

Board of Education
COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 94
3/5/2013 – 7:00 p.m.

Community High School
326 Joliet Street
West Chicago, Illinois

OPENING ACTIVITIES

1. Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Dirk Gunderson led the Board and meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Ruben Campos read the Mission Statement:
“Community High School strives to promote and provide growth experiences in Learning, Leadership and Living.”
4. Roll Call – Present were: Mr. Campos, Ms. Doremus, Mr. Gunderson, Mr. Kotche and Mr. Nagel. Mr. Molinaro and Mr. Saake were absent.
5. Additions to the Agenda: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda Items Only)

Rita Berger addressed the Board regarding the issue of the possible tax levy abatement. Ms. Berger was not in favor of abating a portion of the tax levy.

Brad Larson addressed the Board and said he was attending the meeting in support of the support staff as well as the issue of the possible tax levy abatement. Mr. Larson was not in favor of abating a portion of the tax levy. He stated the money should be spent on serving students and providing more resources for students.

Davio Velazquez addressed the Board and asked how tax money is being spent. Ms. Doremus told Mr. Velazquez that Mr. Ponce would contact him the next day to address his concerns.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

1. Business Manager’s Report
Mr. Cole distributed a Long Range Capital Plan which he stated summarized projected capital expenditures for the next six years.
Mr. Cole explained that the first page of the Plan outlined the cost of infrastructure and textbook needs. Mr. Cole said that \$80,000 which is currently budgeted for technology upgrades/replacements will be insufficient to sustain a successful technology program. He said the Maintenance budget will also need to be increased due to the age of many of the school’s mechanical systems. Mr. Cole said that he is currently in the process of developing an inventory of all equipment that will need to be replaced.
Mr. Cole said the next pages of the Plan outlined some of the higher priority equipment which would need to be repaired/replaced with a projected year in which the work would need to be done. He said the phone system and the first phase of the security system are currently being worked on. Mr. Cole said that the school has a fleet of aging vehicles; he said he recommended replacing the 1996 pickup truck. He

said that bad uniforms would need to be replaced, and that some of the kitchen equipment would need to be repaired. Mr. Cole also said the swimming pool would need repair. Mr. Cole mentioned that the nurse's station would also need to be remodeled.

Mr. Cole stated that the last page of the Plan outlined big-ticket items which would require much thought as to when they should be repaired/renovated, including renovation of the science rooms and roof replacement.

2. Principal's Report

Dr. Cheng said that he had previously reported on a meeting he and other representatives from high schools in the area had attended at College of DuPage regarding alignment with courses, specifically math. He said that Mr. Nagel had asked how big the P-16 initiative was. Dr. Cheng distributed information he had found relative to the initiative; he informed the Board that the first page was Illinois' version of the initiative. He said there were approximately 40 states that have some sort of Preschool through Postsecondary initiative. Dr. Cheng reported that this is a governor convened council and that people who are on the committee were appointed by the governor. He said some states are P-16, while others are P-20 to include graduate work.

He said the second document he distributed was the Council's executive summary of their meetings and covers the broad areas of accountability, linking education to college and careers, developing a support system for teachers, community involvement, transparency and providing sustainable funding.

Dr. Cheng reported that the school had conducted a mock crisis drill today in accordance with State requirements. He said that area police and sheriff departments had brought their dogs and participated in the crisis drill. Dr. Cheng reported that this was the second year in a row that there had been no hits from the dogs.

3. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Chambers reported that sectioning was in progress. She said that students had completed their course selection and that administration is working with division heads to place everyone appropriately. Dr. Chambers said she would bring a staffing report for 2013-2014 to the next Board meeting.

Dr. Chambers suggested that the other part of the personnel report which concerned negotiations be moved to closed session.

