

Urbana School District #116 Board of Education Synopsis
August 5, 2008

The Urbana School District #116 Board of Education Study Session was called to order at 7:32 p.m., by board Vice President John Dimit. Six board members were in attendance with Mark Netter being absent. There were no public comments.

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Gayle Jeffries presented a plan to the board to raise the pay for substitute teachers from \$75 to \$85 per day. After 10 days working in the district the pay would be raised to \$90. Retired teachers who return to the classroom as substitutes would see a raise from \$110 to \$125 per day if they choose to work in all the elementary schools. Those only wanting to work in one school would be paid \$120. Jeffries says this raise would make District 116 more competitive with other school districts. Board member Benita Rollins-Gay called the proposed raise “long past due.” The board will formally consider the substitute teacher pay raise at the August 19, meeting.

The board then approved several personnel items including new hires and resignations. The vote was 6-0.

The board also approved the appointments of 12 people to the facilities. This committee will be made up of board members, members of the community, and District 116 liaisons. The committee members are:

- Brenda Carter
- Sandra Carter
- Anthony Cobb
- John Dimit
- Mark Dixon
- Ota Dossett
- David Guth
- Diane Marlin
- Donna Rinkenberger
- Paul Tatman
- Libby Tyler
- Joe Vitosky

The school board then heard a presentation about the UMS SPLASH after-school program from UMS Principal Nancy Clinton, along with Linda Gibbons and Kathy Cearlock. Last year 380 UMS students participated in SPLASH (Students Playing and Learning After School Hours). The five-year federal grant for the program will expire after this school year and it will be up to District 116 to find the funds starting in the fall of 2009. It costs approximately \$150,000 a year to fund SPLASH as is. The school district will now start soliciting funds from the community to make sure this program stays viable. Principal Nancy Clinton says, “It would be painful to lose it.” The school board expressed its support for the SPLASH program and gave District 116 officials its blessing to raise the funds.

Assistant Superintendent Don Owen reminded the school board and the public that Centralized Registration runs August 6-8, at Urbana Middle School. Owen also announced that the UHS Restructuring Plan Committee will meet August 12 and 20.

Under board reports, member Benita Rollins-Gay praised Dr. Williams for getting out in the community and meeting with various constituencies—including local churches.

The Board of Education adjourned at 8:34 p.m. The next meeting of the Urbana School District #116 Board of Education will be August 19, 2008, at 7:30 p.m., at 205 N. Race Street, Urbana.