

MINUTES of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 9 held in the Board Conference Room at the Board of Education Administrative Offices, 1947 Adams Street, Granite City, Illinois, on April 16, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: JERRY McKECHAN (PRESENT BY AUDIO CONCERENCE) CAROLYN YATES, MEGHAN DAILY, RON DILLARD, AND RALPH BURNETT.

EMPLOYEES PRESENT: HARRY A. BRIGGS, PH.D., SKIP BIRDSONG, DR. DENNIS BURNETT, LYNETTE BURNETT, PATRICK CURRY, BRAD EAVENSON, DOROTHY FALTER, CINDY GAGICH, JIM GREENWALD, DON HARRIS, GLORIA HARRISON, PAULA HUBBARD, DAVID KEEL, DEBRA KIBORT, NANCY LEVAULT, MARK LULL, CINDY MEFFORD, STACIE MILLER, TERRY MITCHELL, TIM MORAN, KRISTEN NOVACICH, JIM PARKER, WYATT ROBERDS, NANCY SMALLIE, SAMANTHA SYDGIG, TOM SCHOOLEY, LISA SMITH, RON STERN, ZACK SUHRE, TRINA TSIGOLAROFF, MARY VOSS, BARBARA VRABEC, CURT WATTERS, AND BARBARA BILBREY.

OTHERS PRESENT: BIANCA BANUELOS, HANNAH BARNES, ERICA BARNEY, DYLAN BIEWALD, GERALD COCKRUM, DREW COLEMAN, GRANT CRIDER, HALEY CRIDER, MAKAYLA ELLIOTT, KATHY HAGNAUER, PEYTON HATFIELD, SUSAN HATFIELD, KRISTINA HOELSCHER, MATT JONES, EMILY LEMASTER, MARIAH MARTIN, REV MARK MAYNARD, WILLIAM O'KEEFE, BEN PATTERSON, JERRY PATTERSON, ANDREW ROPAC, SUE ROPAC, KRISTIN SCHELLHARDT, MICHELE SCHELLHARDT, DAKOTA SMALLIE, GREGORY SCOTT SMALLIE, SIERRA SMALLIE, JENNIFER SMITH, MASON SMITH, KEN VOSS, MONA ZUBI, AND RUBA ZUBI.

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board President, Ralph Burnett. Roll was called. All members, with the exception of Members Whitaker and Scroggins, were present and a quorum was declared. Member McKechan was present at the meeting by audio conference. President Burnett asked those present to stand for the reciting of the *Pledge of Allegiance* followed by the *Invocation*. He stated that citizens or parents with children in attendance, who did not wish to participate in the *Invocation*, could wait outside the Board Conference Room until after the Board moved to Item IV, *Public Comment*. Rev. Mark Maynard of Calvary Life Church offered the *Invocation*.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – There were no public comments.
RECOGNITION OF GCHS BAND - A *Certificate of Recognition* was presented to the Granite City Senior High School Band by Board Member Meghan Daily for the following achievements at the WorldStrides Heritage National Band Competition held at Riverside Church in New York City, NY: *First Place* among seven bands in schools with 1,200 students or more; and *Superior Gold Rating* and *Most Outstanding Concert Band* for the highest scores of the entire competition. Accepting the award were Wyatt Roberds, Band Director, and GCHS band students – Erica Barney, Makayla Elliott, and Kristin Schellhardt.

RECOGNITION OF COOLIDGE AND GRIGSBY OLYMPIAD TEAMS - A *Certificate of Recognition* was presented to the Coolidge Junior Olympiad Team, consisting of the following 8th Grade Team Members: Haley Crider, Mariah Martin, William O’Keefe, and Ben Patterson, sponsored by Cynthia Mefford, for winning *First Place* in the Junior Olympiad held at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville on March 19, 2013.

A *Certificate of Recognition* was presented to the Grigsby Junior Olympiad Team, consisting of the following 7th Grade Team Members: Dylan Biewald, Andrew Ropac, Dakota Smallie, and Mona Zubi, sponsored by Cynthia Mefford, for winning *Third Place* in the Junior Olympiad held at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville on March 19, 2013.

Superintendent Briggs stated that Granite City is one of a few school districts in the area that continues to provide a gifted program for its students.

