District 205 Board Meeting

November 3, 2010

Serving All or Portions of the Following Communities:

Blue Island * Burnham * Calumet City * Dixmoor* Dolton * East Hazel Crest* Harvey *
Hazel Crest * Lansing * Markham * Phoenix *Posen * Riverdale * South Holland *
Thornton

OPEN SESSION

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance



Please make certain that your cell phones are silent.

Thank you

EXECUTIVE SESSION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of October 13, 2010
- Approval of District 205 Bills
- Approval of ECHO Bills
- Personnel: Approval of Resignations, Releases, Leave of Absence and Employment

FOIA

Mr. Gress

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

- Seven freedom of information requests have been received during the month of October
- The first FOI request was received on Oct. II and a response was sent on October 14.
- The next two requests were received on October 19 and 21, consecutively, and response was sent on October 21.
- The fourth request was received on October 22 and a response was sent on October 28.
- The next two requests were received on October 26 and October 28, consecutively, and a response was sent on November 2.
- The last request was received on November 1 and a response was sent on November 2.

Communications

COMMUNITY AWARENESS



Mr. Jerry B. Doss

Public Participation

- We now open the Public Participation section of our agenda. At this time, members of the community are invited to address the Board.
- We ask that you state your name and town and that you limit your remarks to three minutes.
- In addition, if your comments are of a critical nature about specific people, the Board requests that you present your comments during the personnel portion of the "Executive Session".

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Recommended Approval of Capital Improvement Projects (policy Section 4:60)

Mr. Gress (Approval needed)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

- On Thursday, October 28, the Finance Committee met to discuss the options available for a new heating and cooling system at Thornton Township High School.
- After discussing each of the options presented, the committee is recommending approval of the installation of an electric heat pump system for heating and cooling along with the installation of a peak shaving generator that would operate the system when electric is down or when it is cost effective to run the system from the gas powered generator.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT (cont.)

- The estimated cost of the electric heating and cooling system is \$13,838,920 and the estimated cost of the peak shaving generator is \$2,139,733.
- The Finance Committee has requested that the District apply for any and all available grants to help offset the cost of this project.

 Recommended Approval of Snow Removal Contract Extension (Policy Section 4:60)

Mr. Gress (Approval needed)

SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACT EXTENSION

- The Finance Committee met to discuss the proposed snow removal renewal rates from Four Seasons, who was the low bidder on snow removal when services were bid in 2009.
- The proposal for 2010 renewal was for a 5% increase. After explaining to Four Seasons that the biggest funding sources for the District (property taxes and state aid) are being reduced they have agreed to keep their 2010-2011 pricing the same as it was for the 2009-2010 school year.
- The Finance Committee is recommending accepting the renewal of the Four Seasons contract.

 Recommended Approval of Extension of City of Markham's Tax Increment Financing District No. 3 (TIF No. 3) through 2029 (Policy Section 4:10)

Mr. Gress (Approval needed)

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

- Mayor Webb is asking for the Board of Education to support extending Markham's Tax Increment Financing District No. 3.
- There are eight years left on the present TIF; the additional 12 years would allow for a new 20-year TIF.
- Mayor Webb is interested in ensuring that he has a viable economic force within his community.
- A TIF does not add to the District's tax levy but it does add to the economic worth of any of our communities.

Recommended Approval of Driver's Education Modification of the Illinois School Code (Policy Section 6:210)

Mr. Gress (Approval needed)

DRIVER'S EDUCATION MODIFICATION

- Currently District 205 operates a two phase driver's education program (classroom and behind the wheel training.)
- The two phase system requires that each student receives six hours of behind the wheel training.
- The Faculty Association's driver education committee has held several meetings and has recommended that District 205 complete a waiver application so that the District can consider the option of operating a three phase program.

DRIVER EDUCATION MODIFICATION (cont.)

- A three phase program would allow for classroom time, simulator and behind the wheel training.
- To consider a three phase program, a waiver/modification request must be submitted to the State of Illinois. The waiver would allow the number of hours required for behind the wheel training to be reduced to three hours from six hours.
- To have this option available for the 2011-12 school year, this waiver needs to be submitted to the State by January 7. If we miss this deadline, we would not be able to implement this option for the 2011-2012 school year.
- By approving this option this evening, it would not require the District to switch to a three phase program, but would allow the District to reduce the number of behind the wheel hours should the District choose to operate a three phase program.

Presentation of Tentative 2010 Tax Levy (Policy Section 4:10)

Mr. Gress (20-day review)

TENTATIVE TAX LEVY EXPLANATION

What is a levy?

A levy is simply the amount of money a school district certifies to be raised from the property tax. In the case of the levy, we ask for funds and funds will be given, but no more than what we requested and are entitled to by law. The tax levy for the current tax year represents taxes that are payable the next calendar year and given to the district over a period of months. We are currently receiving taxes for the levy that was filed in December 2009.

Tentative Tax Levy (cont.)

- \$ The estimated levy amount determines what the legal requirements are for subsequent actions under the Truth in Taxation Act.
- \$ The Truth in Taxation Act affects all units of local government. Under this Act, "At least 20 days prior to the adoption of its aggregate levy, the local board of education shall estimate the dollar amount of the aggregate levy for the current year."
- \$ In Cook County if the estimated levy is greater than 105% of the previous year's extension, the school district must publish a notice in a local newspaper stating the increased amount and schedule and conduct a public hearing on the increase before the levy can be adopted and filed. The final Certificate of Tax Levy must be filed with the County Clerk on or before the last Tuesday in December.

2010 TAX LEVY

- Educational Fund
- Operations & Maintenance
- Transportation
- Working Cash
- Municipal Retirement
- Social Security
- Life Safety
- Tort Immunity
- Special Education
- Leasing
- TOTAL LEVY

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$35,717,825
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Recommended Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip (Policy Section 6:240)

Mrs. Darcelle Williams (Approval needed)

Consideration for Legal Action

Dr. King

Miscellaneous

Superintendent's Report

Student Discipline

Adjournment