

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Jan. 28, 2008
7:30 pm – 9:50 pm

All Bd members present
Public: 40 Staff: 10 Press: 1
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board had been in closed session since 6:00 pm to consider the performance of and employment of specific employees, collective negotiations and review of closed session minutes (12/10/07). President Davy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition: President Davy recognized Val Stewart for her service to District 205. Ms. Stewart, Director of Community Relations for District 205, will be retiring this week after 14 years of service. New Director of Community relations, Karen Geddeis, took Ms. Stewart's spot at the cabinet table.

Public Comment: Three people spoke against the elimination of speech as a graduation requirement.

Superintendent's Communications:

A. Pride Pledge for Adults – Some of the Board of the Pride (positive role models inspiring direction to excellence) told the Board of the widespread use of alcohol by High School students. They also spoke of their idea of having Parents sign a pledge to not allow underage drinking in their homes and they would receive a sticker to put on their door and also be "starred" in the directory.

Mrs. DeRonne left the meeting.

B. K-5 Literacy Materials on Display - The two "finalist" were piloted. The Scott Foresman Reading Street Series will be on display for 30 day. There will be a presentation at the February workshop (2/11) meeting. Mrs. Ostojic asked that when the presentation takes place, she would like to know about the consumerable costs and the budget assumptions for next year.

C. Policy #2615 revision – Both Dr. Krizic and Dr. McCann (Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum) reviewed the discussion from the last meeting on removal of the Speech course as a graduation requirement. York Principal, Diana Smith, issued a memo of the projects in which the High School is currently engaged. Core courses are being identified where critical speaking activities will take place, sequencing of speech skills from the middle school to the high school are being identified, and a faculty committee is planning staff development for the entire faculty. In summary, the administration believes that all components of literacy: speaking, listening, reading and writing are best learned when they are taught throughout the curriculum. The Board's discussion centered on the question when was the speech skill taught? Many were concerned that there would be no delivery of this skill if this course were made an elective.

Superintendent's Agenda: The Board approved:

- Minutes from 12/10/07, 1/14/08 (Note – Ms. Davy attended a seminar that said that the best practices for minutes should be summary minutes, which the District will start using.)
- Consent agenda
 - Personnel report
 - Financial reports
 - Approval of new policy #3225-4 Internet Safety (2nd Reading)
 - Approval of revision to policy #5405-1 Required Physical Examinations and

Immunizations (2nd Reading)

- Approval of District Title I Plan
 - Acceptance of Donation to Bryan Middle School (\$459.95 a mobile dry-erase board with four music staves paid by a Bryan parent)
 - Approval of Skyward Insurance Module (\$11,904.00)
 - Approval of Construction Budget Change Order #10 (\$359,557.00)
 - Approval of Bid #08-12 General Trades – Bryan Middle School - Air Conditioning Installation (\$51,800.00)
 - Approval of Bid #08-13 Structural Steel and Miscellaneous - Metals – Bryan Middle School Air Conditioning Installation (\$40,795.00)
 - Approval of Bid #08-14 Electrical – Bryan Middle School Air-Conditioning Installation (\$82,755)
 - Approval of Bid #08-15 HVAC – Bryan Middle School Air -Conditioning Installation (\$496,000)
 - Approval of Bid #08-16 Plumbing – Bryan Middle School Air-Conditioning Installation (\$65,500)
- Contract with Lockton Companies as the Insurance Broker/Consultant for District #205. This is a one-year contract with a three-year option. Ten companies responded to the RFP (request for proposal). Eight companies were interviewed and three were selected as finalists. References and financial reports were obtained and reviewed.
 - Contract for Wide Area Network services through AT & T for a five-year period at a cost of \$146,790 per year (with over \$91,000 through E-rate funding) plus network equipment costs not to exceed \$20,000.

Mrs. DeRonne returned for to the meeting.

- Revised Policy #2615 – Required Courses (1st reading) – The discussion that started earlier in the evening, continued at this point. Mr. Carlquist encouraged the continuation of this discussion by voting yes on this first reading. (Policies are voted on twice as a first and second reading at two businesses meetings.) Mr. Carlquist, Mrs. Davy, Mrs. DeRonne and Mr. Thrall voted yes, Mr. Spaeth, Mrs. Conroy, and Mrs. Ostojic voted no. The second reading of this policy is scheduled for the February 25th meeting.

Board Communications: Mr. Carlquist asked the Superintendent to share some of the information that had been received from the strategic plan company. Dr. Krizic stated that the information was for Board members and will be used for creating the survey questions that will be asked of staff, parents and the community. March 14th is a scheduled community-wide meeting. Mr. Spaeth complained that there should be a better process than a one-day notice for approving an insurance broker. Mr. Thrall asked about the facilities task force. Dr. Krizic stated there were four subcommittees working. One sub-group just received the new Kasarda report (demographic study) and would begin work with that document. A joint school board – park board meeting will be held on Feb. 4th at 7:00 pm at the Wagner Community Center. School Board representatives will be Mrs. Davy, Mrs. Ostojic and Mrs. Conroy.

Action on Closed Session: None

The Board voted to return to closed session to consider the performance of and employment of specific employees. Mrs. Davy stated that no action after this closed session was expected.