

Minutes of public hearing held on November 16, 2009 regarding the modification of School Code concerning exceeding the 5% administrative cost cap.

The hearing was called to order by the president at 7:00 p.m. The recording secretary called the roll. Present were: Hicks, Foster, Ottengheime, Konen, Conley. Absent: Boehne, Palombo

Ms. Rockwood explained that by law there must be a hearing to modify Illinois School Code to exceed the 5% administrative cost cap. The excess expenditures are due to the dissolution of the DeKalb County Special Education Association (D.C.S.E.A.). Ms. Rockwood sent letters as per law to our state senator and representative as well as the president of the Indian Creek Education Association regarding the hearing. The notice of the public hearing was published in the Daily Chronicle on November 6, 2009.

Mr. Foster asked if there were any comments from the board or public. No one responded and there were no comments.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Hicks that the hearing be adjourned. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried. The hearing was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Ottengheime, Secretary

Minutes of the regular board of education meeting held on Monday, November 16, 2009. The president called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. The recording secretary called the roll. Present were: Conley, Hicks, Ottengheime, Konen, Foster. Absent: Boehne, Palombo.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Conley to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2009 regular board meeting. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried.

It was moved by Ottengheime, seconded by Konen to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2009 special board of education meeting. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Malm presented the middle school student council activities report in the absence of Mrs. Burton and Mrs. Berryhill. The students and their advisors were at the concession stand at the middle school basketball game this evening and could not attend. The students decorated for Halloween and wore costumes. The student council had a pie sale and sold about 140 pies.

Mr. Mantzke and Mr. Simpson gave the elementary school improvement plan. Both schools have similar trends and priorities. Mr. Mantzke said that the first grade is combining classes and piloting ideas to regroup, restructure, and enrich the students who are doing well. Shabbona Elementary is looking at a writing curriculum. Mr. Simpson said that Waterman Elementary is also looking at a writing curriculum since students are not achieving at the higher level in writing as in reading and math. MAP testing tests reading and language usage but not writing since it is in an electronic format. The focus on writing has added another piece. A person from N.I.U. is coming to Shabbona Elementary at no cost to look at RtI, interventions, team planning time, and what group of students are struggling and how to help them.

Mr. Malm gave the middle school improvement plan. He spoke about the process utilizing RtI. They have noticed a large change at the 8th grade level in writing that they will all be working on to improve.

Ms. Palombo arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Mrs. Konen asked if writing scores are unique to Indian Creek or other districts as well. Mr. Malm replied that other districts are having this problem. There is now a 6 point rubric where there had been a 4 point rubric. The middle school did an all school write. They will look at the results of that and then determine where to focus energy and resources.

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Mr. Mantzke gave the Shabbona Elementary principal's report. There was a Veteran's Day Assembly that was attended by area veterans, the American Legion, and about 20 additional community members. The children led by Mrs. Jacobson, sang songs and did a wonderful job. A giving tree is being established with donations of hats, coats, scarves, and mittens. The donations will be given to the NICE Center. In January the school will have a food drive. Parent-teacher conferences were down in attendance this year due to illness. However, all parents were contacted either in person or by phone. The winter program will be on December 7 and Waterman Elementary's program will be on December 8.

Mr. Foster commented that when the board of education toured the buildings early in November that they were impressed with how the buildings looked and the pride that is taken in the buildings.

Mr. Simpson gave the Waterman Elementary principal's report. The EPC and the 4th and 5th graders stayed after school on Friday and decorated for American Education Week this week. Enrollment-wise they have had one student move from the district. The high school and middle school have also had students move out of district.

Mr. Malm gave the middle school principal's report. Red ribbon week went well. There were 207 ribbons and buttons worn at the school. If a student's number was called, they won a prize. Parent-teacher conferences attendance was down due to illness and teacher logic. Family Reading Night was a success with 50 people attending for a Poe reading. The rock & rec lunch was held with 12 students recognized in October and 12 more will be recognized in December. A "Walk Across America" program has been started. Faculty and community members are also joining in walking with the students.

