

AURORA, IL  
JANUARY 7, 2008  
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NUMBER 129, KANE COUNTY, AURORA, IL

PRESENT: Ms. Sonni Herget, Vice President  
Ms. Laurie Hoffman  
Mr. Neal Ormond  
Ms. Angela Smith  
Mr. James Toynton  
Mr. Jonathan Wood  
Mr. Daniel Flaherty, Student Board Member

ABSENT: Mr. Alan Rhea, President

PRESENT: Dr. James Rydland, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Peter Kerl, Assistant Supt. – Operations  
Ms. Vickie Nissen, Assistant Superintendent for Finance  
Ms. Rosemary Pinnick, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning  
Ms. Christine Crouch, Interim Assistant Supt. for Human Resources  
Ms. Cynthia Latimer, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services  
Mr. Mike Chapin, Community/Alumni Relations  
Ms. Randi Ochsenschlager, Secretary to the Board  
Mr. Jack Meyer, Treasurer  
Mr. Terry Collette, Co-President, AEAW  
Mr. Tom Kraus, Co-President, AEAW  
Mr. Dan Bridges, Principal, West High  
Mr. Skip Ulrich, Chairman, Drivers' Education  
Ms. Donna Proctor, Department Chair, Drivers Education/Physical Education  
Mr. Howard Crouse, PMA  
Media  
Members of AEAW, West High School, Hope Wall, Herget, Jewel, McCleery,  
Transportation, Fearn, Washington, AEAW Bargaining Team; SCAC.

### CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Herget called the January 7, 2008 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at West High School, 1201 W. New York St., Aurora. The following Board of Education members were present: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood, and Flaherty.

### PART I – PUBLIC HEARING

Vice President Herget called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. at West High School, 1201 W. New York St., Aurora.

Vice President Herget announced the purpose of the Public Hearing is that the District is requesting a waiver of Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/27-23.3 which requires at least six hours of practice driving in a car having dual operating controls under direct individual instruction. The request is asking that the district be allowed to have 14 hours of practice driving in a simulator system in lieu of 3 hours of the required 6 hours of practice driving in a car having dual operating controls under direct individual instruction. The request is based on fulfilling the intent of the Driver Education mandate in a more safe, efficient and innovative manner and improving the performance of our student drivers. The waiver request is for it to be in place for five years (maximum allowed) or through the 2012-2013 school year.

Mr. Daniel Bridges, Principal of West Aurora High School, Ms. Donna Proctor, Drivers Education and Physical Education Department Chairperson and Mr. John "Skip" Ulrich, Coordinator for Driver's Education were presented and provided background information on the purpose for requesting the waiver. They indicated that the district had recently upgraded the simulators used for the Drivers Education program at a considerable investment. Mr. Bridges indicated that the district would also realize a significant cost in additional personnel in order to meet the requirement for the additional six hours of required practice driving.

Mr. Ulrich provided information on the success students realize with the training provided by using the simulators. He indicated that success has been realized in increased visual skills, sign recognition, lane recognition and that students are able to learn from mistakes made when using the simulators, which then results in better drivers. The high school staff felt that they have made a significant commitment to this program and that the new simulators, the new technology have helped students learn.

No individual presented any testimony against the request for the waiver and no written testimony was received relative to the waiver request.

The hearing was adjourned and the Board of Education then approved the motion to approve the submission of an Application for Waiver or Modification of State Board Rules and/or School Code Mandates to change the Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/27-23.3 requiring at least six hours of practice driving in a car having dual operating controls under direct individual instruction.

## **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Vice President Herget recognized visitors from AEA, West High School, Hope Wall, Herget, Jewel, McCleery, Transportation, Fearn, Washington, AEA Bargaining Team; SCAC

## **RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE WISHING TO SPEAK TO THE BOARD**

There were no audience members requesting the opportunity to speak before the Board.

## **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Ms. Kathleen Bieritz and Mr. Tom Kraus were honored for achieving National Board Certification. Both individuals recognized family, friends and colleagues who helped them achieve this recognition.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Mr. Toynton moved that the Board of Education approve the submission of an Application for Waiver or Modification of State Board Rules and/or School Code Mandates to change the Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/27-23.3 requiring at least six hours of practice driving in a car having dual operating controls under direct individual instruction.

Ms. Hoffman seconded the motion and the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood

NAYES: None

## **Teaching & Learning**

Mr. Wood moved that the Board of Education accept for a 30-day review the K-5 Science Text and Related Support Materials as proposed by the K-12 Science Committee.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion and the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood

NAYES: None

**Safe & Secure Facilities**

Ms. Smith moved that the Board of Education approve the low bid of Midwest Transit for 50 digital video recording systems in the amount of \$102,750, including installation.

Mr. Wood seconded the motion and the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood

NAYES: None

Ms. Smith moved that the Board of Education approve a new 4-year lease with GMAC in the amount of \$20,614.71, a cost of \$524.85 per month on a new 2008 GMC 2500 HD pickup.

Mr. Wood seconded the motion and the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood

NAYES: None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Ms. Hoffman moved that the Board approve the recommendations, as amended, contained in the Consent Agenda for January 7, 2008.

Mr. Wood seconded the motion and the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood

NAYES: None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

RECOMMENDATION: That the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held December 3, 2007 be approved.

**BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve and accept bill listings in the amount of \$1,397,723.20; and Hope Wall bill listings in the amount of \$16,568.94 for the period ending December 14, 2007.

