

Urbana School District #116 Board of Education Synopsis

February 3, 2009

The Urbana School District #116 Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m., by Board President Mark Netter. All members were present. There were no citizen statements.

The Board of Education presented plaques and certificates to four new National Board Certified Teachers. They teachers are: Cheryl Camacho, Karen DeBauche, Samuel Furrer, and Tamra Gingold. Jill Shoda helps coordinate District 116 teachers who wish to become NBCTs and she briefed the board on the arduous process to become certified. For more information about the four becoming NBCTs, please see <http://www.usd116.org/enews/0902pages/0902nbct.html>.

The School Board then voted 7-0 to approve the Urbana Middle School Restructuring Plan. The board approved the plan without discussion and did not make any amendments to the plan. Please see <http://www.usd116.org/files/improvement/ums090112.pdf> in order to view the entire plan.

Board members voted 7-0 to approve two settlement agreements for 19-thousand and 81-thousand dollars. The vote was taken without discussion.

The board also approved various personnel items.

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Gayle Jeffries, presented the school board with the annual EEOC Report. For the complete report please see <http://www.usd116.org/files/boardmin0809/090203eeoppt.pdf>. Jeffries says the number of minority employees in District 116 has risen to 25% between 2007 and 2008, and the number of minority applications rose 27% compared to last year. Board member Cope Cumpston remarked that she was "very impressed" with the report. Mark Netter thanked Jeffries for her work in the hiring and recruiting process.

Jeffries also briefed the board regarding the Supportive Supervision Plan Evaluation Committee Report. This is how teachers are evaluated in their jobs. The plan evaluates teachers in: delivery of instruction, planning, assessment, instructional environment, and professional responsibility. Board members did not have any questions regarding this process. For more information about the Supportive Supervision Plan Evaluation Committee Report, please contact Ms. Jeffries at 384-3600.

Under Superintendent's Report, Public Relations Coordinator Mark Schultz briefed the board about an assembly at Wiley where 3rd grader Ruby Jenks was presented an award of valor. For more information, please see <http://www.usd116.org/home/news/feature.html>. Superintendent, Dr. Preston Williams, noted that the Urbana Alumni Association "Cash Bash" will be February 21. For more information about the "Cash Bash," please see <http://www.usd116.org/news/newsfolder/cashbash09.html>. Board member John Dimit also noted that the 21st Annual UHS Children's play is coming up. Please see <http://www.usd116.org/news/newsfolder/jungle.html> for more information. Williams also informed the board that the Policy Review Committee will complete its work by March 31.

Under board report, member John Dimit said that District 116 and all the other 13 Champaign County school districts will compile a list of facilities improvement to be submitted to the federal government to possibly be included in the federal stimulus package. The Champaign County Regional Planning Commission is shepherding this process through to Washington D.C. Some

of the projects that District 116 will submit for review are “green lighting,” geo-thermal air conditioning, and improvements to the secondary campus. Dimit commented that, “District 116 will be well represented in the process.” He also commented that the District’s facilities committee is moving fast and will complete its draft report.

Board member Cumpston asked that the board follow up on the dual language program. The item will be on the next board meeting agenda.

Mark Netter also announced that a citizen’s 1% Sales Tax Campaign Committee will form soon.

The Board of Education adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next meeting of the Urbana School District #116 Board of Education will be Tuesday, February 17, 2009, at 205 N. Race Street, Urbana.