

## BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING

June 27, 2006

The Board of Education of Sycamore Community Unit School District 427 met in regular session on June 27, 2006, in the Administration Center, 245 West Exchange Street, Sycamore, Illinois.

### ATTENDANCE

Jim Dombek, President  
Dannie Stanbery, Vice Pres.  
Donald Clayberg, Secretary, absent  
Barb King  
Jay Montgomery  
Dave Shipley, arrived at 7:16 p.m.  
Diane Tyrrell

### OTHERS

Wayne Riesen, Superintendent  
Kathy Countryman, Assistant Supt.  
Luke Glowiak, Assistant Supt.  
Kathy Sloniker, Secretary

ADMINISTRATORS: J. Dargatz, K. Heffernan-Spallaso, and K. Spiewak.

OTHERS PRESENT: D. Hines, (Midweek); B. Adams, (WDKB-FM); A. Hernandez, (Daily Chronicle); P. Anderson, M. Gentile, M. Kilpatrick, M. Kovac, N. Leifheit, P. Nelson, K. Schneil, J. Spiewak, C. Untch, B. White, J. Woods, FGM Architects; and K. Wrenn.

President Dombek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

When the roll was called, the following members were present: King, Montgomery, Stanbery, Tyrrell, and Dombek. Shipley arrived at 7:16 p.m. Clayberg was absent.

**3.0 AGENDA:** Montgomery moved, seconded by King, to approve the agenda as presented. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

**4.0 CONSENT AGENDA:** A motion was made by Stanbery, and seconded by King, to approve the consent agenda as presented, as follows:

- 4.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Session May 23, 2006
- 4.2 Approval of Minutes of Executive Session May 23, 2006
- 4.3 Bills Payable
- 4.4 Treasurer's Report
- 4.5 NIA Bills Payable
- 4.6 NIA Treasurer's Report
- 4.7 NIA Personnel Report
- 4.8 NIA Executive Board Ballot
- 4.9 NIA Tentative Budget and Establishment of a Hearing Date
- 4.10 Acceptance of Senior Class Gift
- 4.11 Bank Depositories
- 4.12 Resolution for the Transfer of Earned Interest
- 4.13 Prevailing Wage Ordinance
- 4.14 Disposal of Equipment
- 4.15 Furniture Bids
- 4.16 Roofing Bids
- 4.17 Fuel Bids
- 4.18 Gym Floor Refinishing

President Dombek called for a roll call vote on the motion. The following members voted aye when the roll was called: King, Montgomery, Stanbery, Tyrrell, and Dombek. AYES - 5; NAYS – 0. Motion carried.

## **5.0 AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:**

- 5.1 Little Red School House Winners: The Board of Education recognized Ms. Jennifer McCormick, Ms. Suzy Middleton, Ms. Barb White, and Mr. Joe Spiewak as the District’s Little Red School House Award recipients for March and April 2006.

Shipley arrived at 7:16 p.m.

- 5.2 Public Discussion: None

## **6.0 COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- 6.1 Various Newsletters, Letters, etc.: Information only.
- 6.2 Suspension Report: Information only.

## **7.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 7.1 Planning Commission: President Dombek stated that information regarding the Plan Commission meeting was included in the Board’s packet.
- 7.2 Sycamore Education Foundation (SEF): Ms. Kris Wrenn reported from the Sycamore Education Foundation meeting. She stated that a subcommittee was formed in November to explore avenues to raise funds and awareness for the Sycamore Education Foundation. She stated that the subcommittee decided that the best way to meet the goals of the Sycamore Education Foundation would be to host a benefit named “Take Root”. Ms. Wrenn indicated that the benefit would be held on Saturday, September 23, 2006 from 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. at Blumen Gardens and would feature high school and middle school musicians, the Hometown Band from Maple Park, appetizers, drinks, a silent auction, and a raffle. She commented that tickets will go on sale in July for \$30.00/each. Ms. Wrenn explained that they are hoping “Take Root” will become an annual event.
- 7.3 Citizens’ Advisory Committee (CAC): Dr. Riesen reported from the CAC meeting held June 15, 2006. He stated that increased membership for the 2006-2007 school year was the main focus of the meeting. He informed the Board that the CAC would be submitting names of potential members to the Board at its July 25, 2006, meeting.

