



## **URBANA SCHOOL DISTRICT #116**

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

#### **STUDY SESSION**

**JEAN F. BURKHOLDER**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER**

205 North Race St. Urbana, IL 61801

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

7:30 p.m.

[www.usd116.org](http://www.usd116.org)

*Our mission is the Urbana School District #116, through the active engagement of the community, is to provide a quality education by vigorously fostering high expectations for individual growth within a nurturing and just environment, enabling each student to become a self-sufficient, productive, caring, and responsible member of a changing world society.*

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  
Dr. Preston L. Williams, Jr., Superintendent  
Ms. Lori Johnson, Board Secretary

## **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  
Ruth Ann Fisher, Secretary  
Benita Rollins-Gay, Secretary Pro Tem (7:33 p.m.)  
Cope Cumpston, Board Member

Absent: Brenda Carter, Board Member  
Steve Summers, Board Member

Also Present: Preston L. Williams, Jr., Superintendent  
Don Owen, Asst Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction  
Gayle Jeffries, Asst. Superintendent of Human Resources  
Susan Baker-Ory, Asst. Superintendent of Special Services  
Carol Baker, Director of Business  
Ota Dossett, Director of Facilities and Grounds

## **3.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS OF AGENDA**

#### **4.0 CITIZENS STATEMENTS**

Tracy Parsons spoke of the need to have a community involvement plan, especially when it comes to school restructuring or improvement plans. Board members Cope Cumpston and Benita Rollins-Gay both stated that they want to hear more of what Parsons has to say.

#### **5.0 CALL FOR EXECUTIVE MEETING/SESSION (After current meeting)**

#### **6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Secretary Fisher moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Vice-President Dimit. Motion passed.*

#### **7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS**

#### **8.0 POLICY REVIEW**

#### **9.0 ACTION ITEMS (individual/consent if needed)**

##### **9.01 Sale of 1995 GMC Van**

Ota Dossett, Director of Facilities and Grounds, requested approval to sell a district 1995 GMC van.

*Vice-President Dimit moved to approve item #9.01, seconded by Member Cumpston. Motion passed.*

#### **10.0 STUDY TOPICS**

##### **10.01 Safe Routes to School Program**

Bill Gray and Jennifer Selby, City of Urbana, gave the Board of Education an update/presentation about the Safe Routes to School Program.

The goal of the program is to get more students to walk or bike to school in order to improve student health and to encourage a healthier and more active life. The challenge is to improve the “walk ability” in these areas. Bill and Jennifer briefed the board on efforts to make walking and biking safe and appealing for students. The city received a \$25,000 grant to help in this effort.

##### **10.02 Facilities Committee**

Diane Marlin and Joe Vitosky, from the District Facilities Committee gave the Board of Education an update on their findings/activities.

The committee has toured all facilities except Adult Education. The committee will now hear presentations about sustainability and green building practices, and it will also solicit community input during public meetings November 20<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **10.03 ISAT/PSAE Update**

Don Owen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, gave an update regarding the ISAT and PSAE to the Board of Education.

Much of the information Don presented has already been reported in the media. All District 116 schools, except Urbana Middle School, made adequate yearly progress this year. He told the board that he expects to create a web page by the end of the week where all NCLB, AYP, and School Report Card information will be available to the public. Member Benita Rollins-Gay told Don that many students who may not have passed their achievement test are still achieving academically by going to college. She also encouraged the middle school to provide more one-on-one student-teacher time.

### **11.0 CALL FOR FUTURE SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETINGS**

### **12.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Carol Baker notified the board that they will be looking at the new 403(b) plan that will be presented to the board at the next business meeting for approval. Public Relations Specialist Mark Schultz announced that the UHS production of *Pride and Prejudice* will run from November 13 – 15 at the High School. He also announced that November 15 is School Board Members Day in Illinois.

### **13.0 BOARD'S REPORT**

### **14.0 ADJOURNMENT**

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

***President Netter declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.***

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President

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Secretary