

**MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION – DISTRICT 181
DECEMBER 10, 2007
AMENDED as of 4/14/08**

Call of Meeting

The Business Meeting of the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 181, DuPage and Cook Counties, Illinois, was called to order by Mrs. Armonda, Board President, at 7:03 p.m., on Monday, December 10, 2007, at Hinsdale Middle School.

Roll Call

Jeanne Swanson, Board Recording Secretary, took roll call. Board Members present were: Kevin Hanrahan, Marc Monyek, Roseanne Rosenthal, Andrew Schmidt, Mary Beth Tamm, Bruce Walker, and Lisa Armonda. Also present, Dr. James Tenbusch, Superintendent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Armonda led the pledge.

Andrew Schmidt made a motion to amend the agenda to move the Special Presentation for Student Recognition to be the first item on tonight's agenda. Marc Monyek seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Special Presentations

Student Recognition

The following students received Student of the Month awards for the month of December: Elle O'Hara, Steven Yeh, Julia Moberly, Nicky Relias, Emily Otto, Kevin Proudfoot, Maria Lappas, Will Roehl, Gracie Hart, Will McGowen, Jessa Pitcher, Charlie Johns, Sophia Slone, Colin Jay, Elizabeth Erickson, Trevor Rempert, Haley Farra, Peter Brick. Also accepting awards were three Students of the Month that were unable to accept their awards at the November meeting: Sarah Hillegass, Carson Tabachka, and Margot Weiss.

2007 Levy Hearing

Andrew Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the regular business meeting and open a levy hearing. Mary Beth Tamm seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Jay Grimes reported that the truth in taxation number is misleading from last year due to the district being in two counties and that Cook County runs behind DuPage. He stated that the proposed levy is in the amount of \$44,591,533 and the administration is still recommending a one million dollar abatement.

Kevin Hanrahan summarized the financial advisory committee procedures, recommendations and charge. He stated that the group met last week along with four

board members and they provided great insight. The discussion centered around the past and present budgets and past levies.

Lisa Armonda questioned using the bond and interest fund for abating. Jay Grimes stated that he has checked with legal counsel and as long as there are sufficient funds in this account the district is allowed to use this money without a loss factor. Dr. Tenbusch added that this is the only fund that can be abated from that will not affect future years.

Kevin Hanrahan stated that his impression from the Financial Advisory Committee was that their consensus was that the district had made good on their commitment to this community, and the past two years were spent making a good effort to correct financial stability. Bruce Walker added that there were also a number of community representatives present at the meeting and most did not put a priority on abating and suggested this topic not be debated any further. If there would be any further consideration to abatement, he suggested it best be done at the end of the first quarter, prior to the levy submission, so the district could have three more months to better judge the financial performance and impact.

Andrew Schmidt stated that he is not comfortable with a levy that has extra money built into it that is not specified for any certain initiative and stated that we cannot levy on anticipated needs down the road. He asked for a levy option that did not have an extra \$2.3 million built into it. Jay Grimes stated that he agreed with Andrew's background information, however the district would shortly be into a deficit and would need a referendum fairly soon if we levy \$2.3 million less.

Mary Beth Tamm, Marc Monyek, Roseanne Rosenthal, and Kevin Hanrahan stated that they were comfortable with the administration's recommended levy amount. Lisa Armonda and Bruce Walker both support the administration's recommendation of the levy amount without the abatement of a \$1 million option.

Public Comment on Levy

Lisa Armonda reviewed the guidelines for public comments.

Michael Lynch asked the board to reflect on adopting a levy in the amount of \$41,310,015 which represents a one-year phase in, along with a new property number proposed by the administration.

Yvonne Mayer, an Elm and Hinsdale Middle School parent, asked the board to withdraw the abatement of \$1 million and to pass a resolution that no further abatements will be considered.

Lois Mejdrich continued Yvonne Mayer's statement regarding the levy.

Sarah Lewensohn, a Madison School parent, addressed the board regarding the levy proposal and asked that in the future, the administration present full year financials that

provide detail by fund with start and end balances, revenue and expense growth rate assumptions, and the net change to the operating funds.

Andrew Schmidt made a motion to adjourn the levy hearing and to reopen the regular business meeting. Marc Monyek seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Bruce Walker made a motion to approve a levy in the amount of: \$37,472,352 in the education fund; \$5,040,381 in the operations & maintenance fund; \$954,909 in the transportation fund; \$224,027 in the municipal retirement fund; and \$899,864 in the social security fund; making this a total levy of \$44,591,533. Roseanne Rosenthal seconded the motion. On roll call, the following members voted "aye": Kevin Hanrahan, Marc Monyek, Roseanne Rosenthal, Mary Beth Tamm, Bruce Walker, and Lisa Armonda. "Nay" Andrew Schmidt. The motion carried.

