

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
AUGUST 12, 2013
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196 was held in the High School Library at 5:30 PM on Monday, August 12, 2013. The meeting was called to order by President Chris Gore.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Malinee called the roll with the following result:

Members Present: Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Stacey

Members Absent: Loucks, Robbins

Staff Present: J. Henry, J. Logsdon, W. Choate, V. Malinee, Terry Witcher, M. Sample

Visitors Present: None

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

None

REPORTS

SEA: No report.

LABORERS' LOCAL 773: No report.

CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: Terry Witcher, Maintenance Supervisor, reported on the progress of projects (new doors in AG room and weight room) and indicated the summer student workers did a great job.

K-8 PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Logsdon, Elementary/JH Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: recent activities, upcoming dates, and ISAT score information. Discussion was held regarding the school supply class lists, the struggle for some parents to purchase the supplies, and donation boxes at churches and Dollar General Store.

H.S. PRINCIPAL: Mr. Choate, High School Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, upcoming calendar entries, and 2013-2014 student registration.

SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Henry, Superintendent, presented the following information to the board:

1. The consent agenda for this month's meeting includes the following additional item(s):
 - a. Approval of revised board policies (final approval; effective September 1, 2013)
 - b. Adoption of certification of transportation safety hazard resolution
 - c. Approval of 2013-2014 ISBE Applications for Recognition of Schools
 - d. Approval & display of tentative district budget for Fiscal Year 2014
 - e. Scheduling of budget hearing for Fiscal Year 2014 (September 16, 2013—5:25 PM)
 - f. Approval of Section 125 flexible benefit plan(s)

2. The latest information regarding state school funding for 2013-2014 is as follows:
 - FY14 calculated General State Aid (projected; before proration) is \$3,547,002.53 (FY13: \$3,621,692.25; decrease primarily due to enrollment decline).
 - 2013-2014 General State Aid has been calculated statewide at an 88.7% proration.
 - The amount of GSA lost due to proration during FY12 was \$182,797.10.
 - The amount of GSA lost due to proration during FY13 was \$392,231.53.
 - The amount of GSA lost due to proration during FY14 (projected) is \$400,330.29.
 - **Total amount of GSA lost due to proration (FY12-14): \$975,358.92**

3. The status of the special summer projects (all small projects) is listed below:
 - Locker Room Flooring Refinish: Complete
 - Dishwasher replacement: Complete
 - HS Commons Restroom Remodeling: In-Progress
 - Football Field Press Box Roof Replacement: In-Progress
 - Old Gym Masonry (Window) Work: Complete
 - Sidewalk Concrete Repair Work: Complete
 - Shop Area Overhead Door Replacement: Complete
 - Single-Pane Glass Replacement: In-Progress

4. Mr. Witcher & Mr. Henry are currently working alongside the district architect to design the proposed Football Concession/Restroom Building project. They envision a fall bid opening.

5. Board members received the tentative budget summary (pink) as a part of the board packet. As a reminder, the tentative budget should be presented in August, put on public display for at least 30 days, adopted in September, and filed with the county clerks, regional superintendent, and ISBE prior to the end of September.

The current version of this year's tentative budget shows an overall deficit of \$1,189,850. The majority of the deficit is projected in the Education Fund (\$1,049,055). *Superintendent Henry indicated that he is very concerned about this projected deficit, and believes the district will actually experience a significant deficit for Fiscal Year 2014, despite reasonable efforts to limit spending.* The current version of the tentative budget retains the previous assumption that the State of Illinois will make two (2) of the FY14 quarterly MCAT payments by June 30, 2014.

The budget represents an educated "guess" about the District's financial revenues and expenditures for the year, and should be viewed as a "work-in-progress" until the September adoption. Both the revenue side and expenditure side of the budget can experience unforeseeable reductions or increases that are not predictable. (The revenue side of the budget has been prepared using the assumption listed above, and the expense side of the budget has been prepared using a "worst-case scenario" assumption.)

As has been discussed for several years, officials at the Illinois State Board of Education who "rate" the financial health of school districts recommend that districts carry at least six (6) months of unencumbered cash in operating funds. Such a fund balance should help the district to achieve the highest level of financial ranking available from ISBE, although the district's long-term indebtedness will have a marginal negative impact on such a rating. Based on the budget deficit projected for Fiscal Year 2014, Superintendent Henry expects the District's ISBE financial profile score to go down.

