game with Glenbrook South will be held on Thursday, September 20, 2007, under lights. The sophomore game will begin at 4:30 p.m.; varsity game at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:05 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez and seconded by Mrs. Mayfield-Jedkins that the meeting be adjourned.

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

President

Secretary