

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
SEPTEMBER 14, 2015
6:00 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 6:00 PM on Monday, September 14, 2015. The meeting was called to order by President Carroll Kelly.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Malinee called the roll with the following result:

Members Present: Acosta, Hicks, Kelly, Loucks, Stacey

Members Absent: Gulley, Robbins

Staff Present: J. Henry, N. Page, J. Logsdon, V. Malinee, B. Dilliner, S. White,
R. Schwartzkopf, K. Spotanski

Visitors Present: Doug Ess, Glass & Shuffett, LTD (District Auditing Firm)

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

Superintendent Henry presented a thank you note for the expression of sympathy from the family of Donna Heuman (Linda Coleman's mother).

Donnie Robbins arrived at 6:07 PM.

REPORTS

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT: Superintendent Henry introduced Doug Ess and asked Mr. Ess to present the district audit information for Fiscal Year 2015. Mr. Ess presented the audit to the board. He then thanked the board for giving Glass & Shuffett the opportunity to serve the district.

SEA: No report.

LABORERS' LOCAL 773: No report.

CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: Brandon Dilliner, Maintenance Supervisor, reported that the lighting project is now completed. He also reported that a software package was added to his computer to help make adjustments to the lights, as needed. Teresa Stacey stated that she felt the gym lights looked very nice and thanked the custodian crew for their time and effort. Superintendent Henry informed the board that the majority of the lighting project

work was done in-house and that S-V is very fortunate to not have to sub-contract much of the work needed.

K-8 PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Page presented, in the absence of Mrs. Logsdon, Elem/JH Principal, information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, enrollment information, upcoming activities, professional development activities, and the elementary/junior high field trip requests (out-of-state and/or overnight). The most recent copy of the S-V Happenings was presented to the board.

H.S. PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Page, High School Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, enrollment, upcoming calendar entries, Student Engagement report, her Goal of Learning list, and the high school field trip requests (out-of-state and/or overnight).

Discussion followed regarding the recent conflict of activities (Band marching in parade and Outdoorsmen activity).

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 the district audit for Fiscal Year 2015;
 - b. Approval of the district budget for Fiscal Year 2016;
 - c. Approval of administrator & teacher compensation reports;
 - d. Approval of the 2015-2016 Applications for Recognition of Schools;
 - e. Approval of the 2015-2016 Rend Lake College Dual Credit Agreement;
 - f. Approval of 2015-2016 field trip requests that require board approval (per board policy);
 - g. Approval of a facility usage/fee waiver for a Valier First Baptist Church benefit event that is co-sponsored by the SV196 Fellowship of Christian Athletes, to be held at the district's Old Gym location.
2. Board members were presented a copy of a recent Freedom of Information Act request that was received on August 20, 2015, from Joseph Hart, a field worker for the Illinois Education Association. A copy of the district's response was also included.
3. On Monday, October 5, 2015, the district will be hosting an Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Fall Egyptian Division meeting featuring Dr. Beth Purvis, Education Secretary for Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner. Registration for the dinner/meeting begins at 6:00 PM, and the dinner begins at 6:30 PM (Great Boars of Fire is the caterer for the dinner; it will be excellent). Dr. Purvis is slated to speak at approximately 7:45 PM. The meeting should conclude at approximately 9:00 PM. Superintendent Henry indicated that he would appreciate assistance in helping host this event for the District, if any of the board members are available to attend.
4. School funding for Fiscal Year 2016 continues to remain uncertain, despite the enactment of the school budget bills in the Illinois General Assembly. As predicted, we are continuing to

see a statewide budget stalemate, and, until that conflict is resolved, Superintendent Henry stated that he doesn't believe school funding will be certain for FY16. He indicated that he is still concerned that, similar to Fiscal Year 2015, a mid-year, unilateral reduction in school funding is possible.

In addition, school districts like SV196 need to keep a close eye on the Governor's proposal to enact a property tax freeze and on General Assembly action to shift the state cost of teacher pensions back to local districts. Both of these proposals, either individually or together, can have a drastic, negative impact on school district budgets, including Sesser-Valier, unless a school funding "mega-deal" can be reached to dramatically increase revenue to local school districts.

5. Board members received the tentative budget summary (green) as a part of the board packet. As a reminder, the tentative budget should be 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 \$971,855. The majority of the deficit is projected in the Education Fund (\$799,170). Superintendent Henry indicated that while he is very concerned about this projected deficit, and believes the district will actually experience a significant deficit for Fiscal Year 2016, despite reasonable efforts to limit spending, he is encouraged that the district has significantly reduced projected expenses for Fiscal Year 2016, even more aggressively than originally anticipated. While there are still additional reductions that must be made, he believes the deliberate approach that was adopted last year remains the best course of action. The current version of the tentative budget retains the previous assumption that the State of Illinois will make three (3) of the FY16 quarterly MCAT payments by June 30, 2016.

