

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

November 21, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:15 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: Phil Costello, Sue Kerr, Veronica Noland, Jeanette Ward, and Donna Smith. Cody Holt arrived at 6:16 p.m.

President Smith requested a motion to move into closed session to discuss information regarding individual student disciplinary matters; pending, probable or imminent litigation; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the School Board; the setting of a price for the sale or lease of real property owned by the School Board; collective negotiating matters between the School Board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; review of closed session Minutes; and individual student matters. The motion was made at 6:17 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Ward. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0. Traci O'Neal Ellis arrived at 6:23 p.m.

A motion was made at 6:51 p.m. by Ms. Kerr, second by Mr. Costello to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Smith. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The business session began at 7:00 p.m. Present for the business session of the meeting were the same Board members listed in the second paragraph above, Student Board Member Eric Loera, Chief Executive Officer Tony Sanders and Interim Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Arndt. The following administrators were also present: Miguel Rodriguez, Steve Burger, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Jeff King, Dr. Terri Lozier, Melanie Meidel, Ron Raglin, Dr. Ushma Shah, Christopher Allen, Dale Burnidge, Mary Fergus, John Heiderscheidt, Jackie Johnson, Bruce Phelps, Trisha Shrode, and Rickey Sparks. Also present were: media representatives Seth Hancock of the Examiner and Rafael Guerrero of the Courier, as well as other administrators, guests, and visitors. Mr. Loera led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Comments from the Audience

Maggie Kohler spoke about the benefits of allowing students to graduate early. She believes that early graduation should be an option for all students.

Dan Aguirre spoke about his concerns with the District teaching Spanish in the elementary schools. He feels that Spanish is from a failing country and should not be encouraged.

2. Other Business – Board Member and CEO Update, If Necessary

A. Additional Information

Mr. Costello reported that he attended an Elgin Partnership for Early Learning initiative. He feels this is a worthy and impactful community initiative, however, he has concerns about ongoing funding prospects as well as providing services to the entire U-46 School District not just the Elgin and Kane County areas. Mr. Costello would also like to see a concerted effort by this, and other groups, to identify and cultivate the father's unique role in childhood development. Mr. Costello also attended the IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) Conference. Mr. Costello was disappointed with the information presented at the session on District Dashboards. Another disturbing session he attended was on pension reform. While the conference generated enthusiasm and evident growth potential he is still apprehensive about relegating the District's voice to a group that cannot hold Legislators individually responsible for their voting records. He feels that it is incumbent on the Board of Education to invite state officials to conduct public hearings on a wide range of relevant concerns.

Mrs. O'Neal Ellis also attended the IASB conference. She was especially glad she attended the pre-conference workshop on race and equity. The presentation was rich with information on how to help students reach their potential in a diverse global society regardless of where they come from, including Mexico which is not a failed country. She strongly agreed with the conference speaker regarding equity in schools and celebrating the diversity of the District. She also attended a session on community engagement and making sure that districts are tapping into every corner of their district and being inclusive to all their multi-ethnic parts. Districts need to make sure they are reaching all segments of their community. She also had an opportunity to network with other school board members. She felt that this was one of the best IASB conferences she has attended in the past six years.

Mr. Sanders reported that the District celebrated Veterans Day and he recognized all the Veterans in the room. Mr. Sanders also reminded everyone to respond to the calendar survey. Mr. Sanders reported that last week the District received two awards. Reflejos Bilingual Journal awarded the District with the Reflecting Excellence Award and the Elgin Hispanic Network chose the District for the Organization of the Year Award. Mr. Sanders also spoke about the Giving Tree that Educational Services is doing again this year.

Ms. Kerr also attended the IASB conference. She attended a session regarding Huntley High School's Medical Academy. She also attended a session about community partnerships. She feels it is always interesting to see how other districts are doing things. Ms. Kerr attended the plays at both South Elgin High School and Bartlett High School. She reported that Streamwood High School was chosen to take part in a state theater festival at the University of Illinois.

Mr. Loera spoke about statements he made at the last Board meeting regarding discussions that took place at the last CEO Student Advisory Council meeting. He wanted to clarify his remarks regarding deans assistants. He was not directing his

comments to any specific staff member. Mr. Loera feels that he did not accurately capture the valuable service that deans assistants provide to students.

Mrs. Smith attended the IASB conference and attended several leadership sessions.

B. FOIA Requests – 2

Mr. Sanders, Chief Executive Officer, reported on the requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

3. Consent Agenda

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting – October 17, 2016 - Mr. Sanders
- C. Curriculum & Instruction – School-Wide Title I Plan - Creekside Elementary School

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Mr. Costello, to approve the Consent Agenda Items A, B, and C as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O’Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

4. Discussion/Action

A. Itemized Bills – November 21, 2016

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the November 21, 2016, itemized bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$7,750,020.19.

