

**Dist. 205 Board of Education**  
**Sept. 24, 2007**  
**7:30 pm – 9:40 pm**

**All Board members present**  
**Public: 15 Staff: 12 Press: 0**  
**Observer: J. Dorner**

The Board had been in closed session since 6:45 pm “to consider one or more of the following subjects including, but not limited to”: approval of closed session minutes (8/13/07, 9/10/07, 9/14/07) and actual/potential litigation. President Davy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Recognition:**

Diana Smith, Principal of York High School introduced the J. Kyle Braid Leadership Scholars. These sophomores participate in leadership training for a week at a ranch aimed at fair play in athletics. The Scholars are: Patrick Hamill, Stephanie Japczyk, Callie Klatt, Elizabeth Lawrence, and James Sullivan. At this point, about 10 people left the meeting.

**Public Comment:** A Social Worker from Bryan Middle School announced a free program for parents called “Bringing the Best out in your Children and Teens: A Solution-Oriented Parenting Approach.” This program will be on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Sandburg Auditorium. A parent from Bryan stated that she was thrilled that the Board was scheduled to go out for bid for air conditioning at Bryan later this evening.

**Superintendent’s Communications:**

A. Cabinet Reports:

- Curriculum - Dr. McCann’s reported on the 4 – day new teacher orientation, mandatory teacher training in the teacher evaluation process, and mentor training. There also was a leadership team workshop, differentiation training for pre-tenured teachers, a meeting of kindergarten teachers, and meetings about the teaching of writing.
- Finance – Pat Masterton, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, reported that there is a committee looking at two possible suppliers for new financial/human resource software. The committee will be going to Elk Grove Village District 59 to see one of the chooses in action. The plan is to receive Board approval for the software in October so that it can be installed by January. As for the Bryan air conditioning: Ms. Masterton stated that they “expect that there will be enough dollars left in the Site and Construction Fund to complete this project, with the expectation that the work will be completed next summer.”
- Student Services – Dr. Powell, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services reported on the scheduled Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) assessment that was administered on September 24<sup>th</sup> to all K-5<sup>th</sup> graders. This identifies students at risk for reading difficulties. District 205 received the proportionate share calculation from the state for the current school year for private/parochial students. It is \$47,421, up from last year’s \$11,034. There are 48 students identified for individual service plans (ISPs), up from 37 students last year. 32 of the 48 students are identified for speech and language services. This year, transportation issues have increased. Dr. Powell has met with a representative from Cottage Hill Bus Company twice and most problems seemed to have been resolved.
- Personnel – All certified staff has been hired. More aides need to be hired. The 2<sup>nd</sup>

District 205 Health Fair was a success. Due to changes in legislation; the Principal evaluation process is being updated.

- Community Relations and Publications – Open Houses of all new additions were successful. AlertNow, the new system for contacting parents and guardians has been used several times since the beginning of school, for issues ranging from reminder of open houses to Stranger Danger alerts.
- Technology – IP Telephony project, infrastructure for new construction, and the upgrading of the four remaining servers from Windows 2000 to 2003 are all in progress. The York re-imaging project was completed. PowerSchool portal and web-based grade book has benefited the District. Staff development continues in technology.

B. Construction Report: All grade school additions (except Hawthorne) and all middle school additions are complete except for the final punch lists. Hawthorne will be completed next year.

C. FY 07 Audit: The auditor stated, in his opinion, the District is on the right track. Two letters were received from the audit firm, a management letter and one to the Board of Directors. There were 5 material weaknesses listed in the letter to the Board of Directors. These “weaknesses” were related to record keeping, which is now required due to new rules.

D. Grade 6-12 Industrial Technology Curriculum Review and Evaluation: Ken Ross, York Department Chair for Industrial Tech and Drew McGuire, Bryan Industrial Tech Teacher presented an overview of current, best practices, and recommendations for the Industrial Technology program at the Middle and High Schools. The current curriculum, the unified arts concept for scheduling at the middle school and updating of the software and equipment at the middle schools was recommended. Mrs. Ostojic thanked the committee and commented on the breadth and depth of the curriculum. Mr. Carlquist questioned the “critical thinking process used.” Mr. Thrall asked, “What are the trade-offs that we are agreeing to keep the program in its present form?” He would like curriculum reviews to give us some options. He spoke of the thought that 3 years ago this program may have been cut due to budget constraints. Mrs. Davy stated that the “report identified what we’ve got and justifies why we should keep it” and that is not what this Board wanted to see. Mr. Spaeth asked How to make the program better. Mrs. DeRonne suggested that strategies be put into place that would encourage more students to enroll in these courses at the High School. Mrs. Conroy reminded the Board that one of the Braid scholars at the beginning of the meeting commented on the need for more vocational training.

E. Parent Teacher Conference Scheduling: David Smith, Director of Technology, stated that the District would like to pilot the on line sign up for conferences that is used at York at the Middle Schools. He would also like to pilot some other “ready made” software for this as well. The Board welcomed this.

**Superintendent’s Agenda:** The Board approved:

- Minutes from 8/13/07 and 9/10/07
- Consent agenda

- Personnel report
- Financial reports
- 2007-2008 Application for Recognition of Schools
- Authorization for Administration to Seek Bids for HVAC/AC at Bryan MS
- Authorization of An Ad Hoc Facilities Enrollment Committee for the purpose of identifying recommendations to enrollment policy issues, school boundaries and facility needs. Dr. Krizic identified the enrollment policy issues as the ones that allow families to petition to attend schools other than the ones in their attendance area and the fluctuating enrollment for middle school choice areas (i.e. Jefferson has the choice of attending Bryan or Sandburg and Field School has the choice of attending Sandburg or Churchville.) Dr. Krizic and Ms. Masterton will co-facilitate these meetings.
- FY07 Audit
- Trial Middle School On-Line Parent-Teacher Conference System

**Board Communications:** Mr. Thrall asked when the Board will discuss the information found in the school report card. It is scheduled for an October Board meeting. Mrs. Conroy complemented the York College and Career Center and highly recommended it.

**Action Taken Out of Closed Session:** None