

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

October 21, 2019

The video of the October 21, 2019 meeting can be found here:
[October 21, 2019, BOE Meeting](#)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:45 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: John Devereux, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Eva Porter, Donna Smith, Kate Thommes, and Sue Kerr.

President Kerr requested a motion to move into closed session to discuss 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 5:46 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Thommes. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 6:11 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

A motion was made at 6:13 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Porter, to recess until 7:00 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. 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 above, Student Board Member Hallie Furtak, Chief Executive Officer Tony Sanders and Chief Legal Officer Miguel Rodriguez. The following administrators were also present: Steve Burger, Dr. Josh Carpenter, Ann Chan, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Jeff King, Lela Majstorovic, Dale Burnidge, Sheila Downs, Mary Fergus, John Heiderscheidt, Laura Macias, Bruce Phelps, and Jeff Prowell. Also present were: other administrators, guests, and visitors. Ms. Furtak led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Accent on Achievement

A. National School Bus Safety Week

In recognition of National School Bus Safety Week, October 21, 2019, a Proclamation of Appreciation was presented to representatives of the U-46 Transportation Department. The U-46 Transportation Department safely transports nearly 26,000 children to and from 58 different schools each day. U-46 drivers make nearly 1,500 daily bus stops and drive more

than 26,000 miles - that's more than four million miles per year. Mr. Prowell and members of the Transportation Department were present to accept the award.

2. Comments from the Audience

Dean Hufsey stated that the entrance signs prohibiting firearms in schools are unnecessary and ineffective. Mr. Hufsey stated there is no evidence that supports that this sign is effective in preventing gun violence.

3. Other Business – Board Member and CEO Update

A. Additional Information

Ms. Furtek stated that the first Student Advisory meeting took place last week and the group had a great conversation on the plans for this school year.

Ms. Thommes stated that she, Mrs. Porter, and Dr. VanDeusen attended the program “New Leaders in Education” hosted by Hanover Township.

Mr. Devereux stated that he attended the U-46 marching band showcase at South Elgin High School, and it was a great show. Mr. Devereux stated he also attended the Town Hall meeting for Educational Pathways at Kenyon Woods Middle School.

Mr. Sanders stated that he attended a consortia in Greenville, South Carolina for the fall convening of superintendents and also attended ISBE’s “Those Who Excel” banquet where Rhiannon Hunter, a Dream Academy teacher, was honored.

B. FOIA Requests – 6

4. Consent Agenda

A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases

B. Minutes of Board Meeting – October 7, 2019

C. Contract Renewal - Financial Operations – Support and Licensing for Workforce Time Clocks

D. Change Order - Plant Operations - Elgin High School Electrical Service Main - Project #235

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the Consent Agenda of October 21, 2019, items A through D, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

5. Discussion/Action

A. Itemized Bills – October 21, 2019

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education regarding the itemized bills. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$10,241,963.56.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Thommes, to approve the list of itemized bills of October 21, 2019, in the amount of \$10,241,963.56 as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

B. Report to Membership – 2019 IASB Delegate Assembly

The Board of Education discussed the November 23, 2019 Delegate Assembly and how to advise the School District U-46 Board Delegate who will be representing the Board of Education at the 87th Annual Conference.

The Board agreed with IASB's recommendations for Resolution Nos. 4-18.

The Board did not agree with IASB's recommendation to adopt Resolution No. 1 - Student Safety, which would allow district employees to carry concealed firearms with proper licensing.

Ms. Owens stated that she had concerns with potential cost implications that Resolution No. 2 - Business Enterprises – Minority Owned might have on the District. Ms. Owens stated she would not want to place additional tax burden on taxpayers. Mr. Sanders stated that there is nothing in the resolution that states that the District would have to deny the lowest bidder, but if that were the case, he would have similar concerns. Mr. Sanders stated there would be follow-up regarding any legislation in regards to this Resolution. Ms. Noland stated she wanted to remind the Board that the District has made a commitment to diversity, and that this should apply to U-46 vendors as well. Ms. Owens stated that in principle she agrees with the Resolution, but the District already has constraints with the budget, and the District has to be judicious in how taxpayer funds are spent. The Board supported this Resolution. Ms. Owens stated that she would support the Resolution, but would like to have additional conversations surrounding costs should legislation be passed.

Administration recommended that the Board should not adopt Resolution No. 3 - School Safety Grant Program. Administration was concerned with the language regarding retired police officers handling firearms, as SROs are legally defined as active duty police officers. Ms. Owens stated that she understood administration's point, but that the Board should take into consideration that rural school districts have different concerns. Ms. Owens noted that it may take significantly longer for a police officer to travel to a rural area school, and their availability of police officers may not be the same as in a more populated district. Ms. Noland stated that she agreed with administration's point of view that a non-sworn officer should not be allowed to work in a school setting with a weapon. Ms. Noland stated that if that language were removed, she would be in support of this resolution. Ms. Thommes noted that rural downstate communities have a different set of circumstances than U-46, and that needs to be considered. Mr. Devereux stated that the committee rational specifically states that, "SROs are specifically defined in state statute and must be referred to differently than other school security personnel and only SROs are allowed to carry firearms in schools," and that the submitting district agreed with the suggested revisions. Mr. Sanders received clarification from IASB that recently retired officers who are not currently police officers would be able to carry firearms if they receive ongoing training.

