

MEETING OF THE REGULAR BOARD SESSION OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 50
Board of Education Office
1105 N. Hunt Club Road
Gurnee, IL 60031
Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Call to Order

President, Bruce Bohren, called the regular session of the Board of Education of Woodland School District 50 to order at 7:39 PM.

Roll Call

Members Present: Gail Bennett
Bruce Bohren
Larry Gregorash
Terry Hall
Carla Little
Mark Vondracek

Members Absent: Michael Bond

Staff Present: Joy Swoboda Bob Leonard

Approval of Agenda

Bruce Bohren stated that the report from demographer Dr. Jerome McKibben has been postponed until the January 28, 2009 Board meeting.

A motion was made by Gail Bennett and seconded by Mark Vondracek to approve the agenda as amended.

On Voice Vote, the votes were Ayes – 6 Nays - 0 Absent - 1
The motion carried.

Tax Levy Hearing

Bob Leonard, Associate Superintendent, gave a presentation on the tax levy for 2008. He explained the tax levy estimate, which includes equalized assessed valuation (\$2,070,615,153), consumer price index (4.1%), estimated new construction (growth - \$35 million), and a limiting rate of 2.548. Under action items the Board will approve resolutions pertaining to the levy. There were no questions from the public.

Reading of Communications

There were none.

Citizen Statements

There were none.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Larry Gregorash and seconded by Carla Little to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- A. Approval of Minutes
- B. Financial Reports
- C. Treasurer Reports
- D. Approval of Budget Transfer

- E. Approval of Employment
- | <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Kelly Smith | Speech and Language Pathologist |
| Cindi Stoecker | Advanced Language Arts TA |
| Tammy Wells | School Bus Driver |
- F. Acceptance of Resignations
- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Shannon Cagney | TA-Elementary East |
| Kathleen Cortez | Bus Driver |
- G. Approval of Leaves of Absence
- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Patricia O'Neill | Joseph Vaal | Jaclyn Beegun |
| Maria Depa-Smith | Beth Gonzalez | Hillary Halverson |
| Stephanie Kelley | Mikerl Sartin | Susan Villa-Arce |
- H. Approval of Substitutes
- | <u>Substitute Teachers</u> | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Sarah Agnew | Mary Ann Fink | Barry Grabert |
| Brittany Hall | Laura Lopez-Camarena | Rita Madan |
| Kristy Nevolo | Christine Rich | Eugene Roberson |
| Kess Scharff | Bonnie Schulz | Amanda Vaughan |
- Substitute Playground Supervisor
Kim Kastar
- I. Approval of Dismissal
- J. Approval of "Destruction of Closed Session Meeting Audio Recordings" for April 2007
- K. Acceptance of Donations
- L. Approval of FY 09 Superintendent/District Goals
- M. Approval of Bus Rental Agreement
- N. Approval of Change Orders for Life Health Safety Projects

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

Action Items

Approval of the 2008 Tax Levy

A motion was made by Bruce Bohren and seconded by Gail Bennett to approve the Certificate of Tax Levy.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

A motion was made by Terry Hall and seconded by Mark Vondracek to approve Resolution #1 Authorizing Final Aggregate Tax Levy for the year 2008.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

A motion was made by Gail Bennett and seconded by Bruce Bohren to approve Resolution #2 to Levy Certain Special Taxes for the Special Education District IMRF purposes for the year 2008.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mark Vondracek and seconded by Terry Hall to approve Resolution #3 to Levy a Special Education Tax for the year 2008.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

Board Correspondence

The Board members discussed the process of how to respond to correspondence from members of the community. The Board may receive correspondence via email, US mail, and voicemail or through citizen statements. Terry Hall stated that individuals may not be aware the messages actually reach the Superintendent's office and are then forwarded to the Board. A process to respond to the community was reviewed and consensus was reached.

The process is as follows:

- an auto reply will be created for those messages sent to the Board email account so that the individual knows the correspondence was received
- a follow up email will be sent from the Board
- a revision will be made to the Board page on the website outlining the process and procedures the Board will follow when responding to correspondence.

Reports/Discussion Items

District Librarians and the Illinois School Library Grant

As a condition of receiving state grant funds, librarians must present to the Board an annual review of the variety of district activities taking place in Woodland libraries. All five district librarians presented how each library has used its funds:

Primary – A reading incentive program was started. When each classroom reads 1000 minutes, a brick is given to help “build a school of readers.” A book is also given to the classroom.

Elementary East - The funds were used to purchase books that would interest boys.

Elementary West – With additional funds from a technology grant from the Woodland Educational Foundation, the library purchased books with accompanying CD's as well as MP3 players for students to listen to stories. This will assist the ESL students and struggling readers.

Intermediate – Books were purchased on inventors.

Middle – Books were purchased to enhance the reference section and to purchase age appropriate material books for students who are not reading at grade level.

District Demographic Study

The report has been postponed until the January 28, 2009 Board meeting.

Climate Survey

Steve Thomas, Director of Continuous Improvement and Accountability, shared highlights from the FY08 staff climate survey, which is in alignment with strategic plan goal #3. The survey consisted of 81 questions including 40 that were similar to the previous survey. Half of the staff completed the survey. The schools and offices (ESC and transportation) have analyzed and discussed the survey with staff and used the data to set goals for this school year.

Detachment Petition – Lancaster Subdivision

Joy Swoboda and Bob Leonard informed the Board of a detachment petition from the Lancaster Subdivision. The residents of the subdivision are requesting to detach from the Woodland and Warren High School districts and annex into the Oak Grove and Libertyville High School districts. The administration is recommending the Board oppose the petition. The four districts involved will use one attorney to oppose the petition in an effort to share costs. The Board will consider the administration's recommendation at its December 17th meeting. The petition will be discussed at the January 5th Regional Board of School Trustees meeting for a decision.

Written Reports to the Board

The Board received the following written reports:

- a. Rtl Report – Each school district in Illinois is required to submit a two-year Rtl plan to the State Board by January 1, 2009. There are seven areas addressed in the plan: consensus building and collaboration, standards based curriculum and research based instruction, research based assessment practices, student intervention/problem solving process, intervention strategy identification, resources allocation, and ongoing professional development for effective Rtl. A written report on the plan will be given at the December 17th meeting.
- b. 403b Gatekeeper - The Board received an update on the pending agreement with Gatekeeper for the administration of 403b annuities for staff.

Board Improvement and Operations

The Board discussed the use and purpose of a feedback form for meetings. Two different forms have been tested and neither is being recommended for use. The Board will discuss the purpose of the feedback form and develop one for use at a future meeting.

The annual school board conference is held November 21-23 in Chicago. Board members received registration materials and workshop information.

Status Requests

Two additional requests have been added:

- the administration will research an alternative education program
- recycling program – update on current district procedures and ways for the Board to “reduce reuse and recycle”

The Board reviewed the correspondence from community members. After edits, consensus was reached on the responses to the individuals.

Committee Reports/Announcements

Dr. Swoboda stated the Woodland Educational Foundation is in the planning stages of a silent auction to be held on April 18th at the Gurnee Park District Community Center.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Bruce Bohren and seconded by Terry Hall to enter into closed session at 9:25 PM to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Board of Education, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mark Vondracek and seconded by Larry Gregorash to return to open session at 10:38 PM.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Gail Bennett and seconded by Terry Hall to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 PM.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

Approved by the Board of Education on December 17, 2008.

President, Bruce G. Bohren

Secretary, Gail Bennett