

Urbana School District #116 Board of Education Synopsis
April 7, 2009

The Urbana School District #116 Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m., by board president Mark Netter. There were six members in attendance. Member John Dimit arrived at the meeting at 8:45.

There were two citizen statements. Barb Hughes spoke to the board and criticized members for their handling of student discipline stemming from the incident at the Urbana Indoor Aquatic Center. Citizen Carlita Donaldson complimented the board for their handling of the pool incident and also spoke in support of the Community Engagement Facilitator position that the board would consider later in the agenda.

Barb Linder made a presentation to the board of education asking for more support for the mentoring program. Linder is asking the board to increase hours for the Community Involvement Coordinators at the middle school and the high school. She says the total cost of this will be \$20,177. Member Benita Rollins-Gay says the program is good and "the need is there." Member Cope Cumpston says that while she is leaving the board she "strongly encourages" the next school board to support the proposal. Mark Netter called the mentoring program "a good investment." For more information about the proposal, please see <http://www.usd116.org/files/boardmin0809/commbudget090407.pdf>.

The board of education approved various personnel items and the summer school dates on the consent agenda. Summer school will begin June 15, and run through July 23, 2009.

Members approved an updated list of 2009-10 RIF notices. This updated list included some first, second, and third year non-tenured teachers from Urbana Middle School. Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Gayle Jeffries, says District 116 hopes to rehire most of these teachers.

The board then approved a settlement agreement for \$400,000.

The board of education voted to approve the request to move forward and contract with a Community Engagement Facilitator on a 5-0-1 vote. Member Ruth Ann Fisher abstained. This position is temporary and the budget is not to exceed \$17,000. The purpose of this position is to gain community input for the purpose of strategic planning. The school district will post the job opening to the public. For more information about the position, please see <http://www.usd116.org/files/boardmin0809/commfac090407.pdf> or contact Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Don Owen, at 384-3600.

Urbana Adult Education Director, Dr. David Adcock, gave his annual report to the Board of Education. Among the highlights:

- UAE served a total 1,430 students in the past year
- 88 students earned a high school diploma
- UAE students made up 26% of the UHS class of 2008
- 25 students earned a GED
- 88 students earned a CNA certificate

For more information about Urbana Adult Education, please see Dr. Adcock's report <http://www.usd116.org/files/boardmin0809/aded090407.pdf>.

Kathy Barbour, Director of Staff Development, and Jean Korder, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, gave the board of education updates regarding curriculum and professional development (<http://www.usd116.org/files/boardmin0809/pptcia090407.pdf>). Christopher Fuller, Director of Instructional Technology, presented the district's technology review (<http://www.usd116.org/files/boardmin0809/pptit090407.pdf>).

Superintendent Dr. Preston L., Williams, Jr., thanked Theresa Michelson and Tina Gunsalus for their hard work in campaigning for the 1% Sales Tax Referendum. Dr. Williams reminded the board that the school district is a people intensive organization and as they consider a new budget, it means that if their decisions impact people in some capacity.

The board of education adjourned at 9:44 p.m. The next meeting of the Urbana School District #116 Board of Education meeting will be Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at 7:30 p.m., at 205 N. Race Street, Urbana.