

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Aug. 2, 2006
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

No Lindberg or Spaeth, Carlquist at 6:35 pm
Thrall by speaker phone
Public: 4 Staff: 4 Press: 1
Observer: J. Dorner

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

Public Comment: One individual spoke of the teachers' early retirement plan and how it was not in jeopardy of being cut last year during the discussions of program cuts. This individual stated that he will be back to subsequent Board meetings to explain how this program has a cumulative effect on the budget. Another citizen spoke of the stakeholder meeting that was held at Bryan Middle School. She thanked all involved for the dialog that was held concerning the needs in the planned addition at Bryan. She was concerned that the architects, construction managers, or the District representatives were aware that Bryan had been promised air conditioning as a part of the referenda. She stated that at three different Bryan PTA meetings, when Board members were present, all had promised air conditioning, if the referenda passed. She also brought up the minutes from the January 9th, 2006, special Board meeting when Mrs. Davy asked the question of the Superintendent. The question was answered that Bryan would be air-conditioned.

Superintendent's Communications:

Besides what was listed on the agenda, Mrs. DeRonne asked the Superintendent to include a brief discussion of the stakeholder meetings that were being held.

A. Stakeholder meetings: Dr. Krizic stated that the District was receiving good information at the stakeholder meetings. Some of the scopes of the different projects were changing. Lincoln will be getting 6 classrooms rather than 4. Jefferson's addition moved to the other end of the building. Field's playground/parking lot will be moved to an open field, and the addition will be put on the current playground. (There are some additional issues at Field. There is an underground tank and a water detention problem.) Edison talked of not needed additional classrooms, but making their hall a continuous loop. Churchville's design may be changed. Mrs. Davy asked Dr. Krizic about the Bryan air conditioning. Dr. Krizic replied that the January 9th question was asked during discussion of the ed fund rate increase and that air conditioning could not be installed using ed fund moneys. She went on to ask the Bryan community to be patient. The scope changes so far have increased the budget by one million dollars and the cost of the air conditioning will be a stretch.

B. Technology Purchase Plan: Dr. Krizic met with Principals, technology coordinators and staff from each school. All received a list of the needs (lots of needs are competing). The plan that was presented was a K-12 plan. There were 4 different options presented to the Board – all a combination of purchase/leasing and some with a combination of Dell and IBM computers. Any of the leasing plans would cost an additional \$99,000 for the 4 years of the program. Some of the options also included a revolving loan program, which is only for grades 9-12 from the state. Districts will not be notified until after Dec. 15th if they have been accepted for this program. Mr. Thrall and Mr. Carlquist asked for more information. Dr. Krizic said that she would like to bring a recommendation to the Board for the Aug. 14th regularly scheduled Board meeting.

C. ComEd Switch Gear Location: Dr. Krizic asked the Board if they would reconsider the request of the York neighbors to move a ComEd switch gear box onto the York property. A picture of the area was passed out to Board members to consider this request. Mrs. Ostojic asked if moving this box would increase the District's liability. Dr. Krizic will check and come with a recommendation to the Aug. 14th meeting.

Budget Workshop:

Pat Palmere, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, continued review of the worksheets that were issued to Board members and those in attendance.

Operations and Maintenance: All Principals' salaries were moved from this fund and into the Education Fund. Under Utilities, natural gas was also moved into the Education Fund.

Transportation Fund: Ms. Palmere moved some of the levy from the transportation fund into the IMRF (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund). One-time revenue of \$167,200 was included as the District sold its remaining buses to Laidlaw.

Ms. Palmere said that the Fire Prevention/Safety Fund and the Site and Construction Funds should not be considered on a yearly basis, but as projects. The Fire Prevention/Safety Fund is for life safety work and there may be more life safety amendments that could be issued. Some of the Hawthorne project may be eligible for life safety money. The Site and Construction Fund has the \$41 million of building bonds, and it is hard to determine how much will be spent in the '06-'07 Budget. This is a project that will use all of these funds eventually.

Projected Cash Flow: For the '06-'07 Budget year, it appears that the fund balances will be depleted in April 2007 and no new funds will be available until the June tax collection. Approximately \$6.5 million will need to be borrowed using tax anticipation warrants in April. \$40,000 was budgeted for interest to pay these back. Mrs. Davy asked if the construction bond money could be used for those two months. Ms. Palmere said that it is illegal to use construction bonds for this purpose. As stated during the referenda campaign, this situation of using tax anticipation warrants will continue through the FY 2009 or FY 2010 budget year until fund balances are re-built.

Public Comment: An individual asked the Board to reconsider their decision to only televise the regularly scheduled Board meetings. She thought that there have been more special Board meetings since January than regularly scheduled meetings. Many parents and community members would have been interested in the technology purchase plan discussion. A Bryan parent stated that she found Dr. Krizic's response to the Bryan air conditioning disappointing and asked Mrs. Davy to please comment. Mrs. Davy stated that she felt that it was the Board's obligation to air condition Bryan and that the Bryan community doesn't care "what pot of money" is used. A third individual agreed with the first speaker and told the Board that more education about technology and budget issues for parents and the community was the Board's responsibility.

Board Communications: Mrs. Davy noted that the District had received word from the Regional Office of Education that District 205 was in complete compliance.

The Board voted to return to closed session for the purpose of collective negotiations.