

District 205 - Board of Education
June 12, 2006
7:30 pm-8: 45 pm

No Davy, Lindberg
Public: 12 Staff: 6 Press: 2
Observer: C. Niewiara

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

President DeRonne called public hearing to order regarding the use of life safety funds for site work and paving at Jefferson (\$174,000) and Lincoln (\$358,800) elementary schools.

Ms. Pat Palmere said that all previous district life safety work has been completed and there is money in the Life Safety fund because of previous savings of \$1.4-1.5 M at the high school. Ms. Palmere credited Wight and McHugh for the savings. Paperwork sent to the state. Resolution approved at last meeting.

No public comments or board comments were offered. Hearing declared closed.

At 7:35 pm, President DeRonne called the business meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. She asked that each public comment be limited to 3 minutes.

Public Comment: A former BOE member complimented the performance of Joel Morris regarding overall performance in general and specifically revamping of special education, contract negotiations, 78% passage of the high school referendum, passage of recent referenda, positive relationships with elected state and local legislators, and passage intergovernmental agreements. A YHS student used a Wizard of Oz analogy in describing his inability to take both Honors Chemistry and Choir.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMUNICATION:

A. Stakeholders Meetings --- 20-30 parents at each of the meetings at Lincoln, Jefferson, and Field were able to refine issues at each building. Staff from the district, Wight, McHugh, and a consultant were present. Natural lighting, use of materials that won't have harmful off-gas, and construction air quality monitoring was discussed. Field—orientation changed slightly with future building in mind with move of playground to back of the school and parking moved to the SW with addition of sidewalks on east and south side of new parking lot for child safety. Parking lot will have one curb cut for safety versus the original two curb cuts. New classrooms will be on the east side of the building.

Jefferson —Plan is to lease a two-classroom portable, addition of six classroom and TRC as planned. Special education will be centralized at Jefferson by moving self-contained classroom from Lincoln.

Lincoln—Six classrooms with one larger room, which could be a K classroom in the future. Plan is to lease a two classroom portable to be used at Lincoln.

All three buildings will have emphasis on sustainable design, including grant options offered by Kay McKeen of SCARCE. Possibility of putting on a green roof at Hawthorne was mentioned.

Hawthorne – The plan is to buy a used two-classroom portable for Hawthorne, which will be reinforced in order to be able to support the weight of library books. The current library will become two classrooms.

Mr. Thrall asked about Area B at Jefferson. Dr. Morris said Area B is a reconfiguration of two current classrooms, teacher's lounge and special rooms. He stated that currently, a third section of K is in the former music room which lacks a bathroom, room for coats and is an inappropriate size for a kindergarten. This will be bid as an alternate. Mr. Thrall also asked about defined budgets and timelines for the first three schools. Dr. Morris said they are working on both and that current estimates are close to original projections, but that there are substantial savings at Jefferson because of not having to move utilities. He does not have a revised schedule at this time. He said that he has told the architects to keep working on drawings.

Mr. Spaeth asked about the role of the ROE (Regional Office of Education), which has expectations for safety. Dr. Morris said that the ROE does not have standards for air quality. He felt that in terms of air monitoring, the ROE does not require monitoring of air quality, but feels that this would be a reasonable expectation.

Ms. Ostojic commented that she was very impressed with the quality of the stakeholder meeting that she attended. There will be information on the website regarding the projects with drawings.

B. Transition of Leadership

Dr. Morris reported that he had met with the incoming superintendent, Dr. Lynn Krizic, and that she will be meeting later in the week with the rest of the administration as well as Dr. Morris.

C. Pick Subdivision-(West of Rte 83 to Villa Ave and North of St Charles)

Dr. Morris shared that a committee of Elmhurst residents in the Pick subdivision are collecting petition signatures to leave their current school districts and join District 205. This petition would go to the regional board of school trustees. Dr. Morris stated that down the road the BOE may wish to ask Ms Palmere to provide financial statements showing impact on the district were the change to occur.

SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA:

The Board approved:

- Minutes
- The consent agenda which included
 - personnel report
 - financial report
 - renewal of IASB (IL Assoc. of School Boards) and LEND (Legislative Education Network of DuPage) memberships
 - DAOES Designee

- District PE and Athletic Supplies
- Supplies and contract with Elmhurst Memorial Hospital for Nursing Services (Thrall voted present)

Board Comments on Financial report

Mr. Spaeth asked if the Tax Anticipation Warrants had been paid back. Ms. Palmere anticipates paying them back by the end of the month. Ms. Palmere stated that the district is 2-3 months behind schedule and investments have been made accordingly Mr. Thrall asked about the negative fund balance for insurance and how it impacts year end results. Ms Palmere predicts that the insurance fund will be overspent by \$150,000-\$200,000 for the year end result. For historical perspective, Ms. Palmere reported that at this time last year the district was in deficit \$1.9 million for insurance.

Ms. Palmere reported that legal fees, insurance, and utilities will likely be overspent for this year. While revenue from the state is still coming in steadily, much is outstanding. The district has begun to receive the taxes from the 30-cent increase passed by the referenda. The Budget will end positively. Mr. Carlquist asked Ms. Palmere to comment on the cash flow of the district. The \$8million tax anticipation warrants were issued this Spring to pay bills for this fiscal year and will be paid back before the end of this June. She expects that the district will be positive \$2.5-\$2.8 M at the end of next year. Ms. Palmere believes that the district will continue to need to issue \$5.5-6 M of tax anticipation warrants next spring. The district can use Life Safety funds for inter-fund loans. The district is unable to use the \$41 M in bond proceeds for inter-fund loans. Ms. Palmere also reported that savings elsewhere in the district will offset some overspending. For example, overtime will be under spent. The Board approved the financial report.

The Board approved:

- the revolving loan program application for submittal to the state.
- an amended motion for a one-year contract for network services to be provided by Prescient Development for \$610,000 for 2006-2007 at the same level as the 2005-2006 school year (\$589,050). This amendment included mutually agreed upon performance levels. Mr. voted present.
- the purchase of a used modular classroom for Hawthorne. It will be painted outside and re-carpeted and improved as needed. No water or sewer hook-up will be required. If this unit is unsatisfactory or not expected to last through 2009, Ms. Palmere stated that she would look at the other bids and make a recommendation to lease another unit or possibly make recommendations for a rebid.
- a one-year lease of one two-classroom modular for Jefferson and one for Lincoln from Williams Scotsman. There will also be additional costs for utility hook-ups at Lincoln and Jefferson.

ACTION TAKEN OUT OF CLOSED SESSION:

The Board approved the administration and exempt employee salary increases as proposed in closed session. The Board also appointed George Kline as the construction project manager effective July 1, 2006. The Board decreased an employee suspension from 10 to 5 days while requiring employee to participate in educational activities as identified by the superintendent. The Board approved a notice of remedy to an employee.