Mr. Sanders stated that if the resolution was strictly for resources for SROs, administration would support this resolution, and that U-46 has deliberately made a commitment to funding SROs. Ms. Noland stated she would still oppose this resolution as written, but if there are amendments on the floor to strictly advocate for funding SROs then she would support that amendment. Ms. Kerr clarified that this resolution would allow SROs and recently retired officers who receive ongoing training to carry firearms. Ms. Kerr stated she would like to give support to the downstate districts with this understanding. Mr. Devereux stated he would agree with the resolution as interpreted. The Board did not come to a consensus on this resolution and agreed to have another discussion at the next meeting.

The Board discussed that voting on these resolutions at the assembly is a “grassroots” effort and the Board votes for U-46’s position but also looks at the big picture of the State.

The Board agreed that Ms. Owens would represent the U-46 Board of Education at the Annual Conference.

C. Notice to Remedy – Teacher A

This matter was before the Board whether to approve the Notice to Remedy for Teacher A – Sara Elwood.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the Notice to Remedy – Teacher A – Sara Elwood as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

D. Approval of Settlement Agreement in the Matter of Henry R. Sembdner, IV, et al. v. School District U-46, et al. Case No. 17 L 519

Administration recommended that the Board of Education approve the settlement agreement in this matter.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the Settlement Agreement in the Matter of Henry R. Sembdner, IV, et al. v. School District U-46, et al. Case No. 17 L 519 as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

6. Other Business – CAC Update

There were no CAC updates.

7. Other Business

A. Secondary Schools Financial Report for the First Quarter

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Secondary Schools Quarterly Financial Report and was available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Mr. Burnidge stated the Secondary Schools financial summaries were for the first quarter ending September 30, 2019. The fund balance increased at all schools during the quarter due to the collection of instructional material fees, athletic fees, and activities fees at the

beginning of the school year. The fund balance for all high schools and middle schools for the quarter totaled to \$3,922,626, a balance increase of \$1,081,135.

B. Investment Report for the First Quarter

Dr. King, Deputy Superintendent of Operations/Chief School Business Official, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the Investment Report for the first quarter and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Mr. Burnidge stated that the first quarter total portfolio of invested funds totaled to \$417,133,528, the current yield is 2.199%, and the accrued interest totaled to \$2,524,336. September is a high point for cash due to the Kane and DuPage County tax receipts received in September. The District will be spending down the balance over the next 5 months.

8. Work Session – 2019 Tax Levy (Board Policy 4.030 - Revenue from Tax Sources)

A. Determination of 2019 Tax Levy

Dr. King, Deputy Superintendent of Operations/Chief School Business Official, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Determination of the 2019 Tax Levy and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. The following steps are required when filing a tax levy: 1. The Board of Education determines the amount of the tax levy at least 20 days prior to taking action on the particular levy. 2. The tax levy must be filed with the County Clerk's office by the last Tuesday in December.

Mr. Burnidge stated the estimated 2019 EAV includes new construction and any changes in EAV for properties within the District. The levy amount is increased by the consumer price index - 1.9%. The 2019 expected extension is \$285,642,567, a 2.47% increase over last year. Mr. Burnidge stated that the District does not know the final EAV or the value of new construction within the District, and will defensive levy an additional 1%. The proposed levy amount will be \$288,498,992.

B. Resolution Regarding Proposed 2019 Levies

Dr. King, Deputy Superintendent of Operations/Chief School Business Official, and Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Resolution regarding the Proposed 2019 Levies and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. The Certificate of Tax Levy and the Tax Levy Resolution will be presented on November 18, 2019 and adoption will be requested on December 16, 2019. The tax levy must be filed with the counties by the last Tuesday in December. Administration recommended the adoption of the proposed levy resolution. Mr. Burnidge stated the Resolution lists the amount of last year's levy and the current proposed levy amount and breaks out the bond and interest portion outside of the levy. Mr. Burnidge stated that passing the Resolution will allow the District to fill out the certificate of tax levy.

9. Work Session - Contracts Over \$25,000.00 (Board Policy 4.060 - Purchasing/Purchasing Authority)

A. Information Services - Kaspersky Anti-Virus Software Renewal

Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Ms. Macias, Director of Information Services, presented the proposal and contract summary and were available to respond to questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended approval

of the contract renewal with Connection Public Sector Solutions for three years in the amount of \$188,239.39 and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

10. Work Session - Bids (Board Policy 4.060 - Purchasing/Purchasing Authority)

A. Bid - Plant Operations - Snow Removal


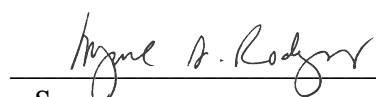
Mr. Phelps, Senior Business Official of Business Services, and Ms. Downs, Director of Plant Operations, presented the bid and were available to answer any questions from the Board of Education. Administration recommended award of the low bid meeting specification to KCG Management (\$38,484.00), TNT Landscape Construction (\$22,000.00) and Valley Enterprises (\$80,580.00) in the amount of \$141,064.00, and requested authorization for district administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Ms. Owens asked for clarification on why Valley Enterprises was selected when their bid was considerably higher. Ms. Downs stated that Valley Enterprises is a much larger company, and the District also considered variables outside of cost in their selection process including: geographical considerations, guaranteeing that each plow company only had 2 high schools on their route, grouping of regions to make sense from a travel standpoint, school start times, and assurance that internal resources would be able to back up a vendor if needed.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Thommes, second by Ms. Owens, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of October 21, 2019, at 8:16 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Devereux, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Thommes, and Ms. Kerr. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Approved this 4th day of November, 2019.

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