

**AGENDA
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
WEST HIGH SCHOOL
1201 W. NEW YORK ST.
AURORA, IL 60506**

HEALTH ACADEMY – ROOM A-206

**Monday Evening
6:00 P.M.**

December 3, 2007

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**

PART I - PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED TAX LEVIES

- A.. Call to Order
- B. Announcement of Public Hearing

The Public Hearing arises from a levy request in an amount in excess of five percent increase. You will act on the proposed tax levies during the Regular Meeting of the Board. Vickie Nissen, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, will explain the requested amount to the Board and public.

- C. Adjourn Public Hearing

PART II – REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

IV. Recognition of Visitors

This section of the agenda allows for the recognition of any individuals or groups whose attendance should be appropriately acknowledged.

V. Recognition of Audience Wishing to Speak to an Agenda Item

Persons wishing to address the Board are requested to submit questions or proposals in writing. In order to encourage public participation, individuals wishing to address a specific agenda topic will be asked to indicate which topic and then will speak once the topic is introduced later in the meeting.

VI. Recognition of Audience Wishing to Speak to the Board

Any formal request to appear before the Board may be considered at this time. As of this writing, we have received no formal requests to address the December Board of Education Meeting. Persons wishing to address the Board are asked to sign up in advance of the meeting, indicating the topic which they would like to discuss.

VII. Special Recognition

At Monday night's meeting, the Board will be recognizing four general contractors who worked on the Hope Wall "Hope in Motion" project. They are Asta Dzeveckaite, Evergreen Landscaping; Joe Madden, Abbey Paving; Mark Baum, R.C. Wegman and Erick Oleson, Recreation Concepts/Gametime. Sandy Lowder, project coordinator and Hope Wall Teacher, will be present to say a few words about the contributions the "fab four" made to this project.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Action on Recommended Tax Levies

Prior to the beginning of the regular December meeting, the Board of Education conducted a Public Hearing on the recommended tax levies. The Board had previously discussed the proposed levies at the November 5, 2007 Board of Education meeting. As a result of the Public Hearing, or any further deliberations by the Board, any changes in the proposed recommendation should be incorporated in the final action.

This year, with the passage of a successful operating rate, the District does not have to estimate the impact of the Property Tax Limitation Act or the tax cap legislation. The established voter approved rate has been determined and the only estimates/unknowns are the equalized assessed valuation (EAV) and new construction. Further, the workings of the Illinois General State Aid formula presumes that the local school district has captured all the District's assessed valuation prior to its qualifying for General State Aid. A decision by the Board of Education not to levy taxes against a portion of its new and growing assessed valuation would result in a loss of access not only to that revenue, but further to additional state support because of the State's presumption regarding local property taxation.

For this reason, we believe it critical that our levy be set at a level allowing us to capture the full value of our rate against new and previously untaxed properties in the District.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the following resolutions approving the tax levies to be filed with the Kane County Clerk's Office by December 30, 2007.

RESOLUTION 1:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education, School District 129, Kane County, State of Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: That for the ensuing year, the County Clerk of Kane County is hereby authorized and directed to extend the following special taxes on behalf of this School District:

A. The sum of \$1,270,001.45 to be levied as a special tax for Social Security purposes; and

B. The sum of \$1,015,994.20 to be levied as a special tax for Special Education purposes.

Section 2: That the following amounts of money, as indicated on the Certificate of Tax Levy hereto attached and made a part hereof, shall be raised by special tax for the various purposes indicated for the next ensuing year.

A. The sum of \$47,403,683.53 be levied for Education levy, and

B. The sum of \$16,100,000 be levied for the Operations, Building and Maintenance levy, and

C. The sum of \$1,473,207.26 be levied for the Transportation levy, and

D. The sum of \$-0- be levied for the Working Cash levy, and

E. The sum of \$-0- be levied for the TORT Immunity levy.

Section 3. That the President and Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to sign said certificate and file this certificate with the County Clerk of Kane County on or before the last day of December of this year.

RESOLUTION 2:

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 7-171 (b) of The Pension Code, the Board of Education of West Aurora School District No. 129, Kane County, Illinois, is authorized and

empowered to levy a tax not to exceed the amount required for school district employer contributions to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund; and

WHEREAS pursuant to the provisions of Section 7-132 of The Pension Code, school districts are subject to the provisions of said code; and WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 173.2 of The Pension Code, the Board of Education is not authorized to levy a tax for the employees' contributions to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund which are picked up by the employer School District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of West Aurora School District No. 129, Kane County, Illinois as follows:

Section 1: That \$1,270,001.45 be levied as a special tax for the contributions of the employer School District to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund in accordance with the provisions of Section 7-171 (b) of The Pension Code.