No one made a motion to abate \$1 million from the bond and interest fund.

Public Hearings, Petitions, Comments, and Questions of Visitors

Yvonne Mayer, an Elm and HMS parent, addressed the board regarding the \$9,000 fee cap payment to Franczek Sullivan.

Jane Herron, HCHTA President, addressed the board regarding technology, safety, and payroll issues.

Nancy Grapenthien, a CHMS teacher, continued Jane Herron's statement regarding technology, safety, and payroll issues.

Mary Ellen Kuikman, a HMS teacher, continued Jane Herron's statement regarding technology, safety, and payroll issues.

Beth Zuschlag, a teacher on leave from Oak School, addressed the board regarding a payroll problem.

Lorna Galandak, HESS president, stated that she has the same concerns as the HCHTA and would like an explanation of the compromise of the payroll computer, and an assurance to the staff that their personal records are safe.

Susan Kahan, a HMS parent, stated how upset she was to hear about the payroll issues and asked the board to correct this problem as soon as possible.

Susan McGuire, a Madison & HMS parent, addressed the board regarding a technology concern and the 21st Century Academy.

Ann Mueller, resident of Elm School attendance area, addressed the board regarding special education issues and the avoidance of the overcrowding issue at Clarendon Hills Middle School.

Jackie Grazulis, a CHMS parent, addressed the board regarding special education.

Desiree Tucker-Sorini, a CHMS and The Lane School parent, relayed to the board that all taxpayers appreciate their hard work and the importance that everyone be cordial and work together as a team.

Paula Cacossa, a Prospect School parent, stated that special education needs to be a top priority because these children have been second class citizens for many years in this district.

Andrew Schmidt made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the payroll and technology issues that were brought up in public comments this evening. Marc Monyek seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Payroll & Technology Discussion

Jay Grimes reviewed the payroll issues that were mentioned in public comments. They included a recent problem with a direct deposit process and payroll deductions. Both Jay Grimes and Dr. Tenbusch apologized to the staff for the inconvenience and stated that the department is in the process of taking steps to correct these errors.

The board requested an independent audit of the payroll process and the suspension of all payment and payback plans to address past errors until the audit is complete. Marc Monyek requested immediate notification of such issues in the future. The administration also agreed to conduct an independent security analysis to assess a firewall breach involving a business department computer.

Jane Herron requested that a letter be sent to all employees reassuring them of the security of their personal information. Lisa Armonda agreed that a letter be sent to all employees from Dr. Tenbusch and she also requested an outline of the problems and for administration to start working on the solutions and a timetable.

Bruce Walker stated that two independent reviews should take place, one for payroll and one for security. He also suggested a review of internal controls for payroll with a focus on the process.

Bruce Richards reviewed with the board the technology concerns. He explained that the use of the business office computer did not constitute a security breach of employee data. He acknowledged significant issues this fall with software performance, workload of his specialists, and a failing wireless network at CHMS. He stated that he and his team are working diligently on these issues.

Madison Design Award

David Patton, architect for Healy Bender and Associates, presented a statewide award for excellence in the 2007 Invitational Exhibition of Educational Environments to Dr. Tenbusch and Lisa Armonda for the renovation and addition of Madison School.

The board took a break at 10:31 p.m. and reconvened at 10:40 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mary Beth Tamm made a motion to approve the special board of education meeting minutes of November 12, 2007, as presented. Marc Monyek seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Mary Beth Tamm made a motion to approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of November 12, 2007 as presented. Marc Monyek seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Special Presentations

Hinsdale Middle School Play

Marc Monyek made a motion to table this presentation until the next meeting scheduled for January 14, 2008. Roseanne Rosenthal seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Special Education Interim Report

Due to the lateness of the hour, Glen Littlefield presented only the most time-sensitive portion of his presentation and will continue the report at the January 14, 2008, Committee of the Whole meeting. Mr. Littlefield stated that he has not yet analyzed all of the focus group information, but has found that communication and compliance were the main issues that came up within each group.

Mr. Littlefield reviewed a proposed change in the top job in the special education department from director to assistant superintendent to reflect elevated responsibility. He described the proposal to shift IEP management from district coordinators to a site-based model. He explained that the two coordinators would take on different roles. One would become a compliance officer and the other would be a parent liaison.

Lisa Armonda asked if this is the final list of recommended staff changes for special education. Mr. Littlefield stated that the loss of the district's Director of Assessment still needed to be analyzed as many of the job responsibilities of that position still need to be covered. Mrs. Armonda also asked if he has felt any pushback from the Principals on their added responsibilities. Mr. Littlefield stated that the coordinators would continue working with them and has also asked the principals to submit recommendations for support.

