

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Jan. 9, 2006
7:30 pm – 9:38 pm

All Bd Members Present
Public: 200 Staff: 6 Press: 3
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board had been in closed session since 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes, pending litigation and collective negotiations.

President DeRonne called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: A York student complained about conflicting time between Honors Physics and Choir at York. In the past, there have been exceptions made so that students may be in each of these classes. This is not the case this year. A Bryan PTA Parent asked that air conditioning for Bryan be included in the funding plans and that perhaps foreign language at the grade school level could be cut. Several community members encouraged the Board to vote for the resolution for both referendum questions.

Superintendent's Communications:

President DeRonne asked that Dr Morris review how the education fund request had started at \$0.45 per \$100 of EAV and is currently at \$0.30 per \$100 of EAV. Dr. Morris answered that the original amount of \$0.45 was determined using an excel spreadsheet. When more sophisticated software was used, it was determined that \$0.38 would be the appropriate amount for which to ask. The Board asked that adjustments be made by

decreasing the annual technology amount from \$800,000 to \$500,000 and decreasing the annual amounts of music equipment replacement cycle, instructional equipment replacement cycle, athletic uniform replacement cycle, substitutes for teacher training and vehicle replacement cycle. This brought the amount of the increase to \$0.33. The amount of increase was further reduced to \$0.30 when the Board decided that the cash flow problem could be corrected in 2010 rather than 2009.

Superintendent's Agenda: After more discussion, the Board adopted the resolution providing for and requiring the submission of the propositions of issuing school building bonds and increasing the existing tax rate for educational purposes to the voters of community unit school district #205 at the general primary election to be held on the 21st day of March 2006.

Board Communications:

Mrs. O'Neill exclaimed how excited she was for the Board to have made this decision. She continued by saying that she would soon be leaving the Board of Education to pursue other opportunities in a different community. She hoped that the Board would use a transparent process to find her replacement. The Board discussed the process. Mrs. DeRonne said that a replacement would have to be named within 45 days (2/27/2006) or the Regional Office of Education would appoint someone. She also invited Mrs. O'Neill to the next Board meeting for an appropriate "send-off." The Board decided to ask for applications for the position once Mrs. O'Neill resigns (expected on Friday, Jan. 13, 2006) by posting it on the District's web site and sending out a press release. They made a deadline of Jan 20th for receipt of any application. Further process will be decided at the Jan. 23, 2006 meeting.