Motion by Mrs. Ward, second by Mr. Costello, to approve the Itemized Bills of November 21, 2016, in the amount of \$7,750,020.19, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O’Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

B. Determination of 2016 Tax Levy

Dr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Determination of the 2016 Tax Levy.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Mrs. O’Neal Ellis, to approve the Determination of the 2016 Tax Levy.

Mrs. Ward stated that the District is increasing the levy in a permanent manner while abating back money on a temporary basis, which she feels is disingenuous to the taxpayers. This levy is also to support a budget that expands operations for the full-day kindergarten program, which she does not support. Mrs. Ward indicated that she would be voting no.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O’Neal Ellis, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: Mr. Holt and Mrs. Ward. The motion carried by a vote of 5-2.

C. Resolution Regarding Proposed 2016 Levies

Dr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Resolution regarding the Proposed 2016 Levies. Administration recommended adoption of the proposed levy resolution.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Mrs. O’Neal Ellis to approve the Resolution regarding proposed 2016 levies.

Mr. Holt stated that he would be voting no for this resolution. He believes that the taxpayers of DuPage, Kane, and Cook counties are some of the most overburdened taxpayers in the nation and he cannot continue to support any tax increases. He would support freezing the tax levy next time around.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O’Neal Ellis, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: Mr. Holt and Mrs. Ward. The motion carried by a vote of 5-2.

D. High School English Language Arts Communications Curriculum Proposal

This proposal was brought before the Board during Work Session at the November 7, 2016, Board of Education Meeting.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. O’Neal Ellis to approve the High School English Language Arts Communications Curriculum Proposal, as presented.

Mrs. Ward stated that she would, in general, be voting no to any curriculum proposed that relies on any text or resource that; equates volitional sexual behavior with the unchangeable attribute of skin color; fails to recognize that the moral values of some cultures are superior to the moral values of other cultures; celebrates Marxism, leftism and moral relativism; deliberately distorts history in regards to the United States and Israel. Leftism and moral relativism are the common factors in the resources she opposes. She agrees with Board members that have stated we can all find things in any given textbook that we do not like. She is not talking about little nuggets of disagreement here and there. What she sees is clear cut bias. Mrs. Ward also added that if the proposed curriculum for the Communications and Theatre courses were simply based on the frameworks presented she would be voting yes but the textbooks and resources are included and she cannot ask taxpayers to pay for these resources, therefore, she will be voting no for those also.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O’Neal Ellis, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: Mr. Holt and Mrs. Ward. The motion carried by a vote of 5-2.

- E. High School English Language Arts Publications Curriculum Proposal
This proposal was brought before the Board during Work Session at the November 7, 2016, Board of Education Meeting.

Motion by Mrs. Ward, second by Ms. Kerr to approve the High School English Language Arts Publications Curriculum Proposal, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O’Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

- F. High School English Language Arts Theatre Curriculum Proposal
This proposal has been amended since it was brought to the Board during Work Session at the November 7, 2016 Board of Education Meeting. The amended proposal no longer contains the following resources: The Actor's Book of Contemporary Stage Monologues, The Best Women's Monologues for the 21st Century, The Best Men's Monologues for the 21st Century, Great Monologues for Young Actors, Duo!: The Best Scenes for Two for the 21st Century, Duo! Best Scenes for the 90s, Fifty Professional Scenes for Student Actors and Fifty More Professional Scenes and Monologues for Student Actors. The cost of the recommended materials was \$27,789.36 in the original proposal and is \$43,778.30 in the amended proposal.

Motion by Mr. Costello, second by Ms. Noland to approve the High School English Language Arts Theatre Curriculum Proposal, as amended. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O’Neal Ellis, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: Mr. Holt and Mrs. Ward. The motion carried by a vote of 5-2.

- 5. Other Business
 - A. October Financial Reports
Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the October Financial Reports.
- 6. Other Business - CAC Update
Melissa Owens presented the CAC update. The last general meeting was held on November 10, 2016, which was the meeting with Advance Illinois. It was a very good meeting. The next general meeting will be the roundtable meeting on December 8, 2016.
- 7. Work Session - 2016 Tax Levy
 - A. Certificate of Tax Levy
Dr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the Certificate of Tax Levy. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the Certificate of Tax Levy.

B. Tax Levy Resolution
Dr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the Resolution. The Resolution and the Certificate of Tax Levy are filed with the County Tax Extension offices. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the Tax Levy Resolution.

C. RESOLUTION expressing the intent to abate taxes of the District levied to pay principal of and interest on outstanding bonds of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois
Dr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the Resolution. Administration recommended the Board of Education adopt the Resolution expressing the intent to abate taxes of the District levied to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding bonds of School District Number 46, Kane, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois.

8. Work Session - Bids/Proposals

A. Bid - DREAM Academy & Tefft Middle School - Elevator Retrofit
Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services and Mr. Allen, Director of Plant Operations, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to K.R. Miller Contractors for the total amount of \$685,700.00 and requests authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Capital Projects Fund.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Ward, second by Ms. Kerr, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of November 21, 2016, at 7:48 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this _____ 9th _____ day of _____ January _____, 2017.



President



Secretary