



URBANA SCHOOL DISTRICT #116

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

MINUTES

JEAN F. BURKHOLDER

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER

205 North Race St. Urbana, IL 61801

Tuesday, February 17, 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 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 (7:32 p.m.)
Brenda Carter, Board Member
Cope Cumpston, 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

Item 10.01 – Facilities Committee Preliminary Report was added to the agenda.

4.0 CITIZENS STATEMENTS

Rev. Troy A. Burks, complimented Urbana High School for being chosen to present its school improvement plan to the State Board of Education. Rev. Burks praised all who were involved in the improvement plan and said he was “enthused and elated” to see that UHS was asked to share the secrets of their success.

5.0 CALL FOR EXECUTIVE MEETING/SESSION (AFTER CURRENT MEETING)

There will be an executive session, Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 6:30 for the purpose of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, including, hearing, testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120(c)(1)

6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-President Dimit moved to approve the agenda with an additional item, seconded by Member Summers. Motion passed.

7.0 COMMENDATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Tanya Coleman, Prairie, received a grant from Target Field Trips in the amount of \$800.00.

8.0 SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

9.0 COMMUNICATIONS

10.0 REPORTS/DISCUSSION

10.01 Facilities Committee Preliminary Report

Diane Marlin and Joe Vitosky, Facilities Committee Co-Chairs gave a preliminary report to the Board of Education. Members Cope Cumpston, John Dimit, Benita Rollins-Gay, and Superintendent Williams all complemented the Facilities Committee for its hard work.

11.0 ACTION ITEMS (Consent)

Vice-President Dimit moved to approve the following consent action items, seconded by Member Rollins-Gay. On a roll call, all members present voted “aye.” Motion passed.

11.01 Minutes

January 20, 2009, Business Meeting
February 3, 2009, Study Session

11.02 February Bills/Checks

Education Fund Bills	\$1,671,844.54
Operations & Maintenance Fund Bills	\$ 125,411.34
Bond & Interest Fund Bills	\$ 1,022.50
Transportation Fund Bills	\$ 181,984.82
Il Municipal Retirement Fund	\$ 65,666.80
Construction Fund Bills	\$ 12,789.33
Construction Fund Bills (w/c)	\$ 59,337.71
Fire Prevention & Safety Bonds	\$ 0.00
Fire Prevention & Safety (Levy)	\$ 2,838.00
Payroll	\$2,472,983.40
Adult Education	\$ 137,454.63

11.03 Interfund Loans

None

11.04 Personnel Items

Approval of various personnel items were requested.

11.05 Dismissal of Employee

Consideration of dismissal of the employee subject to the Loudermill hearing in previous executive session was requested.

12.0 ACTION ITEMS (Individual)

12.01 Gifts

Vice-President Dimit moved to approve and accept the following gifts, seconded by Secretary Fisher. Motion passed.

The Score Club, gave a \$105 donation to the Leal Library to purchase a series of five *Meet Our New Students* books. This was in memory of Connie Solberg.

Horizon Hobby, Chris Hannauer, Champaign, donated a variety of technology pieces with a market value of \$1,150. The technology will be placed through out district buildings.

Heath Grote, Champaign, donated two Pentium 4 computers to be used wherever needed in the district. This donation is valued at \$200.

Karen Tucker, Savoy, donated a book binder to Yankee Ridge Elementary. This donation is valued at \$400.

Meijer Grocery Store, Tony Howard – General Manager, Urbana, donated \$200 in gift cards to be used to buy supplies for the EBD Thanksgiving Meal project.

Patterson Office Supplies, Champaign, donated a variety of paper, envelopes, pencils, and erasers to Yankee Ridge Elementary. These items will be used as incentives for the students. This donation was valued at \$1,235.54.

13.0 CALL FOR FUTURE SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

14.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Carol Baker, Director of Business and Finance, noted that tax caps will significantly impact District 116 next fiscal year. Property tax revenues can only increase by 5% or the Consumer Price Index (CPI), whichever is less. The 2008 CPI just recently released is .1%, the lowest since tax caps began. The District expects to receive \$1 million less from the 2009 tax levy. District 116 has lost over \$10 million in revenue since the tax caps inception.

Mark Schultz, Public Relations Specialist, briefed the board on a few items. He announced that the second annual African American Cultural Festival will be February 26, 2009, at 6:00 p.m., at the UHS Commons. He also invited the board to come to UHS on Wednesday when Worden Martin and Parkland College will donate a car to the UHS Automotive Program. He then remarked that UHS was invited to present its improvement plan to the State Board of Education.

Dr. Williams also announced that District 116 has submitted a list of projects that could be included in the newly enacted stimulus bill that President Obama has signed into law. Board member Dimit added that 12 of 14 school districts in Champaign County submitted a total of \$50 million in facilities projects – most of them green projects.

15.0 BOARD REPORT

Under board report, Vice-President Dimit reported that a consultant team is working on a possible renovation of Cobb Auditorium (see Facilities Committee Report) and will present initial ideas in one month. President Netter announced that the citizen campaign committee for the 1% Sales Tax referendum will meet Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m., at Lincoln Square Mall.

Board Secretary Lori Johnson reminded the public that the Urbana Alumni Association 12th Annual Cash Bash will be this Saturday, February 21, at the Laborer's Hall.

16.0 ADJOURNMENT

Member Carter moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Secretary Fisher. Motion passed.

President Netter declared the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

President

Secretary