4. Future Dates

- a. Finance Committee Meeting – March 13, 2013 – 7:30 a.m.
- b. Regularly Scheduled Board of Education Meeting – March 19, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
- c. Regularly Scheduled Board of Education Meeting – April 2, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

Open Comment - Board Members

Mr. Gunderson remarked that he understood that several citizens had been attending Board meetings because they were concerned about what was occurring with the District's students. He said that the Board was defined by what occurs in the building. He said parents need to become engaged in the process and that the only way to solve the problem was to get involved.

CONSENT AGENDA (Roll Call)

Action items considered routine and/or which have been previously discussed by the Board will be enacted under one roll call motion unless removed for separate action upon Board request. They are enumerated under the heading “Recommended Action”.

1. Items Removed from Consent Agenda for Separate Action:
None
2. Consent Agenda Action for All Items Except those Listed in 1. Above.
RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board approve all items on the Consent Agenda which have not been specifically removed for separate action as shown on line 1. immediately above.
MOTION: Mr. Campos
SECOND: Mr. Gunderson
VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Roll Call Vote 5 – 0
1. **Approval of Minutes — (Att. §C – pp. 1 - 7)**
Board of Education Meeting - February 19, 2013
Closed Session Board of Education Meeting – February 19, 2013
Special Board of Education Meeting February 25, 2013
Closed Session Board of Education Meeting - February 25, 2013
RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the meetings of February 19 & 25, 2013, as listed above.
2. **Filing of Minutes — (Att. §C – pp. 8 - 9)**
Finance Committee Meeting – February 13, 2013
RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education approve for filing of the above minutes.
CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Personnel Report**
This was moved to Executive Session.
2. **Adoption of Textbooks – (Roll Call)**
Administration is recommending the adoption of a Food & Nutrition 1 textbook, *Food for Today*, a Foods 3 textbook, *Get Fit, Stay Well!*, an AP Biology textbook, *AP Edition Campbell Biology 9th Edition*, an AP Macroeconomics textbook, *Krugman’s Economics for AP*, an American History, American Studies textbook, *United States History, Survey Edition*, and a Spanish 1 textbook, *Realidades Level One*. The books have been on display for more than 21 days and there have been no comments recorded during that time.
RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education adopt *Food for Today, Get Fit, Stay Well!, AP Edition Campbell Biology 9th Edition, Krugman’s Economics for AP, United States History, Survey Edition, United States History, Survey Edition* and *Realidades Level One*.
MOTION: Mr. Campos
SECOND: Mr. Kotche
VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Roll Call Vote 5 – 0

3. **Abatement of a Portion of the Tax Levy – (Roll Call)**

The Board has previously discussed the abatement of a portion of the 2012 tax levy collected in 2013. This proposal will reduce the total tax levy request by \$350,000. The specific abatement will be from the Debt Service Fund Levy. There will be no impact on the regular operating levies. In addition a formal transfer of funds is also being made to remain in compliance with the covenants of the Bonds. Funds shall be transferred from the Education Fund (\$250,000) and the Operation and Maintenance Fund (\$100,000) to the Debt Service Fund.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education hereby approves the Resolution authorizing permanent Inter-Fund transfer and abating the 2012 Debt Service Levy as shown on (Att. §B - pp. 1 – 3).

MOTION: Mr. Campos

SECOND: Mr. Gunderson

Mr. Gunderson asked Mr. Cole to explain why transferring funds needed to take place. Mr. Cole explained that, when bonds were issued in 1998 and 2006 there was a dedicated tax levy put in place for each of the years to collect the principal and interest to pay the annual debt service. He further explained that a levy was put in place in 1998 for a bond that would come due in 2013. If the amount of taxes were reduced, the bondholders must be satisfied by moving money into the debt service to show there are sufficient funds to pay the principal and interest.

Mr. Gunderson said that he would be in favor of not abating a portion of the tax levy if the money was earmarked for facilities or be used to improve products used to teach students. Mr. Cole stated the money could be informally earmarked.

Mr. Kotche said that the needs of the school were greater than the small abatement the taxpayers would receive.

