

**Dist. 205 Board of Education**  
**Sept. 8, 2008**  
**7:40 pm – 9:05 pm**

**No Spaeth**  
**Public: 10 Staff: 8 Press: 1**  
**Observer: J. Dorner**

The Board had been in closed session since 6:00 pm to consider the employment of employees, property acquisition/lease/purchase, and actual/potential litigation. President Davy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comments:** A resident who lives next to Conrad Fischer school stated that he is happy how the school work was completed and admires the landscaping and hopes that it will be kept up. He singled out Frank Schuh as extremely helpful. Paul Guerino commented on how Hawthorne's parking lot, with permeable pavers and water detention below it, was impressive. He also asked the School Board to contact their legislators about voting against HB5960, the "Diabetes Care Aide Act" that would assign an untrained aide to a diabetic child. Two parents spoke to the School Board about their opposition to the District trying to obtain the AT&T (162 S. York) by eminent domain. They stated that this seemed like a waste of time and money and that for years students have been asked to have classes in basements, trailers and other inappropriate spaces while housing was found/built, so the administration should "take one for the team" and do the same.

**Workshop Discussion:**

2008 Summer School Program discussion was deferred until the Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting when Dr. McCann could be present.

FY09 budget Update: An additional increase of 4.6 certified staff (\$253,000), sufficient technology funds to provide for additional technology in the District, and late billing for busing services have increased the expenditure budget by \$954,576.32 over the tentative budget currently on display. Revenue has increased by \$482,577 by grant carryover as well as a general state aid increase of \$257,509. The net change to fund balances will be -\$498,558.32, but the operating budget will be in the black with excess revenue \$1,484,191.68 once the above mentioned negative has been subtracted out.

Technology Update: David Smith, Director of Technology, reviewed the completed projects:

- Instructional technology intranet – Cathy Baker, Instructional technology coordinator, has posted many resources including lesson plans, state standards, and other websites among other things as help for the staff.
- Computer Refresh – Over 520 York desktops and elementary library stations have been installed.
- Elementary Wireless Network – All eight elementary buildings are completely wireless with 146 access points (total).
- Elementary laptops – 650 laptops and 158 carts (each able to hold 8 laptops) are in the elementary buildings.
- 25 LCD Projector have been installed.
- York has had an uninterruptible power supply installed.
- PowerSchool has a server array.
- All gradebooks are web-based – PowerTeacher Gradebooks.
- Email archival has been started. A policy may be needed on this.

All of this cost \$730,612, \$37,038 under budget.

For the future:

- A new 3-year State Technology Plan for E-rate is needed by Feb. 2009 (a draft is required by

Oct. 2008).

- More classroom display technology is needed.
- Middle School Curriculum technology will be updated.
- Ongoing technology refresh.
- Online student registration and fee payments.
- Online School Board meetings.
- WAN upgrade – Hopefully all schools will be on line by November. Mr. Smith needs an update from AT&T.
- Electronic transcript and document archival
- Central wireless network management

Policy Review Process Dr. Krizic, Mr. Thrall and Mr. Carlquist explained to the rest of the Board the possibility of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) reviewing District 205's current Policy Manual. For \$8400, IASB would organize District 205's current Policy Book in accordance with the IASB's example. Cross-referencing is not included, but legal citations would be. Policies would be identified as required, recommended, and best practices. A large time commitment would be expected of the Board. Ten to fifteen hours would be required to review the entire book with the Board. After the editing sessions, the IASB would email a "final draft." This can be accepted or modified by the Board, but the document would be online, so that searches may be done by key word. This will be brought to the Board as a recommendation at the 9/22/08 meeting.

#### **Superintendent's Communications:**

Enrollment Update: There are 8022 students enrolled in District 205. Most schools were within the demographer's "middle range" except for Emerson, which was much higher than predicted. K, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> have 4 sections each, while 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade are at 3 sections and 1<sup>st</sup> is at 5 sections. All elementary classes are at 24 students or below, with only Field have 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes at 25 students/each.

Strategic Plan Update: Dr. Krizic said that the leadership team met several times over the summer to set goals, strategies and metrics in five different areas. The draft of this part of the Strategic Plan will be presented to the Board at the 9/22/08 meeting.

**Board Communications:** Mrs. Davy announced that she had met with the auditors because of new audit rules. She thanked Dr. Krizic for keeping the lines of communication open by meeting with the York neighbors and for a great opening day. Mrs. Davy asked Dr. Krizic to report on what the Ethics Advisor had found. Apparently, the Board appointed an ethics advisor who was to investigate Mr. Spaeth's accusations of Mr. Thrall as having a conflict of interest and being unethical. The advisor, who is a school board member and an attorney, reviewed votes and federal and state laws and found (in a 13 page summary decision) that District 205 and Mr. Thrall had no ethics violations or conflicts of interest. Dr. Krizic stated that she considers the matter to be closed. Mrs. DeRonne asked how much this cost the District. Dr. Krizic answered that, although a bill has not yet been received, she expects it to be \$2,000 to \$5,000.

**Action on Closed Session Items:** Mrs. DeRonne moved that District 205 make an offer to purchase the 162 S. York property, consistent with the District's appraisal report and further that the administration and Board's attorneys be authorized to file a complaint for condemnation should good faith negotiations for this property fail to produce a negotiated agreement. The motion was seconded and carried – 6 yes, 0 nos, 1 absent.