

School District U-46

Elgin, Illinois

April 25, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:01 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board Members answered roll call: Phil Costello, Traci O'Neal Ellis, Sue Kerr, Veronica Noland, Jeanette Ward, and Donna Smith.

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 by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Ward. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Holt arrived at 6:04 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ward, second by Ms. Kerr to reconvene into open session at 6:48 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Mr. Holt, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Smith. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

The business session began at 7:01 p.m. Present for the business session of the meeting were the same Board members listed in the first paragraph above, Student Board member Allison Holloway, 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, Dr. Annette Acevedo, Kinasha Brown, Dale Burnidge, Mary Fergus, John Heiderscheidt, Jackie Johnson, Patricia Makishima, Peggy Ondera, Bruce Phelps, Richard Ramos, Trisha Shrode, and Rickey Sparks. Also present were: media representatives Seth Hancock of the Examiner, and Madhu Krishnamurthy of the Daily Herald, as well as other administrators, guests, and visitors. Ms. Holloway led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Comments from the Audience

Tina Rio spoke about her concerns with the proposed Social Studies curriculum. She feels as though the proposed curriculum is very one sided.

Eric Ilich spoke about Mrs. Ward's visit to Bartlett High School. Mrs. Ward scored an excellent overall rating on the seven fitness exams and was able to run the pace with his freshman class.

Larry Pahl spoke in support of the proposed World History textbook. He addressed Mrs. Ward's concerns about the textbook. The majority of the *Truth in Texas Textbooks* concerns were addressed by Pearson and changes were made to the 2016 version of the textbook. He urged the Board to adopt the textbook.

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

A. Board Member Update

Mrs. Smith announced that the Board of Education had received a response from the Illinois Attorney General regarding the allegations of violations to the Open Meetings Act. The Attorney General found that the U-46 Board of Education did not violate the advance notice or public comment requirements of the OMA at the October 19, 2015 meeting nor the website posting of two committee meetings. Mrs. Smith also reported that she attended the Club Guadalupano and the United Black Scholarship banquets and was very impressed.

Mrs. O'Neal Ellis also attended the United Black Scholarship banquet and was also very impressed. Mrs. O'Neal Ellis presented two \$2,500.00 scholarships in honor of her father, Mr. Ron O'Neal.

Ms. Kerr congratulated Ms. Holloway for her role in the musical *Bye Bye Birdie* at Larkin High School, she did a great job. Ms. Kerr also attended Bartlett High School's rendition of *The Pirates of Penzance* and it was fantastic. She also reported that Elgin High School had their first Bio Blitz where elementary and middle school students worked with the Environmental Science group.

Mr. Costello announced that he was involved in a special project to collect and distribute shoes for Syrian children and he wanted to applaud U-46 and Mr. Sanders for spearheading the project.

Mrs. Ward thanked Mr. Ilich again for hosting her visit to Bartlett High School. She also spoke about the Connie-A-Thon 5K. She asked anyone that came to hear about the proposed Social Studies curriculum to please stay until the item comes up on the agenda.

Ms. Holloway also spoke about the Connie-A-Thon being held in May.

Mrs. O'Neal Ellis held her annual networking workshop for the Superintendent's Scholarship recipients. The students will be able to put what they learned to use Wednesday at the reception being held to honor the recipients.

Mr. Sanders reported that, thanks to the generosity of the U-46 community, the District raised over \$25,000 in scholarship funds. Mr. Sanders also attended *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Bye Bye Birdie* musicals and said they were fantastic. Mr. Sanders attended the realtors' breakfast at Bartlett High School hosted by the CAC and attended the CAC General meeting. He also testified before the House

Education Funding Task Force on April 12, 2016 and updated the Board of Education via email on his activities there.

Mrs. O'Neal Ellis spoke to Larsen Middle School's Lead Program for girls on Monday and Ellis Middle School's Lead Program on Tuesday. She was happy to see some of the girls from the Lead Program at the scholarship dinner Saturday evening.

Mr. Sanders thanked Mr. Costello for noticing the weekly message regarding the collection of shoes for Syrian children and he also thanked Mrs. Meidel and the Human Resources staff for organizing the project.

