

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Mar. 24, 2008
7:55 pm – 10:30 pm

All Bd members present
Public: 8 Staff: 12 Press: 0
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, approval of closed session minutes (2/24/08, 2/25/08 & 3/10/08) and property acquisition/lease/purchase. President Davy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing on the request for Waiver:

Dr. Krizic explained that due to concerns from the staff and the community, the November election day should be a non-student attendance day. An institute day was not possible, so it was decided to ask for a non-attendance day on election day and attend school on Veteran Day. A waiver with the State Board of Elections needs to be processed. Part of this procedure is a public hearing. Dr. Krizic stated that several activities concerning and/or honoring veterans would be planned. State Senator Carole Pankau was in attendance for this part of the meeting but declined to speak. Mr. Spaeth asked about the Spring elections. Dr. Krizic replied that she will be on a committee formed by the Regional Office of Education to pursue solutions to making polling places in schools more secure and options are being explored.

No comments were made by the public or the Board.

Return to Regular Business Meeting

Public Comments: none

Workshop Topic:

Technology Overview: David Smith, Director of Technology and Cathy Baker, Instructional Technology Coordinator, presented the technology overview. The vision is that a curriculum-driven technology is integrated into diverse learning environments to enable learners to access, analyze, create, develop and share knowledge. This will be implemented by using NETS (National Educational Technology Standards that are the result of input from educators across the U.S. and 22 other countries) which have sets of standards for students, teachers and administrators. The District is moving toward a 21st Century Classroom Initiative in, at least, two phases. This will involve setting goals at all levels, professional development, and classroom and technology support. Expected cost for this school year is just under \$3 million, while the '08-'09 estimated budget would be over \$4.5 million with the following year anyway from \$4 to over \$6.5 million. The Board discussed the importance of finding the money to support this endeavor. Mr. Spaeth moved to form a Technology sub committee of the Board. It was seconded and a long discussion followed. Some Board members stated that perhaps it was premature, while others said it wasn't necessary. The motion failed 1 yes, 6 no.

Superintendent's Communications:

Thiems Instructional Grants: District 205 Foundation President, Lisa Fanelli, spoke to the Board of the \$88,830 worth of grants that will be funded. All Board members thanked the Foundation. The motion to approve the award of funds was made, seconded and carried.

Tentative FY09 Enrollment Plan: Dr. Krizic presented the tentative enrollment figures for the next school year.

- At this time there is a need shown for two new elementary positions, but there could increase

to as many as 10 new elementary positions. When asked about the budget for this possibility, Dr. Krizic answered that 11 or 12 new positions will be budgeted in the Ed Fund.

- No new positions were projected for the middle schools. Mr. Carlquist asked about some parent complaints that the class sizes at the middle school are very high, Dr. Krizic responded that there may be some large Reach and/or French classes because they may be the only sections in a grade level or school.
- 3 (1 in world languages – 0.4 for Chinese and 0.6 for Spanish and 2 for social studies due to the movement of the government class to sophomore year) at the High School level.
- 2.3 additional certified staff are projected for new special education positions.

Superintendent's Agenda: The Board approved:

- Minutes from 2/24/08, 2/25/08, 3/10/08
- Consent agenda
 - Financial reports
 - Freedom of Information requests
 - School Improvement Plans:
 - Edison, Field, Lincoln, Madison, Bryan, Churchville, Sandburg, York
 - Acceptance of donation to Communications Department (\$1500 SLR camera from an anonymous source)
 - Authorization to prepare the '08-'09 annual Budget
 - Fischer School easement grant (to build the water detention area needed).
 - Authorization to employ an agency to collect unpaid accounts (This collection agency works with outstanding accounts of \$25 or more (for unpaid school fees, lunch fees, building usage fees and nsf checks) and charges \$10.50 per account collected.)
 - Adoption of District 205 Crisis Management Plan
 - High School Instructional Materials Proposed for Adoption

Removed from consent agenda:

- Personnel report - Mr. Spaeth requested information about the 180 certified staff on the list that were being rehired. Dr. Krizic stated that if a certified staff is not being re-hired, the release needs to be at least 45 school days before the end of the school year.
 - Acceptance of donation to Jackson School (\$3498 for an Elmo (camera, data projector, cart w/laptop shelf workstation and laptop) from the Jackson PTA) – Mrs. Ostojic asked since this type of equipment had recently been accepted as a gift to Edison School, is this equipment something each school should have? Dr. Krizic responded that there needs to be “presentation equipment” at the elementary schools. Mrs. Ostojic asked the same question again and received the same answer.
 - Development and issuance for a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Tree Care Services – Mrs. Ostojic asked why was this being requested this year and what were the price expectations. Dr. Krizic answered that it seemed to be the appropriate time since the construction was ending and that the tree maintenance was expected to cost \$30,000 to \$35,000 annually.
- Approval of Application for Waiver to modify school code mandates – For the 2008 – 2009 school year, school will not be in session on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 (Election Day) and

will be in session on Tuesday, November 11, 2008 (Veteran's Day).

Board Communications: None

Action out of Closed Session: The Board approved:

- A resolution to remedy and to affirm the suspension without pay of an employee.
- Dismissal of non-tenured teachers.
- Dismissal of one year grant-funded teachers.