RECOGNITION OF YOUNG AUTHORS

Certificates were presented to the following District #9 2013 State Young Authors’ Award winners:

Gerald Cockrum – 6th Grade/Coolidge
Mariah Martin – 8th Grade/Coolidge
Mona Zubi – 8th Grade/Grigsby

Mason Smith – Kindergarten/Frohardt
Peyton Hatfield – 2nd Grade/Frohardt
Emily LeMaster – 4th Grade/Frohardt
Grant Crider – 5th Grade/Frohardt
Hannah Barnes – 4th Grade/Mitchell
Bianca Banuelos – 5th Grade/Wilson
Drew Coleman – 5th Grade/Wilson

Director of Elementary Education, Nancy LeVault, announced to the Board and those present that Lillian Harris, a 3rd grade student at Niedringhaus Elementary School, daughter of Don Harris, Director of Assessment/Accountability, has written a book called “Dogs for Dyslexia.” It was noted that her book release will be on Sunday, April 21, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Suburban Baptist Church. In addition, Mrs. LeVault stated that Lillian has been contacted by Mike Bush from News Channel 5, and they are interested in doing a story on the nightly news about Lillian and her book.

In addition, Nancy LeVault, stated that she was pleased to announce that since the recognition of Young Authors was scheduled in April, Gerald Cockrum’s dad was able to attend. She stated that he is home on leave but will be departing to provide military service for our country in the near future.

Retiring Board Members Walt Whitaker and Ralph R. Burnett, Jr. were recognized for their years of service as Board Members. Although Member Whitaker was not present, Superintendent Briggs informed those present that Walt Whitaker was a 1950 graduate of Granite City High School and served as President of the Letterman’s Club and was an all-state wrestler.

He noted that District #9 had employed Walt Whitaker as a Physical Education teacher for Emerson School on August 30, 1963. He served as a teacher and coach at GCHS and North High School until 1988. In 1988 to 1990 he served as an Assistant Principal at GCHS and from 1990 to 1993 as the Principal at Marshall School. He retired in June of 1993 after 30 years of service as an educator. His service as a Board Member began on November 9, 1993; and he has served on the Board for 20 years.

Superintendent Briggs stated that Ralph R. Burnett, Jr. was a 1969 graduate of Granite City High School. He was elected to the Board in 2001 and has served 12 years, serving as Treasurer for four years and President for eight years. Superintendent Briggs stated that President Burnett has provided outstanding leadership for the Board and will be missed.

President Burnett thanked everyone for their support. He said that the education he received in Granite City had provided him with an opportunity to attend college. He said that while serving on the Board he had worked with a strong group of teachers, administrators and Board Members. He commented that this is a wonderful community, and it will continue to be strong.

3. **MINUTES** (219 & a-g) Motion by Member Yates, seconded by Member Daily, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education held on March 26, 2013 as presented on 219 & a-g. Members voting—McKechan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA** (220-224) Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the items listed on the *Consent Agenda* as follows:

TREASURER’S REPORT/MARCH 2013 (220 & a) To accept the Treasurer’s Report for March 2013 as presented on 220 & a and file for audit.

BILL LIST DATED 4/5/2013 (221 & a-o) AND **BILL LIST DATED 4/10/2013** (222 & a-ae) To approve the bill list dated 4/5/2013 on 221 & a-o and the bill list dated 4/10/2013 on 222 & a-ae and authorize the payment of all items.

BOILER REPLACEMENT/WORTHEN ANNEX (223) To award the bid for boiler replacement for the Worthen Annex on Stratford Lane to Bendler Mechanical Company as outlined on 223 on the basis of low bid to specifications at a cost of \$13,313.00.

REQUESTS FROM VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS (224) To approve Requests “a” and “b” as outlined on 224.

