

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Aug. 14, 2006
7:35 pm – 9:30 pm

No Lindberg
Public: 4 Staff: 4 Press: 1
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board had been in closed session since 6:00 pm for the approval of closed session minutes, negotiations, and actual/potential litigation. President DeRonne called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: Valerie Baxter, President of the Elmhurst Teachers' Council spoke of the teachers desire to pass a contract. She told of teachers that are already in their buildings readying their classrooms for the start of the new school year. These teachers spend much of their own money for classroom extras. She stated that although there would be 19 teachers who could receive increases of 8 – 11% with the proposed pay structure, 160 teachers would receive 1.23% increases, which is a pay cut when inflation is factored. She hopes that after Friday (8/18) there will be a new tentative agreement. The next individual who spoke was a York teacher who will be starting her 35th and last year of teaching. She told the Board that based on the salary increase proposed and the increase in medical payments, her prescription drug costs will increase to \$600/month from \$120/month. This year her pay will be less than last year. Two citizens from the Pick Subdivision spoke next. They said that they were aware that their children would be going to District 45 and 88 schools and preferred it that way because they didn't want their children to cross Route 83 to attend school or visit friends. They asked that District 205 deny the request to annex the Pick Subdivision.

Superintendent's Communications:

A. Cabinet Reports: Board members asked individual Cabinet members questions about their respective reports. Most discussion was around the Assistant Superintendent for finance's (Pat Palmere) report and the Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services (Joyce Powell) report. In part, both reports addressed the revenue, expenditures, and amount of students having Special Education services. Dr. Powell stated that District 205 has about 15% of its students who have some type of Special Ed. services. The National average is between 14.5 and 15%.

B. Construction Update: Dr. Krizic said that stakeholder meetings were complete and that there were some tentative scope changes. Besides the changes that were already approved for Lincoln, Jefferson and Field, these could be:

- Emerson – a 3 classroom addition and student rest rooms
- Edison – library/TRC expansion and resolution of the dead-end hall to a contiguous loop
- Conrad Fischer – 3 classroom addition (with 1 of these classrooms being larger for multiple certified staff to share) and renovation of existing restrooms (life safety funds possibility?)
- Jackson – 2 classroom addition and student restrooms
- Sandburg – 6 classroom addition with 2 of these being Science labs (without hoods) and restrooms
- Bryan – 4 classroom addition and expansion of 1 current classroom, new office/storage space.
- Churchville – 5 classroom addition and restrooms
- Hawthorne – renovation and 12-classroom addition.

These have been submitted to the McHugh Construction Manager representative to cost out to see where the entire project will land. The Board discussed that the previous approved scope changes for Lincoln, Jefferson and Field were already quoted at \$1 million more than initially planned.

Superintendent's Agenda: The Board approved:

- Minutes from 7/12/06, 7/31/06, 8/02/06

- Consent agenda including
 - Personnel report
 - Financial reports
 - Freedom of information requests
 - List of hazardous crossing areas
- The 2006-2007 Budget in tentative form – Legally, this tentative budget will be on display for 30 days. Mr. Spaeth spoke of the need for discussion among the Board concerning internal controls, Board governance and strategic goals. Mr. Carlquist stated that there was a great deal of Board oversight and that the Board organization for financial oversight was a committee of the whole. Mrs. DeRonne said that Board organization was on the list of things to discuss, but not tonight.
- Architectural firm contract (Wight & Co. for no more that 7.5% for all 11 building projects). Mr. Spaeth asked George Klein his opinion of the architectural costs. Mr. Klein answered that this was a great deal. At his last position, in Lake Forest, the fees were higher for a total of 7 buildings. Our project has 11 separate buildings, including a complete rehab on Hawthorne.
- Construction Management services contract (McHugh for no more than 3.6%)
- Technology purchase plan – for \$471,204, which would include purchasing 329 desktop computers, leasing 155 laptops, the use of the revolving technology loan to purchase 28 desktops and 65 laptops, server and infrastructure purchases and software. Dr. Krizic further explained to the Board that the Technology Leadership Committee will meet on the Technology Strategic Plan to establish a time line. The engagement of multiple perspectives will be used and a proposed time line will not be ready until after January.

Board Communications: Mrs. Davy thanked Dr. Krizic for the letter that she had sent to the staff welcoming them to a new school year.