Mr. Nagel said it was a great thought to give the money back to taxpayers, but that the money should not be taken from the school's needs. Mr. Nagel asked Mr. Ponce if administration was recommending adoption of the abatement and Mr. Ponce responded it was not.

Mr. Campos stated that he would like to keep the money for the students' needs, and that he had spoken to other taxpayers regarding the issue and they had felt the school should keep the money.

Ms. Doremus said that the Board needed to be good stewards for taxpayers. She said that spending the money on education made more sense than giving it back to the taxpayers.

VOTE: Motion Failed 5 – 0

4. **Student Fees – (Roll Call)**

As previously discussed, the recommended fees schedule for the 2013-14 school year is attached. The individual lab fees have been eliminated and the general fee increased. The only addition is adding the T-shirt for physical education.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education approve and adopt the 2013-14 fee schedule as shown on (Att. §B - pp. 4 – 5).

MOTION: Mr. Kotche

SECOND: Mr. Campos

Mr. Nagel asked if policy/procedure would need to be written regarding the T-shirt for physical education. Dr. Cheng responded that Mr. Lech will communicate with

students what the expectations would be regarding wearing the T-shirt which would be included in the departmental syllabus.

Mr. Nagel stated he was ok with the fees, but was concerned with adding another obstacle in a student's day.

VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Roll Call Vote 5 – 0

5. **Supplemental Educational Services Contract – (Roll Call)**

The attached contract allows an ISBE-approved vendor to provide Supplemental Educational Services to District 94 students. These services are offered in accordance with NCLB regulations and are funded via Title I dollars.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education approve the Supplemental Educational Services agreement for the 2012-2013 school year with The Achievement Academy, LLC as shown on (Att. §B – pp. 6 – 17).

MOTION: Mr. Campos

SECOND: Mr. Gunderson

Mr. Nagel asked if Supplemental Educational Services contracts were renewed every year and Dr. Chambers responded there were different contracts every year.

VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Roll Call Vote 5 – 0

OLD BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nick Caltagirone, a Social Studies teacher, addressed the Board and stated he was perplexed by the proposal of outsourcing.

Jean Steerup, president of the WCHSSSA, read the names of the employees she believed would be impacted by outsourcing.

Brian Turnbaugh, an English teacher, expressed concern about the staff and their families who would be affected by outsourcing.

Guadalupe Velazquez expressed concern for future students.

Blanca Ruiz, a graduate from CHS and a current employee, asked if any research had been done regarding the school's dropout rate. Ms. Doremus told Ms. Ruiz that Mr. Ponce would respond to her questions.

Paul Moshesh spoke in response to Mr. Gunderson's remark. He stated he had come to the meeting to be educated about the needs in West Chicago and that he was concerned about the education of the heart. Mr. Moshesh said he was there to support the employees who might be outsourced.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education hold a Closed Session at 8:16 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and collective negotiating matters.

MOTION: Mr. Campos

SECOND: Mr. Kotche

VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Roll Call Vote 5 – 0

ACTION AFTER RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:1. **Personnel Reports – (Roll Call)**

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education approve the Personnel and Supplemental Contract reports as presented in the packet and at table. (Att. §D – pp. 1 - 1).

MOTION: Mr. Campos

SECOND: Mr. Kotche

VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Roll Call Vote 5 – 0

2. **RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Education accept the resignation of Abby Thornton from the following positions: Program Assistant in the Special Education Division effective March 22, 2013, and Assistant Softball Coach effective March 4, 2013.

MOTION: Mr. Gunderson

SECOND: Mr. Kotche

VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Roll Call Vote 5 – 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education hold a Closed Session at 9:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees.

MOTION: Mr. Campos

SECOND: Mr. Kotche

VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Roll Call Vote 5 – 0

ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Kotche

SECOND: Mr. Gunderson

VOTE: Unanimous Approval on Voice Vote 5 - 0

Katherine M. Doremus, President

ATTEST:

Ruben Campos, Secretary