GIFTS (224) To accept the gifts outlined on 224 with thanks and appreciation. Members voting—McKechan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

5. **RESIGNATION** (225) Motion by Member Burnett, seconded by Member Yates, upon the recommendation of the administration, to accept the following resignation:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Daniel Parker	Custodian/Mitchell	Resignation	4/17/2013

Members voting—McKechan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

6. **EXTENSION TO A LEAVE OF ABSENCE** (225) Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, upon the recommendation of the administration, to approve the following extension to a leave of absence:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Noreen Fanning	Cafeteria/Grigsby	Family Medical	4/23/2013 – 5/30/2013

Members voting—Yates, “aye”, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; McKeachan, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

7. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR RESIGNATIONS** (225) Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Yates, upon the recommendation of the administration, to accept the following extra-curricular resignations effective at the conclusion of the 2012-2013 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Raffi Karibian	Physical Education Department Head/High School
Nancy Connolly	Freshman Volleyball Coach/High School
Nancy Connolly	Head Volleyball Coach/Grigsby
Karen Robertson	Varsity Club Sponsor/High School

Members voting—Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; McKeachan, “aye”; Yates, “aye”, and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

8. **EXTRA-CURRICULAR APPOINTMENTS**

DEPARTMENT HEADS (225a) Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, upon the recommendation of the administration, to appoint the following individuals to the Department Head extra-curricular positions effective for the 2013-2014 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Denise Albrecht	Math
Greg Garland	Drivers’ Education
John Manoogian	Fine Arts
Frank McHugh	Guidance
Karen Greenwald	Business/Family Consumer Science
Amy Heath	Science
Stephanie Boyer	Special Education
Ann Mayhall	Speech/Language Coordinator
Chris Hutchings	English

Members voting—Dillard, “aye”; McKeachan, “aye”; Yates, “aye”, Daily, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

It was noted that the only remaining opening for Department Head is Physical Education.

COACHING ASSIGNMENTS (225b) Motion by Member Burnett, seconded by Member Daily, upon the recommendation of the administration, to appoint the following individuals to the extra-curricular coaching assignments effective for the 2013-2014 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Linda Ames	Head Girls’ Tennis Coach/High School
Ginger Harrison	Head Girls’ Volleyball Coach/High School

Members voting—McKeachan, “aye”; Yates, “aye”, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

9. **SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT**

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT – Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daly, to amend the Superintendent's Contract for Harry Briggs dated May 11, 2010 and accept the retirement of Harry Briggs, Superintendent, effective April 30, 2013. Members voting—McKechan, "aye"; Yates, "aye, Daily, "aye"; Dillard, "aye"; and Burnett, "aye"; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT – Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Yates, to appoint Jim Greenwald as the Interim Superintendent effective April 16, 2013. Members voting—McKechan, "aye"; Yates, "aye, Daily, "aye"; Dillard, "aye"; and Burnett, "aye"; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS – Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, to appoint Jim Greenwald as Superintendent of Schools effective April 30, 2013. Members voting—McKechan, "aye"; Yates, "aye, Daily, "aye"; Dillard, "aye"; and Burnett, "aye"; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

At this time, Superintendent Briggs made the following statement:

Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Education for your support during my tenure as Superintendent. I have truly enjoyed being Superintendent of this district. I am retiring on April 30th for a number of reasons. First and foremost, my retirement will allow for a smooth transition for the Board of Education, the administration, and Mr. Greenwald, our new Superintendent. There are still many plans to make for the 2014 school year. This allows Mr. Greenwald the opportunity to become familiar with the Superintendency and settle into the position before beginning a new school year. I believe it is the right thing for him and the school district. Second, the uncertainty of the pension issue has given me great concern. Hopefully, retiring early will allow me to qualify under the old TRS contract. I'm not certain this will happen, but I have been advised it can only help. And finally, I'm tired. Being the Superintendent of a school district the size of Granite City is very stressful. My stamina and energy are just not the same. And, in order to do this job correctly, you must be able to stand the rigors associated with being a Superintendent.

I want to thank the many people who work in this district for their hard work and support. Your efforts make Granite City a shining example of what quality education should be. I want to thank the parents of this community for providing us with great children and trusting us to educate and keep them safe.

And, finally, I want to thank my family for their support and understanding. Being a Superintendent requires a lot of time away from your family and the key to my success has been that understanding and support.

I leave with no regrets and the belief that I've made a difference. My success is the success of everyone associated with this great school district. I thank you very much.

