



URBANA SCHOOL DISTRICT #116

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

STUDY SESSION MINUTES

JEAN F. BURKHOLDER

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER

205 North Race St. Urbana, IL 61801

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

7:30 p.m.

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 reconvened open meeting from closed session at 7:52 p.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL

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

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

3.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS OF AGENDA

Item #9.02 was withdrawn from the agenda.

4.0 CITIZENS STATEMENTS - None

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

6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS

8.0 PUBLIC HEARING

9.0 ACTION ITEMS (individual/consent if needed)

9.01 Personnel Items

Approval of various personnel items were requested.

Vice-President Dimit moved to approve item #9.01, seconded by Member Carter. On a roll call, all members present voted "aye." Motion passed.

9.02 Dismissal of Employee

Withdrawn

10.0 STUDY TOPICS

10.01 Community Involvement in Urbana Schools (1:1 Mentoring)

Barbara Linder gave a Community Involvement in Urbana Schools presentation to the Board of Education.

Barbara thanked the board for its support of the volunteer program, which the board voted to fund after the grant expired in 2006. She reported that in January the District is celebrating mentors in several ways, including a January 14, 2009 Mentor Breakfast at Vineyard Church. She continued on to say that there are 206 mentor/student pairs this year in District 116, up from 160 two years ago. Data also supports that students in danger of dropping out have, in fact, graduated from high school and some have gone on to college.

Board members Benita Rollins-Gay, Brenda Carter, and Mark Netter all thanked Barbara and the school volunteer coordinators for all the work they do in promoting volunteering in school.

11.0 CALL FOR FUTURE SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

12.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Preston Williams introduced Chris Fuller as the new Director of Instructional Technology. Mr. Fuller comes do District 116 via the University of Illinois and Maryland. He was employed in Prince Georges County in Maryland, holding various instructional technology positions in a district of over 130,000 students. Mr. Fuller has a Masters Degree in Instructional Technology.

13.0 BOARD'S REPORT

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

Vice-President Dimit moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. seconded by Member Carter. Motion passed.

President Netter declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

President

Fisher

“If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people.” ~ Chinese Proverb