

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Oct. 27, 2008
7:30 pm – 10:10 pm

No Spaeth
Public: 50 Staff: 10 Press: 2
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board had been in closed session since 6:00 pm to consider the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of employee, property acquisition/lease/purchase, collective negotiations, student residency and approval of closed session minutes (9/22/08, 9/30/08, and 10/14/08). President Davy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: Over twenty parents from Emerson spoke individually thanking the Board for considering their space, security and parking needs. One Emerson parent was concerned about the plans for the outside areas at Emerson and made some suggestions. A parent from Hawthorne stated that he had heard there may be plans for boundary changes and asked the Board to keep all parents informed of any possible attendance boundary changes. A Jackson parent asked about the eminent domain case and wondered how the referenda funds were/are being used.

Superintendent's Communications:

A. FY08-FY13 Five Year Budget Update -

- Local Property Tax Increases will top out at 5.5% in FY2010, and gradually decreasing to 3.8% in FY2014, based on an assumption of CPI dropping to around 3% in FY 2011, 12, 13 and 14.
- Salary and Benefit Costs as a percent of total expenditures will slightly increase from 80.5% in 2010 to 81.3% in 2014, due to projected annual increases of 8% in fringe benefit costs.
- Total Expenditures are expected to increase an average of 4.58% per year.
- Fund Balances are projected to increase from \$24,989,942 in FY 2008 to \$35,406,171 in FY 2014. Fund Balance as a percent of expenditures will increase to 30.87% in 2014; as the number of months of expenditures, this equates to 3.7 months.
- Projections show that there should not be a need to issue short term borrowing, as cash balances at their lowest point in 2009 are projected at \$2,801,688, and to increase each year after that to \$5,397,936 in 2014.

B. Discussion of Preliminary Levy Computations – The EAV (Equalized Assessed Valuation) increase is estimated at 10.3%, with new growth at 1.5%.

C. FY08 School Report Card and ISAT/PSAE Review – Dr. McCann, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, presented a brief overview of the ISATs (Illinois Standards Achievement Tests) and the PSAE (Prairie State Achievement Exam). His summary and comments included:

- Sustain and expand achievement.
- Set local goals to have more students *exceed* state standards.
- Target aggressive efforts at early intervention, especially in the areas of literacy.
- Continue to expand efforts to collaborate to follow a continuum of interventions to advance the learning of all students.
- Close achievement gaps among subgroups.
- Refine the subject alignment across grade levels.
- Integrate and refine writing instruction.
- Rely on a system of formative assessments to track the learning progress for all learners and to guide adjustments to the instructional program.

- Follow a collaborative problem-solving model to capitalize on concerted efforts to advance the learning of all students.

School Improvement Teams will use this data in targeting areas for improvement.

D. Stadium Task Force Update — About \$550,000 to \$575,000 has been raised so far for the synthetic turf project for the York Stadium. The Committee will continue to fund raise through November. In December, the administration will come to the Board with the proposed allocation of funds for this project. A wall plaque containing names of significant contributors seems to be the way that the Committee is leaning to recognize key donors.

E. Emerson Addition Update — Plans to put a second story addition onto Emerson have been drawn. They propose 4 classrooms (with one being an over-sized 1000 square feet), 2 pullout rooms and two additional restrooms. The first floor office will be moved to a classroom that is adjacent to the entrance for security. Additional parking and playground space will be added. Dr. Krizic stated that the working budget is \$3.5 million; \$2.3 million for the building, \$500,000 for the site and \$700,000 for the office move. The bid will be let in Jan. 2009 so that building can begin in the summer of 2009. The inside work on the addition will take place second shift during the '09 school year. It is estimated that the new space will be available in December '09 or January 2010.

F. School District Library Grant Program FY 2009 - The Library Grant is an entitlement grant District 205 is eligible for based upon student enrollment as of September 30, 2008. Approximately \$5948 will be received from this grant, which will be used for books and audiovisual materials.

Superintendent's Agenda: The Board approved:

- Minutes of 9/22/08, 9/30/08, 10/14/08 and 10/16/08.
- A. Consent Agenda
 - Personnel Report
 - Financial Reports (payment of bills, monthly statements, ratification of investments)
 - Freedom of Information requests
 - Revision to Policy #1115-5 Board Member Conflict of Interest – Second reading
 - Revision to Policy #1115-10 Ethics Act and Gift Ban – Second reading
 - Revision to Policy #1110 Board Member Code of Conduct – Second Reading
 - Revision to Policy #4110-1 Vacancies and Postings – Second Reading
 - Revision to Policy #5205-2.1 Admission/Enrollment – Second Reading
 - Revision to Policy #1115-2 School District Elections – Second Reading
 - Revision to Policy #3175-5 Student Activity Funds – Second reading
 - Purchase Document Management System and Services
 - Fees for Summer Programs for 2009
 - Elmhurst District 205 403(b) Retirement Plan Document
 - Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposal for Bank Services

Mrs. DeRonne removed the New Policy #4110-11 Nepotism - Second Reading from the consent agenda. She requested an actual definition of administrator and said she was struggling with whether the District needed a policy on nepotism or not. She moved that this policy adoption be postponed until the Policy Committee can re-work this policy. The motion carried.

Mrs. Ostojic removed the following from the consent agenda:

- Elmhurst Library Computer Donation (The Elmhurst Public Library has offered to donate to the district thirty-eight (38) Dell GX270 computers with monitors and nineteen (19) Dell GX520 computers with monitors. This equipment is in addition to the seventy-seven (77)

donated computers and monitors approved by the Board in April 2008.) Mrs. Ostojic wanted to acknowledge the donation. Motion carried with Mr. Calquist and Mrs. DeRonne voting present.

- Authorization to Add Internal Auditor Position – Mrs. Ostojic wanted some discussion on this position. At the last meeting, the auditor suggested that an internal auditor should report to the Board of Education. Dr. Krizic said that this individual would report directly to the Superintendent. The proposed salary in the draft position requirements is \$55,000 to \$60,000 annually. Motion carried.

B. *Approval of Estimated Amounts to be Levied for Year 2008* – The Board approved the resolution for the 2008 levy (\$84,032,131.) and to have a truth in taxation hearing since the levy is over 105% of 2007.

C. *Approval of Strategic Action Plan* – This was delayed until the Board could have a more substantive discussion. The Board will be polled and a date for a separate meeting will be posted.

Board Communications: Mrs. Davy read a statement concerning the letter(s) that Mr. Spaeth had in the *Elmhurst Independent*. She said that she would not elaborate on his statements but that he was unfair and mean-spirited. She also quoted several IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) code of conduct that all Board members, included Mr. Spaeth, swore to uphold. (Take no private action that might compromise the Board or Administration and respect the confidentiality of privileged information. Abide by majority decisions of the Board while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels. Were two that were quoted.)

Action on Closed Session Items: The Board approved the expulsion of a student that does not reside within District 205 borders and to charge \$2500 for tuition from September through October 2008.