B. FOIA Requests - 3

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

3. Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes of Special Board Meeting - January 23, 2016
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting - March 21, 2016
- C. Minutes of Board Meeting - April 11, 2016
- D. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- E. Termination of Hetal Patel, Canton Monitor
- F. Contract Renewal - Secondary Education - Ombudsman
- G. Bid - IS - Kenyon Woods - Data Center - Firewall Upgrade
- H. Bid - IS - Kenyon Woods - Data Center - Servers
- I. Bid - IS - Storage Area Network
- J. Bid - Wireless Access Point (WAP) Installation
- K. Bid - Plant Operations - Lawn/Site Maintenance Services
- L. Change Order - Sunnydale Elementary - Boilers and Unit Ventilators Replacement
- M. Change Order - Willard Elementary - Boilers, Unit Ventilators, and Chiller Replacement
- N. Change Order - Bartlett High School - Additional Boilers Installation

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Mrs. Ward, to approve the Consent Agenda items A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, and N, 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 – April 25, 2016

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reported that the total amount on the List of Bills was \$7,215,708.31. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, to approve the itemized bills of April 25, 2016 totalling \$7,215,708.31, 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. Recommendation for 2016-2017 Student Advisor to the Board of Education
Members of the CEO's Student Advisory Council, Emily Renteria, Sophomore at Larkin High School, Angelica Medina, Senior at Larkin High School, Skylar Deuel, Junior at Elgin High School and Makena Tisor, Junior at Elgin High School, joined Mr. Sanders, in recommending Mr. Eric Loera as the eighth Student Advisor to the Board of Education, and Mr. Daniel Strom as the alternate in the event Mr. Loera is unable to fulfill the one year term.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Mr. Holt, to approve Eric Loera as the 2016/2017 Student Board Member and Daniel Strom as the alternate. 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.

- C. District Management Proposal
District Management Council (DMC) put together a proposal to help improve School District U-46's effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and equity of its special education services. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the DMC proposal.

Ms. Kerr stated that she had done a lot of research on the internet and she found both good and bad things about DMC and their work with other districts. She had a lot of questions for DMC and felt as though all her questions were answered efficiently. Ms. Kerr indicated she would be voting yes for the DMC proposal.

Mr. Costello also received the response to questions from DMC and was not as impressed. He failed to see the substance behind their cost savings. Mr. Costello indicated he would be voting no for the DMC proposal.

Mrs. Ward stated that she agreed with Mr. Costello and felt that DMC's answers as to how they would be saving the District money were vague. Mrs. Ward indicated she would be voting no for the DMC proposal.

Mrs. O'Neal Ellis also did some research on DMC and feels as though DMC cannot give concrete answers to the specific cost savings until the audit is complete. Mrs. O'Neal Ellis indicated she would be voting yes for the DMC proposal.

Mr. Holt stated that he was not present at the meeting that DMC presented this proposal. Mr. Holt asked if during the time DMC was helping with the preparation of the District's Strategic Plan did DMC mention they performed

these types of audits. Mr. Sanders replied that he was aware of DMC's work in this area and DMC put together this proposal at his request.

Mr. Sanders addressed some of the concerns raised by the Board. DMC's proposal is not just about cost savings, but about how the District can best serve the needs of all students. The DMC audit will make sure that the District is scheduling teachers in ways that are both fair and equitable for the teachers and also in a way that demonstrates academic improvement. Until DMC can come in and do that analysis they cannot commit to any specific cost saving. In past experience, DMC has never worked with a district that they could not recommend something that both improved academic performance and reduced costs.

Mr. Costello feels as though the District has great teachers that could provide the same insight and he would like to see the District look to them first.

Motion by Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve Administration's recommendation to approve the DMC proposal for three years. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mrs. O'Neal Ellis, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: Mr. Costello, Mr. Holt, and Mrs. Ward. The motion carried by a vote of 4-3.

D. Social Studies High School Electives

Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Ms. Trisha Shrode, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Ms. Robin Lenart, Coordinator of K-12 Social Studies, provided the Board of Education with information relating to the Social Studies High School Electives Proposal. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the Social Studies High School Electives resources.