The budget represents an educated "guess" about the District's financial revenues and expenditures for the year. 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. The district's long-term indebtedness is no longer negatively impacting the financial rating. Based on the budget deficit projected for Fiscal Year 2016, Superintendent Henry expects the District's ISBE financial profile score to go down in the near future (much like what is happening in other Illinois school districts that are state aid-dependent).

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Robbins approving the minutes of the previous meeting: August 10, 2015 (Regular Meeting); Treasurer's report; bills in the amount of \$162,202.04 and salaries in the amount of \$349,198.67; approval of the district audit for Fiscal Year 2015; approval of the district budget for Fiscal Year 2016; approval of the administrator

and teacher compensation reports; approval of the 2015-2016 ISBE Applications for Recognition of Schools; approval of the 2015-2016 Rend Lake College Dual Credit Agreement; approval of 2015-2016 out-of-state and/or overnight field trip requests (Sesser-Valier Elementary/Junior High School); approval of the 2015-2016 out-of-state and/or overnight field trip requests (Sesser-Valier High School); and approval of the facility usage request/fee waiver (Valier First Baptist Church benefit event), as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Acosta, Hicks, Kelly, Loucks, Robbins, Stacey

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW AND/OR APPROVAL OF FOOTBALL FIELD SOUND SYSTEM: A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Loucks to approve a football field sound system replacement proposal (capital project) from Midwest Music Supply.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Hicks, Kelly, Loucks, Robbins, Stacey, Acosta

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

AUTHORIZATION FOR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT TO PREPARE STUDENT TRANSPORTATION VAN BID SPECIFICATIONS: A motion was made by Acosta and seconded by Stacey to authorize the district superintendent or his designee to prepare student transportation van/vehicle bid specifications.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: At 7:05 PM, a motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Robbins 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. Student disciplinary cases. (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Kelly, Loucks, Robbins, Stacey, Acosta, Hicks

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 8:11 PM, a motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Loucks to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS (PERSONNEL)

APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER EXTRACURRICULAR COACH(ES) AND/OR SPONSOR(S): A motion was made by Acosta and seconded by Stacey to employ the following extracurricular coach and/or sponsor:

- HS Football: Marcus Clarry
- JHS Boys' Basketball: Gary Wangler
- JHS Girls' Basketball: Brian Laur

Voting was as follows: All voted year. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

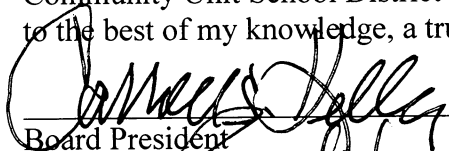
ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Hicks and seconded by Stacey to adjourn.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 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, September 14, 2015, at 6:00 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President



Board Secretary

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING THE 2015-16
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #196
BUDGET**

SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

A public hearing regarding the 2015-2016 Sesser-Valier CUSD #196 district budget was held at 5:55 PM in the High School Library on Monday, September 14, 2015. The hearing was called to order by Board President Carroll Kelly.

Members Present: Acosta, Hicks, Kelly, Loucks

Members Absent: Gulley, Robbins, Stacey

Staff Present: J. Henry, N. Page, , V. Malinee, B. Dilliner, S. White, R. Schwartzkopf

Visitors Present: None

Superintendent Henry presented the 2015-2016 budget, noting that there were changes in the Education Fund & Transportation Fund since the August, 2015, tentative budget presentation (savings realized in both funds). He explained that a copy of the required budget form, including the district's deficit reduction plan, was included in the board packet for board members' convenience. Superintendent Henry reminded board members that the majority of personnel reductions were placed in the last year of the deficit reduction plan, as per previously-expressed board preference. He also cautioned the board that, if the State of Illinois does not make significant improvements in the way it funds schools, the district will have no other choice but to make significant reductions in personnel. He indicated that the district would, once again, experience a significant deficit during Fiscal Year 2016, despite reasonable efforts to limit spending.

Superintendent Henry asked for any other questions or additional public input, and there were none forthcoming. He indicated that the adoption of the budget was on the consent agenda of the regular board meeting to follow.

Superintendent Henry closed the hearing at 6:00 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the public hearing of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 5:55 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.


Board President


Board Secretary