6. A copy of a recent required, annual communication from the regional superintendent of schools was presented to the board members for review.
7. On July 29, 2013, the District received a Freedom of Information Act request from Family Taxpayers Foundation. The district's response to the FOIA request was also presented.
8. A copy of the August 7, 2013, edition of Illinois School Policy Updates was presented to the board members for review.
9. A copy of the 2011-2012 Illinois Special Education Profile was presented to the board members for review.

Superintendent Henry addressed a question that was asked at last board meeting regarding the HSA (Health Savings Account) that is available for employees that participate in the HDHP (High Deductible Health Plan) now offered to employees. He indicated that the HSA is a fund in which the employee can have tax-sheltered funds deposited with a debit card being issued for use to pay approved health-related expenses. The account is owned by the employee, and it is the employees' responsibility to comply with the IRS regulations regarding participation and expenditures.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of starting a Trap Shooting Team. Items discussed included an activity available for students that are not involved in other sports; costs associated with activities being paid by students, donations, and fundraisers; liability issues; possible survey to see if any students interested; and the possibility of having someone come to give presentation

to the board for additional information. Superintendent Henry indicated that this issue would be studied, and Principal Choate would report back to the board at a later date.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Kelly approving the minutes of the previous meetings: July 15, 2013 (Regular Meeting) and July 15, 2013 (Board Policy Committee Meeting); Treasurer's report; bills in the amount of \$84,154.57 and salaries in the amount of \$328,732.91; approval of revised board policies (final approval); adoption of the certification of transportation safety hazard resolution; approval of the 2013-2014 ISBE Applications for Recognition of Schools; approval and display of tentative district budget for Fiscal Year 2014; scheduling of budget hearing for Fiscal Year 2014 (September 16, 2013 – 5:25 PM); and approval of Section 125 flexible benefit plans.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Stacey

Nays: None

There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

CLOSED SESSION: At 6:20 PM, a motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Stacey to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-57)
- b. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Stacey, Gore

Nays: None

There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 7:20 PM, a motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Kelly to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS (PERSONNEL)

EMPLOYMENT OF ELEMENTARY OFFICE MANAGER (DEANGELO, SHERRY): A motion was made by Hicks and seconded by Stacey to employ Sherry DeAngelo as Elementary Office Manager, subject to her successful completion of a required, fingerprint-based criminal background check.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Kelly, Stacey, Gore, Gulley, Hicks

Nays: None

There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT OF LIBRARY SECRETARIAL CLERK (RUFFINO, PAIGE): A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Kelly to employ Paige Ruffino as Library Secretarial Clerk, subject to her successful completion of a required, fingerprint-based criminal background check.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Stacey, Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly

Nays: None

There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF REND LAKE COLLEGE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM STUDENT (BURNS, KELSEY): A motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Stacey to approve the following individual as a Rend Lake College Cooperative Work-Study Program student:

- Kelsey Burns

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Stacey, Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly

Nays: None

There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION FOR SUPERINTENDENT TO BARGAIN SIDE-LETTER AGREEMENT WITH LABORERS' LOCAL 773: A motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Stacey to authorize the District Superintendent or his designee to bargain a side-letter agreement regarding the 2014-2015 salary schedule with Laborers' Local 773.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION FOR SUPERINTENDENT'S PARTICIPATION IN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION: A motion was made by Gulley and seconded by Kelly to authorize the District Superintendent's participation in the American Association of School Administrators 2014 National Conference on Education.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Superintendent Henry reminded board that the September meeting will be the third Monday instead of the second and that the budgetHearing starts at 5:25 PM.

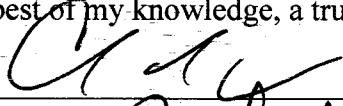
ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Hicks and seconded by Stacey to adjourn.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being five (5) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

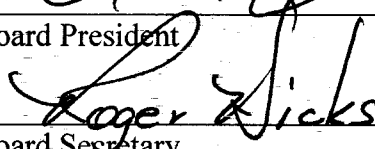
The meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, August 12, 2013 at 5:30 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President



Board Secretary