Mr. Holt asked how people on the Instructional Council are chosen. Ms. Shrode responded that Instructional Council is made up of ETA members that are voted on or appointed by the ETA, administrators that have been vetted by Administration, and community representatives that offer their services through the District's CAC.

Mrs. Ward raised concerns with the numerous issues in the proposed textbooks and resources including; an over-arching and pervasive politically left bias, a love affair with Karl Marx, factual inaccuracies about the history of Islam and Israel, global warming pseudoscience without opposing viewpoint, anti-American bias, anti-traditional family bias, and profound moral relativism. Mrs. Ward indicated that she would be voting no for the Social Studies High School Electives proposal.

Ms. Kerr believes that the District is not trying to indoctrinate students but trying to get them to become critical thinkers. The proposed textbooks are only part of the curriculum. There are other things teachers may introduce that the Board of Education does not approve. She also emphasized that everyone looks at these

textbooks with different backgrounds and different beliefs which may cause someone to interpret things differently. Ms. Kerr urged parents to talk to their teachers and to the District so there can be some agreement on how the District deals with differences of opinion. Ms. Kerr indicated she would be voting yes for the Social Studies High School Electives proposal.

Mr. Costello thanked Mr. Pahl for his comments. Mr. Costello commented that he defers to the teachers as to what is being taught in the classroom. Mr. Costello indicated he would be voting yes for the Social Studies High School Electives proposal.

Mrs. O'Neal Ellis believes that teachers need to be given wide latitude and a level of academic freedom to introduce age appropriate materials. Families are ultimately teachers too. She feels that even though students might be exposed to viewpoints that a parent does not necessarily agree with, it is up to the parent to teach their children their beliefs at home. Mrs. O'Neal Ellis indicated she would be voting yes for the Social Studies High School Electives proposal.

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the Social Studies High School Electives. 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 - CAC Update

A. Additional Information

Melissa Owens presented an update on CAC committees. At the April 14, 2016 General CAC meeting Ms. Raquel McCormick, Executive Director for the Alignment Collaborative for Education, gave a great presentation. This week and last week the CAC committees are wrapping up their reports for the year. On Thursday the Executive Committee will hear the committee reports and on May 5, 2016 the reports will be presented to CAC general for voting. The FACE committee held another realtors' breakfast in Bartlett by request of the Bartlett mayor. The FACE committee did a great job.

6. Other Business - Mr. Sanders

A. March Financial Report

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Financial Report. At the end of March the total fund balance was \$221,962,828.00. That is an increase of \$27 million from February. The District received \$48.8 million in Cook County tax revenue. The District received \$10.4 million in General State Aid and \$3 million in State Categorical payments. At the end of March the State owed the District \$8.9 million. Federal Grant revenue was \$4.4 million. Total revenue is about 0.84% lower than last year at this time and expenditures are 3.9% higher but in line with the budget. Due to an error by the State on the Personal Property Replacement Tax U-46 will be required to repay about

\$470,000.00. It has not been decided yet how or when that amount will need to be repaid.

B. Secondary Schools Financial Report for the Third Quarter

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Secondary Schools Quarterly Financial Report. The third quarter is from January 1, 2016 to March 31, 2016. Overall balances have decreased for most of the schools due to schools remitting instructional material fees, athletic participation fees, and parking permit fees. The total balance for all the high schools and middle schools is \$3,731,141.00 which is a decrease of 9%.

C. Investment Report for the Third Quarter

Dr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations presented the investment report for the third quarter. As of March there is just over \$206 million invested with a current yield of .713%. The District has accrued interest of a little over \$143,000.00. Approximately half of the investments are in the District's working cash fund.

