

**MINUTES
STUDY SESSION
URBANA BOARD OF EDUCATION
JEAN F. BURKHOLDER
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER
December 4, 2007
7:30 P.M.**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Netter called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present: Mark Netter, President
John Dimit, Vice-President (arrived @ 7:52 p.m.)
Ruth Ann Fisher, Secretary
Benita Rollins-Gay, Secretary Pro Tem (arrived @ 7:32 p.m.)
Brenda Carter, Member (arrived @ 7:37 p.m.)
Cope Cumpston, Member
Steve Summers, Member (arrived @ 7:32 p.m.)

Others Present: Preston L. Williams, Jr., Superintendent
Don Owen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Instruction
Gayle Jeffries, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Carol Baker, Director of Business
Ota Dossett, Director of Grounds and Facilities

3.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND MODIFICATION OF AGENDA

Item #10.01 - Approval of 2008-2009 School Calendar was added to the agenda.

4.0 CITIZENS STATEMENTS

5.0 CALL FOR EXECUTIVE MEETING/SESSION (After Current Meeting)

6.0 *APPROVAL OF AGENDA - No quorum at this time.

7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS

7.01 First Reading of Creative Curriculum for Washington Early Childhood Center

The Board of Education received the first reading of the Creative Curriculum request for Washington Early Childhood Center. Approval will be requested at the December 18, 2007, business meeting.

- *Member Summers moved to approve the agenda with the addendum, seconded by Secretary Fisher. Motion passed.*

8.0 POLICY REVIEW

9.0 PUBLIC HEARING

10.0 ACTION ITEMS (Consent)

10.01 Approval of the 2008-2009 School Calendar

Mr. Don Owen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Instruction, presented the 2008-2009 school calendar for the Board of Education's approval.

Member Carter moved to approve item #10.01, seconded by Member Cumpston. Motion passed.

11.0 STUDY TOPIC(S)

11.01 Contracted Services Updates

The Board of Education heard updates from the following contracted services:

- **ARAMARK - Food Services**
Piper Harvey and Sara Wagner from ARAMARK Food Services briefed the board on the district's menu, mandates, and pilot programs. It was then followed by several minutes of discussion between board members, administrators, and ARAMARK officials about helping students to "buy in" to the healthy food choices served in District 116 schools.
- **MTD (Mass Transit District) - City Bus Service**
Bill Volk, Director of the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District then briefed the board on the 20 years of mass transit service to the Urbana School District. Volk says there are approximately 1,000 student trips per day to and from the middle school and high school. He says safety is the number one objective and the MTD continues to work closely with the school district to make sure students are transported safely. Volk also told the board that it is good for middle school and high school students to use the MTD busses and learn a life skill.
- **First Student - Yellow Bus Service**
Edith South, Norm Mars, and Mike Johnson gave a presentation to the school board about the First Student (Formerly Laidlaw) Yellow Bus Service. Mars says the transition to First Student ownership has been very

smooth, and the service uses the best practices of both Laidlaw and First Student. Mars stressed that First Student is not competing with the C-U MTD, but the two complement each other.

- **Environmental Service Solutions (ESS) - Cleaning Contractors**
Paul Taylor from Environmental Service Solutions (ESS) discussed the cleaning contract with the school board. Taylor says the challenge with his service is to recruit and retain high-quality staff. He also says there is a challenge to acquire “green” cleaning products that are environmentally friendly, yet still clean and disinfect the schools. Right now 80-percent of District 116 cleaning products are “green seal certified.” For more questions about the cleaning contract, please contact Ota Dossett at the Facilities Office.

12.0 CALL FOR FUTURE SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETINGS

13.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Areas of interest by Mark Schultz: State Senator Mike Frerichs’ tour of District 116 on November 30th. He toured the Student Health Center, Leal Elementary; met with Dr. Williams, met with Title I staff, toured Adult Education, toured Washington Early Childhood School, and toured Martin Luther King Elementary. Mr. Schultz said it was a profitable day and the senator looks forward to working with District 116 on education issues.

Superintendent Williams announced that Parkland, Unit 4 and USD116 have been discussing future collaboration with Parkland Vocational Center for student use. Details have yet to be ironed out. UHS Principal Laura Taylor, UHS Assistant Principal Greg Johnson and Rich Lake from Parkland will continue to meet regarding these details.

14.0 BOARD REPORT

Member Cumpston and Member Carter spoke about their attendance to the Joint IASBO Conference, Saturday, November 17, 2007. They thanked the board for supporting their attendance and hope that more board members will be able to attend this worth while conference next year.

Vice-President Dimit reported that the Campus Land Use Committee will report its findings to the school board hopefully in January or February.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

Secretary Fisher moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Rollins-Gay.

President Netter declared the meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.