10. **REVISION OF 2012-2013 SCHOOL CALENDAR** (226) Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, to approve the 2012-2013 revised school calendar changing the last day of school from Wednesday, May 29, 2013 to Wednesday, May 22, 2013 as outlined on 226. Members voting—McKechan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.
11. **INSURANCE SETTLEMENT/ROOF REPLACEMENTS FOR BOARD OFFICE, WAREHOUSE, ECC, AND G.C.H.S. GYM LOCKER ROOM** (227) Director of Building Services, Brad Eavenson, called attention to the information provided under separate cover. He recommended that the Board award the bid for roof replacement for the Board Office and Warehouse and hold action on the other roof replacements, pending further negotiations with the insurance carrier. Motion by Member Yates, seconded by Member Daily, to award the bid for roof replacements for the Board Office and Warehouse to Kehrer Bros. on the basis of low bid, with projects to be funded by the insurance settlement, as outlined on 227, a copy of which is attached and made part of the official minutes of this meeting. Members voting—McKechan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.
12. **TRANSFER FROM O & M FUND TO DEBT SERVICE FUND** (228) Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Yates, to adopt the Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Monies from the O & M Fund to the Debt Service Fund in the amount of \$90,153.96 to cover our Series 2003 Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) principal payment as presented on 228 and authorize the necessary signatures. Members voting—Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.
13. **OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENT REQUEST FOR GCHS SUMMER SCHOOL 2013** (229) Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Yates, to approve out-of-district student request for attendance at Granite City High School summer school 2013 as outlined on 229. Members voting—Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.
14. **SCHOOL BOUNDARY CHANGES** (229) Under separate cover, each Board Member was provided with information on elementary student projections, elementary teacher projections and a draft copy of school assignments, which included the proposed school boundary changes, copies of which are attached and made part of the official minutes of this meeting. Director of Elementary Education, Nancy LeVault, reviewed the information with the Board and noted that the changes are minimal for most elementary schools. She stated that students from Niedringhaus are being assigned to Frohardt, Prather, Wilson, and Worthen Elementary. In addition, she stated that with the move to an Intermediate School and Junior High School, school assignment does not change due to the student’s address.

Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Yates, to approve the school boundary changes as proposed. Members voting—Dillard, “aye”; McKeachan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

15. **CLOSING OF CONVENIENCE ACCOUNT/MONROE WORTHEN DARE ACCOUNT** (230) Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, to approve closing the Monroe Worthen DARE Convenience Account as outlined on 230. Members voting—McKeachan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

16. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SEALED BIDS FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE AT 1947 ADAMS STREET** (231 & a-d) Superintendent Briggs noted that this is vacant property located to the west of the Board Office and is no longer useful to the school district. Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Yates, to adopt the Resolution Authorizing Sealed Bids for Sale of Real Estate at 1947 Adams Street as presented on 231 & a-d and authorize the necessary signatures. Members voting—McKeachan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

17. **REPORTS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS**

Committee Reports – There were no committee reports.

Freedom of Information Act Report (232) It was reported that there were no requests under the Freedom of Information Act during the period March 22, 2013 through April 11, 2013.

18. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Motion by Member Daily, seconded by Member Dillard, to go into executive session for the exceptions noted under 5 ILCS 120/2 Open Meetings:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, placement, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body;
- Collective bargaining matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives; and
- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed...is probable or imminent.

Members voting—McKeachan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

The Board was called into executive session at 5:45 p.m.

Executive session closed and the meeting resumed at 6:05 p.m.

Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Burnett, to close executive session and resume the public meeting. Members voting—McKeachan, “aye”; Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

19. **EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES/MARCH 26, 2013** (233) Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Daily, to approve the executive minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education held on March 26, 2013 as presented. Members voting—Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.
20. **SETTING THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 30, 2013 MEETING** – There were no items.

At this time, Superintendent Briggs said that he hoped everyone would support Mr. Greenwald in his new position. He commented, “He is a good man, and he has a lot of work to do. I wish him the best.” Jim Greenwald thanked everyone and said that he appreciated the opportunity that the Board had given him. Member Meghan Daily said that it was an honor to have served with both Dr. Briggs and President Ralph Burnett. She said that both had done a wonderful job.

21. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion by Member Dillard, seconded by Member Yates, to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 p.m. Members voting—Yates, “aye, Daily, “aye”; Dillard, “aye”; McKechan, “aye”; and Burnett, “aye”; motion carried. Absent Members Whitaker and Scroggins.

President

Secretary