Total Regular Bill Listing	\$1,397,723.20
Total (Net) Payroll	
Total for Approval	<u>\$1,397,723.20</u>
Total Hope Wall Regular Bill Listing	\$ 16,568.94
Total Hope Wall (Net) Payroll	
Total Hope Wall for Approval	<u>\$ 16,568.94</u>

AND

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve and accept bill listings in the amount of \$7,585,918.61 and Hope Wall bill listings in the amount of \$404,058.22 for the period ending December 31, 2007.

Total Regular Bill Listings	\$3,596,558.91
Total (Net) Payroll	<u>3,989,359.70</u>
Total for Approval	\$7,585,918.61

Total Hope Wall Regular Bill Listing	\$ 179,718.09
Total Hope Wall (Net) Payroll	<u>224,330.13</u>
Total Hope Wall for Approval	\$ 404,058.22

**PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education authorize payrolls for the month of January, 2008 in the amount of \$5,450,000.00 and February, 2008 in the amount of \$5,500,000.00.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve and accept the Personnel Report for January 7, 2008, including the resignations of Evelyn (Penny) Ambre, Permanent Sub; Maria Johnston; Special Education @ West High; Donna Letzter, English/Drama Teacher and Activities Director of West High. Donna will retire August 28, 2008 after 32 years with the District.

**APPOINTMENTS – CERTIFIED PROBATIONARY – FULL TIME**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the appointments of the following full-time Certified Probationary Personnel:

Megan Gabel, Special Education @ West High  
Nicole Schar, Special Education @ West High  
Christopher Hawkins, Special Education @ West High

**APPOINTMENTS – CERTIFIED PROBATIONARY – PART TIME**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following part-time Certified Probationary – Part-Time Employees:

**EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL – FULL TIME**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following part-time Educational Support Personnel subject to the conditions set forth in the backup material:

Amy Bagliere, 1:1 Paraprofessional @ Fearn  
Melody Dean, 1:1 Paraprofessional @ McCleery  
Christine Coakley, Registrar @ West High

**EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL – PART TIME**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following part-time Educational Support Personnel subject to the conditions set forth in the backup material:

Julie Churchill, Title I Literacy @ Hall  
Sandra Osorio, Instructional Parapro @ Schneider

### **ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Hoffman moved that the Board of Education uphold the recommendation for a 10-day suspension for Student #1122198 for gross misconduct, violating Article II, B1, B.12, and B.13.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion and the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood

NAYES: None

Ms. Hoffman moved that the Board of Education uphold the recommendation for a 10-day suspension for Student #1120594 for gross misconduct, violating Article II, B1, B.12 and B.13.

Mr. Wood seconded the motion and the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood

NAYES: None

## **VISION 129**

### **BOARD POLICY REVIEW**

Policy Section 4 was presented to the Board for review. The Board will be asked to put this section on review at their January 22 meeting, with approval on February 19, 2008.

### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

#### ***Special Education Department Evaluation***

Crysta Morrissey, Director of Special Education, presented the final sections of the Special Education Department Evaluation, Finance and Communication. She highlighted areas of change, continuation, creation and areas that will be cancelled. Ms. Morrissey provided background to the Board on the private facility numbers, State reports, team approach and leadership roles within the department.

#### ***District Improvement Plan***

Rosemary Pinnick reviewed the District Improvement Plan and highlighted areas that will be worked on through this plan. The group that did not make Annual Yearly Progress are students with disabilities. Ways in which the district will work to increase improve progress for these students were highlighted. The Plan needs to be approved by the Board at the January 22, 2008 meeting.

### **SAFE SECURE FACILITIES**

#### ***Safe Secure Facilities Plan of Work***

Pete Kerl presented an updated draft of the timeline and cost estimates for safe secure facilities plan.

#### ***Freeman Mold Abatement***

Pete Kerl presented information on the need for approval of a bid for Mold Abatement at Freeman. This will be presented for approval at the January 22, 2008 meeting.

## **FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

### ***E-Plan***

Andrew Fitzsimons, Director of Technology, updated the Board on the Technology Integration Plan which allows the district to be eligible for E-Rate dollars, a cost reduction to the district. The E-Rate process and pricing information was presented in relation to the bids resulting from this process. The Board will need to approve the Fiber Networking provider at the January 22, 2008 meeting. The provider being recommended is AT & T because of the cost savings, the 100% turn-key system and the positive work they have done with the district.

### ***Tax Anticipation Warrants***

Vickie Nissen, Assistant Superintendent, presented the Board on the need to issue tax anticipation warrants to meet the district's short term financial responsibilities. The resolution to issue warrants will be presented at the January 22, 2008 meeting.

### ***Refunding***

Vickie Nissen, Assistant Superintendent, presented information on the opportunity to refund existing debt, utilizing the current market's low interest rates, thus reducing the financial obligation of the district's taxpayers. This will be presented for approval at the January 22, 2008 meeting.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board's attention was directed to correspondence included in the backup material.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

The Board's attention was directed to upcoming events in the district, including a Legislative Forum regarding A+ Illinois scheduled for January 15 and future Board meetings.

Ms. Hoffman moved that the January 7, 2008 meeting of the Board of Education be adjourned.

Ms. Smith seconded the motion and the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Herget, Hoffman, Ormond, Smith, Toynton, Wood

NAYES: None

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Randy Ochenschlager, Secretary

A True Record

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ALLYSON HERGET, VICE PRESIDENT