Section 2: That the funds so levied shall be used only for payment of the employer contributions to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund and may not be used for payment of any employee contributions to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund that are picked up by the employer school district.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect forthwith upon its passage.

B. Treasurer's Report

Included in your backup material is a copy of the most recent Treasurer's Report. Jack Meyer and Vickie Nissen will present this report to the Board.

IX. Consent Agenda

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the items contained in the Consent Agenda for December 3, 2007.

A. Approval of Minutes

B. Approval of Bill Listings

C. Payroll Authorization

- D. Personnel Report**
 - E. Appointments – Certified Probationary – Full Time**
 - F. Appointments – Certified Probationary – Part Time**
 - G. Appointments – Educational Support Personnel – Full Time**
 - H. Appointments – Educational Support Personnel – Part Time**
 - I. Approval of 14-Passenger Activity Bus**
 - J. Approval of 71-Passenger Conventional School Bus Bid**
- X. Action as a Result of Executive Session**
- XI. Information and Discussion**
- A. Vision 129**
 - B. Teaching and Learning**
 - 1. Special Education Department Evaluation**

The Special Education Departmental Evaluation Summary is included in your backup material. This is a review of both qualitative and quantitative data that drove the filtering process.

Crysta Morrissey, Director of Special Education, will review these findings, filtering four key areas: teaching and learning, safe secure facilities, finance, and communication.
 - 2. Information about the proposed K-5 Science text and related materials**

Science tri-chairs Mike Runge, Debbie McKenna and Ann Butcher will present information about the proposed new K-5 science text and related support materials. This recommendation comes forward with a unanimous endorsement from the K-12 Science Committee. The text and the workbook will support instruction in the science curriculum and its alignment to the Illinois Learning Standards and the District’s Priority Learning Targets. The tri-chairs will return to the January meeting to answer questions and seek approval for a 30-day public review of materials.

3. Illinois Math and Science Partnership Masters Cohort

Included in your backup information is a listing of the 47 District 129 staff members who are being recommended to participate in the four Illinois Math and Science Partnership Masters Degree Cohorts through Aurora University and Northern Illinois University. Once accepted to the graduate programs, the coursework expenses of the masters' degree will be covered via an Illinois State Board of Education grant.

4. District Improvement Plan

The District Improvement Plan is in the process of being revised and will be presented to the Board for review at the January 7, 2008 meeting. Approval will be requested at the January 22, 2008 meeting.

C. Safe Secure Facilities

1. Bid Tabulation for Bus Mounted Video Recording System

Included in your backup material is a copy of the bid tabulation for bus mounted digital video recording systems.

C. Financial Responsibility

D. Community Involvement

E. Correspondence

XII. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Dates to Remember

December 24-January 4 – Winter Break		
January 7, 2008	Special Committee Mtg.	5:00 p.m.
	Executive Session	
January 7, 2008	Board of Education Meeting - West High	6:00 p.m.
January 15, 2008	A+ Illinois Forum – Prisco Ctr. –	7:00 p.m.
January 22, 2008	Special Committee Meeting	5:00 p.m.
(Tuesday)	Executive Session	
January 22, 2008	Board of Education Meeting	6:00 p.m.
January 28, 2008	Board of Education Meeting	5:00 p.m.
	Presentation of School Improvement Plans	
February 9, 2008	Fine Arts Festival	

B. Article highlights to Nov. 26, 2007

FEARN

Included in your backup material are articles from:
Nov. 25 Beacon photo of students in costume,

FREEMAN

Included in your backup material are articles from:
Oct. 28 scary stories by three Freeman students
Nov. 16 Beacon picture of Freeman students donating food,

GOODWIN

Included in your backup material are articles from:
Nov. 2 Herald column on senior citizen volunteers,

GREENMAN

Included in your backup material are articles from:
Nov. 4 Beacon picture on West science students visiting Greenman

HERGET

Included in your backup material are articles from:

HOPE WALL

Included in your backup material are articles from:

HALL

Included in your backup material are articles from:
Nov. 15 Beacon pictures and feature story on ceremony in memory of former student,

HOPE WALL

Included in your backup material are articles from:
Oct. 12 Herald picture of Hope in Motion,
Nov. 15 Beacon story on Hope in Motion,

JEFFERSON

Included in your backup material are articles from:
Nov. 14 Beacon column on Jefferson students writing about parental notification,
Nov. 15 Beacon excerpts from Jefferson students' essays on parental notification,

JEWEL

Included in your backup material are articles from:
Nov. 17 Chronicle picture of student talking to veterans,

Nov. 19 Herald honor roll,

LINCOLN

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Nov. 2 Beacon picture of holiday parade,

