

**MINUTES
STUDY SESSION
URBANA BOARD OF EDUCATION
JEAN F. BURKHOLDER
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER
October 7, 2008
7:30 P.M.**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

President Netter called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Mark Netter, President
Mr. John Dimit, Vice-President
Ms. Ruth Ann Fisher, Secretary
Ms. Brenda Carter, Member
Ms. Cope Cumpston, Member
Ms. Benita Rollins-Gay, Member
Mr. Steve Summers, Member

Also Present: Dr. Preston L. Williams, Jr., Superintendent
Ms. Gayle Jeffries, Asst. Supt. of Human Resources
Ms. Susan Baker-Ory, Asst. Supt of Special Services
Ms. Carol Baker, Director of Business/Finance
Mr. Ota Dossett, Director of Facilities & Grounds

3.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND MODIFICATION OF AGENDA

4.0 CITIZENS STATEMENTS

Robert Lewis, 803 North Goodwin, Urbana, spoke to the board stating his concerns with the UHS Restructuring Plan. Mr. Lewis was concerned that there was no independent review and he asked to make sure that the plan took the concerns of the African-American community into consideration.

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

There was an executive session for the purpose of: Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent. The basis for any such “probably or imminent” finding has to be stated in the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(2)(11).

6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Cumpston moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Secretary Fisher. Motion passed.

7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS

8.0 POLICY REVIEW

9.0 ACTION ITEMS (Consent/Individual)

9.01 Urbana High School Restructuring Plan

Approval was requested to submit a revised restructuring plan to the Illinois State Board of Education.

Board members J.Dimit and C.Cumpston stated that they could support the plan. Board member B.Rollins-Gay said she could not support the plan because it did not include a position for a community facilitator.

Vice-President moved to approve item #9.01, seconded by Member Summers. On a roll call vote, motion passed: 5 “ayes” to 2 “nays.” Nay votes: R.Fisher and B.Rollins-Gay

9.02 2008 School Travel Plan

Gabriel Lewis, Transportation Planner, Regional Planning Commission, presented the 2008 School Travel Plan to the Board of Education. The Regional Planning Commission is putting its plan together in hopes of winning grant money for school transportation initiatives. After presentation, endorsement of the plan was requested.

Member Cumpston moved to approve endorsement, seconded by Vice-President Dimit. Motion passed.

10.0 STUDY TOPIC(S)

10.01 School Based Health Center

Heidi Britton, Executive Director, gave the Board of Education a review of the School Based Health Center's activities.

Ms. Britton reported that in the last year there were 3,427 student visits to the Health Center, 576 more than last year. 23% of those visits were from students who had no insurance, 60% of the students were on the Illinois All Kids insurance. She also stated that the Health Center has had a great working relationship with the Urbana School District. Ms. Britton invited the public to the Health Center on October 9, from 3:00 – 4:00 for a meet-and-greet. Member Rollins-Gay thanked the Health Center for all its work. President Netter said he is so proud of this program and he commented that time will show that the work the Health Center does in keeping kids healthy will pay off in the classroom.

11.0 CALL FOR FUTURE SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

12.0 BOARD REPORT

Member Cumpston briefed fellow members on the recent lunch she had at Thomas Paine Elementary with members of the Urbana Education Association. Member Cumpston stated that some members of the UEA expressed confusion at the new PBIS and expressed the desire for a Pre-K program, more after school scholarships, and a learning resource center.

Member Carter thanked all USD teachers for using the Skyward system and said it is a "fantastic resource."

Vice-President Dimit reported that the District 116 Facilities Committee is three-quarters of the way through its building tours and should have an interim report for the Board November 4. Then board is invited to the October 23rd facilities committee meeting to give individual thoughts. Vice-President Dimit also reported that the CLASS citizen's group to pass the 1% Sales Tax Referendum has kicked off its campaign.

Member Rollins-Gay reported that Stone Creek Church is distributing coats to school children on November 8. Superintendent Williams reminded the public that the Urbana Rotary Wilcox Shoe Fund will also help clothe students.

13.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Public Relations Specialist Mark Schultz reminded the board that Walk to School Day is October 8 and invited school board members to attend. He also said there was a good story on the website www.usd116.org about a group of Prairie Elementary Students who went over to Bloomington, IL, to take part in a Challenger Center space mission.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

Member Carter moved to adjourn the meeting to go into executive session, seconded by Secretary Fisher.

President Netter declared the meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m. There will be no action following executive session.

President

Secretary