Andrew Schmidt made a motion to elevate the position of Director of Special Education to Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Personnel Services and to post the position. Marc Monyek seconded the motion. On roll call, the following members voted "aye": Kevin Hanrahan, Marc Monyek, Roseanne Rosenthal, Andrew Schmidt, Mary Beth Tamm, Bruce Walker, and Lisa Armonda. "Nay" none. The motion carried.

Finance Items

Monthly Financial Reports

There were no questions regarding the monthly financial reports.

Payment of Bills & Reimbursements

Mary Beth Tamm made a motion to approve the bills and reimbursements as presented. Marc Monyeyk seconded the motion. On roll call, the following members voted "aye": Kevin Hanrahan, Marc Monyeyk, Roseanne Rosenthal, Andrew Schmidt, Mary Beth Tamm, Bruce Walker, and Lisa Armonda. "Nay" none. The motion carried.

New Business

Personnel Consent Agenda

RECOMMENDATIONS: Approve/accept the following personnel actions:

CERTIFICATED:

1. **EMPLOYMENT:** Regular education teachers for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year:

Cristina Kinsey, Speech/Language Pathologist, Monroe, CHMS, (MA+30, Step 5), \$19,360, .3FTE, effective December 6, 2007.

Andrea Woldeit, Resource, The Lane, (BA, Step 3), \$47,503, effective December 17, 2007.

2. **CHANGE OF CLASSIFICATION:** Recommend approval of a change in classification based on additional credit hours earned for the following teachers effective December 15, 2007:

Raleigh Seraponas, Special Education, HMS, (St. Xavier University)

<u>MA</u>	<u>Step 6</u>	<u>MA+15</u>	<u>Step 6</u>
\$61,843		\$64,532	

Rita Anderson, Gifted Specialist, Oak, (Baker University, St. Xavier University, National Louis University, University of the Pacific)

<u>MA+30</u>	<u>Step 13</u>	<u>MA+45</u>	<u>Step 13</u>
\$86,042		\$88,731	

Jodie Cutler, Special Education, HMS, (St. Xavier University)

<u>MA+15</u>	<u>Step 13</u>	<u>MA+30</u>	<u>Step 13</u>
\$83,354		\$86,042	

3. **CORRECTION TO STUDENT ACTIVITIES SPONSOR:**

CHMS

The November 26 personnel agenda incorrectly listed Maureen Miks sponsoring the New Student Club at CHMS. The correct activity is Future Problem Solvers and will be sponsored by Meghan Miks at a stipend of \$700.

HMS

The November 26 personnel agenda incorrectly listed Kate Pitlock and Nicole Rude as sponsors for the 6th – 8th grade musical at \$150 each. The activity was sponsored by Rick Dusek and Sue Wachowski. They should each receive the \$150 in addition to the stipend previously approved.

CLASSIFIED:

1. **EMPLOYMENT:**

Barbara Nolan, Instructional Assistant, Prospect, 6 hours per day, \$11.24 per hour, effective December 3, 2007, (replacing R. Hennessy).

Carolyn Bonistalli, Instructional Assistant, The Lane, 3 hours per day, \$12.01 per hour, effective December 10, 2007.

2. CHANGE IN ASSIGNMENT:

Joom Soukseum, from night custodian, Prospect, to afternoon custodian, CHMS, effective December 28, 2007.

Andrew Schmidt made a motion to approve the personnel agenda as presented. Marc Monyek seconded the motion. On roll call, the following members voted "aye": Kevin Hanrahan, Marc Monyek, Roseanne Rosenthal, Andrew Schmidt, Mary Beth Tamm, Bruce Walker, and Lisa Armonda. "Nay" none. The motion carried.

FOIA Update
Written report.

Planning and Program Development Committee Minutes
Written report.

FastForward Purchase Agreement

Glen Littlefield presented information on a pilot program in special education for students on the autism spectrum. The program is titled FastForward and will be piloted at three schools for six months at the cost of \$40,000.00.

Mary Beth Tamm made a motion to approve the Fast Forward Purchase Agreement as presented. Marc Monyek seconded the motion. On roll call, the following members voted "aye": Kevin Hanrahan, Marc Monyek, Roseanne Rosenthal, Andrew Schmidt, Mary Beth Tamm, Bruce Walker, and Lisa Armonda. "Nay" none. The motion carried.

Adjournment

Marc Monyek made a motion at 12:06 a.m. to adjourn into closed session for the purpose of review of closed session minutes, personnel, and matters involving real estate. Mary Beth Tamm seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.

Lisa Armonda, President 4/14/08

Andrew Schmidt, Secretary 4/14/08