Nov. 9 Beacon picture of holiday parade,

MCCLEERY

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Oct. 28 scary story by student

NICHOLSON

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Oct. 28 Beacon scary story by Nicholson student

PARTNERSHIP

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Oct. 29 Beacon picture of fire safety exercise

SCHNEIDER

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Oct. 29 Beacon picture of Fall Fest

TODD

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Nov. 9 Herald story on early childhood forum,

WASHINGTON

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Oct. 28 Beacon scary stories by Washington students,

Oct. 31 Beacon picture of school play,

WEST HIGH SCHOOL

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Oct. 30 Beacon picture of science class in the river,

Nov. 3 Chronicle picture of badminton team marching for cancer research,

Nov. 6 Beacon picture of West student at Waubensee career day,

Nov. 10 Chronicle picture on Hall of honor alumni induction

Nov. 14 Beacon column on the stage crew,

Nov. 14 Beacon article on students qualifying for state music festival,

Nov. 15 Beacon article on upcoming band concert,

Nov. 16 column and pictures on upcoming school play,

Nov. 16 Beacon picture of upcoming school play,

Nov. 17 Chronicle story on students qualifying for state music festival,

Nov. 25 Beacon article on new alumni officers,

DISTRICT

Included in your backup material are articles from:

Oct. 28 Herald story on teacher and administrator pay,
Oct. 31 Beacon article on Golden Apple,
Oct. 31 Beacon article on school report cards,
Oct. 31 Chronicle article on school report cards,
Oct. 31 Herald article on school report cards,
Nov. 4 Herald story on superintendent pay,
Nov. 6 Beacon story on security cameras,
Nov. 6 Chronicle story on security cameras,
Nov. 6 Herald story on security cameras,
Nov. 11 Herald story on how Unit districts get less state money,
Nov. 12 Herald story on teacher pay hikes,
Nov. 13 Chronicle story on security cameras,
Nov. 18 Herald story on school district debt rising,
Nov. 18 Chronicle story on class sizes,
Nov. 23 Beacon story on annual financial report.

XIII. Adjourn

- **The next meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at West High School, 1201 W. New York Street, Aurora, IL in the Health Academy (Enter at Door #1).**

CONSENT AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 3, 2007

The Board of Education's Consent Agenda contains those motions or resolutions which are deemed routine and/or require little or no discussion. The use of the consent Agenda is intended to expedite the meeting by the elimination of repetitive roll calls and unnecessary discussions. A Consent Agenda item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to its passage upon the request of any Board member. The roll call of votes on the approval of the Consent Agenda shall constitute the roll call of votes on each and every Consent Agenda motion or resolution as if each were voted on individually.

IX. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

Included with the Board's backup materials are the minutes of the Board of Education meetings held over the past month.

RECOMMENDATION: That the minutes of the Board of Education meetings held on November 19, 2007.

B. Bills for Payment

Board members were previously provided with listings of District Bills for review.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve and accept bill listings in the amount of \$4,491,184.34 and Hope Wall bill listings in the amount of \$210,304.69 for the period ending December 3, 2007.

C. Personnel Report

In the Personnel Report for December 3, 2007, we are advising of the resignations of Lluvia Moreno-Gomez, Paraprofessional @ Todd; Patricia Skeels, Administrative Assistant, Administration; Ruth Kramer, Head

Bookkeeper, Administrative; Caren Arroccena, Paraprofessional @ Fearn.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve and accept the Personnel Report for December 3, 2007.

E. Appointments – Certified Probationary – Full Time

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following Certified Probationary Full Time personnel:

Darlene DeWitz, English @ West High

F. Appointments – Certified Probationary – Part Time

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following Certified Probationary Part Time personnel:

Matthew Johnson, Alternative Education @ West

G. Appointments – Educational Support Personnel – Full Time

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the appointments of the following Educational Support Personnel – full time:

Lindsey Shortness, Paraprofessional @ Hope Wall

H. Appointments – Educational Support Personnel – Part Time

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the appointments of the following Educational Support Personnel – part-time:

I. Approval of 14-Passenger Activity Bus Bids

Included in your backup material is the information relative to the bids received for the two 14-passenger activity buses.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the low responsible bid submitted by Southern Bus Mobility in the amount of \$80,170 for two 14-passenger activity buses to be delivered April of 2008.

J. Approval of 71 Passenger Bus Bids

Included in your backup material is the information relative to the bids received for ten 71-passenger school buses. The bids include the trade-in of six buses and delivery is expected March of 2008.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the low responsible bid from Central States Bus Sales, Inc. in the amount of \$721,290 for ten 71-passenger school buses, including the trade-in of six buses to be delivered in March of 2008.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve the recommendations contained in the Consent Agenda for December 3, 2007.