Mr. Hicks asked if the office has been moved back to its original room. Mr. Malm said that they are almost moved back in. Mr. Ham is finishing up the cabinets and it is hoped that they can be moved back in at the end of the week.

Mrs. Ottengheime commented that she is glad that the schools are being creative with Red Ribbon Week.

Mrs. Montgomery gave the high school principal's report. There was a decrease in attendance at parent-teacher conferences due to illness, home logic, and people in the fields. The spaghetti dinner may be held later on in the school year since a softball coach has not yet been hired. Interviews have been conducted and applications are still being accepted. The ASVAB test will be given in November and students can opt out of taking the test. Red Ribbon Week is this week with different themed days.

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Ms. Rockwood reported that there was a FOIA request from the Village of Shabbona requesting the 2009-10 budget and the 2007-08 and 2008-09 audits.

Mr. Foster asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the board. The following was presented:

Brenda Chester and Geri Korhnak representing the C.C.C. presented pies and other items to the board members, administrators, and recording secretary in honor of American Education Week. Mrs. Chester invited the board to attend the 27th annual C.C.C. Auction which will be held on Sunday, March 14 at 12:30 p.m. in the middle school small gym. Last year over \$19,000 was raised. Mrs. Chester asked if a special mailing could be considered for the newsletter in January and February to help publicize the auction.

BUSINESS

It was moved by Palombo, seconded by Konen to approve the bills for the month of November accounts payable checks numbers 60648 to 60765 in the amount of \$570,434.07; payroll checks numbers 44031 to 44135 and 2303d to 2520d in the amount of \$453,092.24; and the treasurer's report, imprest fund report, and community school fund report. Mrs. Ottengheime had a question on the fingerprinting bill and the attorney's bill. Ms. Rockwood gave a breakdown of the attorney's bill. Roll call vote: Conley, yes; Hicks, abstain; Ottengheime, yes; Palombo, yes; Konen, yes; Foster, yes. 5 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. The motion carried.

It was moved by Palombo, seconded by Hicks that the meeting adjourn into executive session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned into executive session at 7:58 p.m.

It was moved by Konen seconded by Palombo that the meeting reconvene into regular session. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried. The meeting reconvened into regular session at 8:37 p.m.

It was moved by Palombo seconded by Konen that the executive session minutes be approved as reviewed. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Palombo to accept the resignation of Stephanie Stuckey effective immediately. Roll call vote: Hicks, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Palombo, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

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It was moved by Konen, seconded by Palombo to accept the resignation of Lori Drendel effective December 31, 2009. Roll call vote: Ottengheime, yes; Palombo, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Conley to approve the FMLA request of Becky Boldt as per new regulations. Roll call vote: Palombo, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Palombo, seconded by Hicks to approve the FMLA request of Amber Schueler as per new regulations. Roll call vote: Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Palombo, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

Janet Pearson from Wilcoxson & Associates presented the 2008-09 audit. There were no significant findings and she complimented the district for being in good financial shape. It was moved by Palombo, seconded by Ottengheime to accept the 2008-09 auditor's report. Roll call vote: Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Palombo, yes; Konen, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

Ms. Rockwood presented the estimated 2009 tax levy. The c.p.i. is .1% and is the lowest ever since counties have been tax capped. The levy that was run today is based on e.a.v. information received in October. Currently, there is \$1.9 million in new construction. It is possible there may be additional new construction before December 31. No truth in taxation hearing is needed this year. More money is requested in O & M and fire/life safety funds. There is no extension being requested in working cash fund. The estimated levy is based on \$1.9 in new construction. The total estimated levy is \$6,658,681. This amount includes the voter approved taxes of \$499,593 for Shabbona Elementary School. Ms. Rockwood will call the county assessor again to ask about when the wind turbines and the FPL maintenance building will be included for certain on the tax rolls. The taxes shouldn't be received until June 2111 for the 2111-12 school year. The proposed extension is the lowest tax rate in 8 years. It was moved by Conley, seconded by Palombo to approve the 2009 tax levy at \$6,658,681. Roll call vote: Hicks, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Palombo, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Foster to approve the submission of request for waiver to exceed 5% administrative cost cap for 2009-2010. Roll call vote: Ottengheime, yes; Palombo, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Ottengheime, seconded by Konen to approve the bus purchase from Central States for \$59,850 (\$67,350 with a \$7,500 trade-in allowance). Roll call vote:

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Palombo, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Palombo to approve the library grant. Roll call vote: Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Palombo, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Palombo to designate the superintendent and superintendent's administrative assistant as FOIA officers. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried.

There was a second reading of policies 2:70-E, 2:100, 2:240, 2:260, 2:260-AP2, 5:180, 5:220, 4:170-AP5, 6:15, 6:15AP, 6:15AP1, 6:15AP2, 6:15AP3, 6:15AP4, 6:15E, 6:15E2, 6:15E3, 6:15E4, 6:170-AP3, 7:70, 5:250, and 5:330. It was moved by Konen, seconded by Hicks to approve the above policies. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Ms. Rockwood gave the superintendent's report. On the October 23 institute day, the morning was spent in whole faculty study groups who worked on looking at data and worked on school improvement. The afternoon was spent on PBIS as the social/emotional side for RtI. Survey results were shared and will be presented to the board in December. The middle school work is progressing. There were two estimates to repair the skylight and drywall. The third floor bathroom was repaired. Ms. Rockwood knew nothing about the problem in the bathroom or it would have been taken care of sooner. A bill for that work should be in the December board packet. Progress is being made in moving back into the middle school office. Information was sent to the district about H1N1 clinics and it was placed on the district website and letters have been sent home regarding H1N1. The numbers of students in each building who were absent due to flu-like symptoms were tracked for two weeks and deep cleaning was done in every building. Mr. Hunt received a grant from the DeKalb County Foundation for portable soccer goal posts. The NCLB grant has been approved. The middle school received a Raising Student Achievement Scholarship from the DeKalb County Regional Office of Education. The Shabbona Elementary phone system is experiencing problems and Verizon fixed the lines today; however the voice mail is on Simplex and it is still experiencing problems, even after having had an expensive repair last year. There will be a bill in December for a new washing machine at Shabbona Elementary that couldn't be repaired. Ms. Rockwood and Gail Loes attended a F.O.I.A. seminar. Ms. Rockwood has attended several Shabbona Village board meetings in regards to T.I.F. A representative from the Paw Paw school district visited with Ms. Rockwood to learn about our MAP system testing. There is still an outstanding bill with the Glenbrook Group with regard to

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the roofing project that will most likely not be certified and presented until all damages are repaired.

The finance committee met recently and discussed levy parameters, the administrative cost cap, and bus purchase.

The board photo will be taken in December when all the board members will be present.

Mrs. Ottengheime was appointed the delegate to the IASB conference.

Ms. Rockwood and Mr. Foster spoke on intergovernmental communications. Mr. Foster has given a FOIA request to the Village of Shabbona. There will be a special meeting of the Village of Shabbona tomorrow evening at 7 p.m. to discuss T.I.F.'s. He encouraged everyone to attend. Mr. Foster said that contacting the school district's attorney has been money well spent because it opened up communication with the village. Mr. Foster's FOIA request was for a copy of the Village of Shabbona's audit and budget and that does not need to be presented by an attorney. Ms. Rockwood met with the mayor of the village of Lee. He also attended the FOIA seminar. A letter was received from George Attaway stating that he hoped that his presentation was of educational value and that he would be happy to make another presentation if needed. It was suggested that if the Village of Shabbona has a T.I.F. feasibility study plan that maybe Mr. Attaway or the district attorney could look it over. The district will keep working through the process.

Mrs. Ottengheime read correspondence from the family of Myrtle Frazier and Hospice of North Iowa.

It was moved by Hicks, seconded by Conley that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Ottengheime, Secretary