7. Work Session - Mr. Sanders

A. Dual Language 7th Grade Language Arts

Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Dr. Annette Acevedo, Director of English Language Learners Program, Patricia Makishima, Coordinator of English Language Learners Initiatives, Jackie Johnson, Coordinator of Secondary Literacy and Libraries, and Cesar Quintanilla, Ellis Middle School Dual Language Teacher, provided the Board of Education with information relating to Dual Language 7th Grade Language Arts. The proposal is for adoption of a Spanish Language Arts Curriculum Framework aligned to the Spanish Language Arts (SLA) Common Core State Standards and Spanish Language Development (SLD) Standards. The curriculum is in response to School District U-46's Board of Education 80:20 Dual Language Policy adopted in July 2014, which includes dual language programming from preschool through 12th grade. Seventh grade Spanish Language Arts focuses on literacy skill development through literature including fiction and non-fiction, composition, grammar concepts, vocabulary study, communication and research skills through the theme People, Places and Environments. Spanish Language Arts is aligned with School District U-46's ELL Standards-Based K-6 Thematic Units and the English Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum Framework. The learning outcomes of this course are a reflection of the English Language Arts curriculum. The theme of People, Places, and Environments was selected from the National Council for Social Studies Standards. The framework was designed using the Understanding by Design model. The SLA learning resources recommended were intensely reviewed and evaluated by the committee. The recommendation of the committee is to adopt the following resources; *Léeme 1- Anthology*, and 133 individual titles, consisting of fiction and non-fiction. The estimated total cost is \$186,143.91. The proposal includes four days of professional development.

8. Work Session - Bids/Proposals

A. Proposal - Specialized Student Services - Student iPads

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Joyce Gronewold, Assistant Director for Specialized Student Services, presented the proposal. Administration recommended approval of the proposal in the amount of \$68,760.00 as submitted by Apple, Inc., and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the IDEA Grant.

B. Bid - Early Learner Initiatives - Full-Day Kindergarten Furniture

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Ondera, Director of Early Learner Initiatives, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to Frank Cooney, Co. in the total amount of \$70,038.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund.

C. Bid - Early Learner Initiatives - Full-Day Kindergarten Equipment

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Ondera, Director of Early Learner Initiatives, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to School Specialty in the total amount of \$404,399.61, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund.

D. Bid - Career and Technical Education - Gear Head Engine Lathe

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Brown, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education/Northern Kane County Regional System Director EFE 110, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to Haas Factory Outlet for a total amount of \$58,250.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Career and Technical Education Improvement Grant.

E. Bid - Career and Technical Education - Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Mill

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Ms. Brown, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education/Northern Kane County Regional System Director EFE 110, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to Haas Factory Outlet for a total amount of \$57,858.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Career and Technical Education Improvement Grant.

F. Bid - Information Services - E-Rate Nexus Switch Upgrade

Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Mr. Ramos, Coordinator of Facilities, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to Heartland Business Systems in the amount of \$74,002.20, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund.

- G. Bid Information Services - E-Rate Network Switches Upgrade
Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, and Mr. Ramos, Coordinator of Facilities, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to Heartland Business Systems for a total amount of \$225,343.13, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund.
- H. Proposal - Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity - Efficiency Projects
Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, Mr. Allen, Director of Plant Operations, and Mr. Ramos, Coordinator of Facilities, presented the proposal. Administration recommended approval of the proposal in the amount of \$91,208.60 as submitted by Twin Supplies, Ltd., and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund.
- I. Proposal - Larkin High School - Illuminated Street Sign Display
Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, Dr. King, Chief Operations Officer/Chief School Business Official, Mr. Allen, Director of Plant Operations, and Dr. Tuin, Principal of Larkin High School, presented the proposal. Administration recommended approval of the proposal in the amount of \$30,808.00 as submitted by Signet Sign Company, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund.
- J. Bid - Plant Operations - Installation of Electronic Access Controls and Surveillance Systems - Part 3
Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, Mr. Allen, Director of Plant Operations, and Mr. Heiderscheidt, Director of School Safety and Culture, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to SimplexGrinnell LP in the total amount of \$1,633,058.00 (Base Bid & Alternate #1), and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund.
- K. Bid - Plant Operations - Lockdown Hardware Phase 1 - Elementary and Pre-K Schools
Mr. Sparks, Director of Business Services, Mr. Heiderscheidt, Director of School Safety and Culture, and Mr. Allen, Director of Plant Operations, presented the bid. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specifications to Anderson Lock Company in the total amount of \$548,000.00, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Education Fund.

- L. Bid - Plant Operations - Abbott Middle School Roof Replacement
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 National Roofing Corporation in the total amount of \$505,600.00, and requested 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 Mr. Costello, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of April 25, 2016, at 9:09 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 16th day of May, 2016.



President



Secretary