## **8.0 LEGAL/LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Information Only**

## **9.0 OLD BUSINESS:**

- 9.1 Facility Planning/Middle School Philosophy – Opening Discussion: Jim Woods, FGM Architects, Inc. distributed a chart depicting minimum standards for the “model” Sycamore elementary school and reviewed it with the Board. He pointed out that the “model” school would consist of three (3) sections at each grade level with additional spaces for band, art, special education, gym, library/learning center, computer labs, offices, staff support, cafeteria, etc. He explained that this “model” school was developed as a guide for the District’s existing elementary schools and as a blueprint for new schools to insure that they fit the District’s educational delivery model. Mr. Woods distributed copies of an elementary school equity comparison chart and reviewed it with the Board. He noted that the Board needs to determine if they want to do all of the projects at the same time or to build one after the other.

Mr. Glowiak reviewed some of advantages and disadvantages of each of the choices with the Board. He discussed some preliminary financial possibilities with the Board. Mr. Glowiak commented that the Board needs to decide if the Sycamore “model” elementary school is what they want and if it is, then they need to direct the architects to prepare remodeling recommendations for the existing elementary schools. He noted, however, that if the Board would prefer to concentrate their efforts on building new schools, then they need to move forward in that direction.

The Board members indicated that they wanted the architects to develop possible plans for creating equity among the existing elementary schools. King suggested that smaller schools could be kept at two (2) sections per grade level in order to create equality where additions to existing schools are not feasible, due to land availability or extensive costs.

Mr. Glowiak indicated that the architects would attend the July 25<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to show the Board what a “model” elementary school would look like in reality and to present what would need to be added to the existing elementary schools to bring those up to the Sycamore “model”.

Middle School Philosophy: Mrs. Countryman stated that Mrs. Dargatz has been charged with developing a committee to study the attributes of middle school philosophy and make a presentation to the Board at its September 26, 2006 meeting. She pointed out that some informational materials were included in the Board’s packet.

Mrs. Dargatz reviewed the materials that were in the packet with the Board. She stated that a committee of staff members, including a parent representative, a board representative and the architect, has been formed to determine what middle school philosophy is and what facility needs are required in order to adequately provide a middle school education. She pointed out that they will also be studying the pros and cons of a junior high school education and a middle school education. Mrs. Dargatz reported that their first meeting would be held this Thursday night.

Shipleigh asked if the committee could report back to the Board with periodic updates rather than all at once in September.

## **10.0 NEW BUSINESS:**

- 10.1 Curriculum Coordinating Council: Dr. Leifheit stated that the Curriculum Coordinating Council was formed to review the various areas of curriculum at each grade level to determine if there are gaps or overlaps in any areas or if some topics should be taught at a different grade level in order to align with state testing. She asked for teacher volunteers to serve a three-year term on the council and was excited at the number of letters of application she received. She distributed a list of committee members to the Board as well as a long-range plan depicting when each of the areas of curriculum would be up for review. She noted that the Science curriculum and the Foreign Language curriculum would be reviewed in FY07. Dr. Leifheit informed the Board that she would be bringing a policy regarding curriculum review to the Board at its July meeting for their review and approval.

## 11.0 FINANCIAL:

- 11.1 Presentation of Tentative Budget and Establishment of a Hearing Date: Mr. Glowiak stated that the resolution providing for the adoption of the tentative budget and establishment of a hearing date was included in the Board's packet. He explained that the tentative budget needs to be on file for public inspection for 30 days prior to holding a hearing and subsequent adoption of the final budget. Mr. Glowiak reviewed the "Budget at a Glance" document as well as the official budget with the Board. He indicated that both of those documents have been posted to the District's website. He also stated that this year a copy of the budget must be submitted to the State Board of Education.

Montgomery asked what the difference was between the tentative budget and the final budget. Mr. Glowiak responded that very few, if any; changes would be made to the tentative budget prior to adopting the final budget.

Montgomery inquired about the amount of money that was included in the budget for the teacher's contract. Mr. Glowiak replied that there was sufficient money allotted in the budget for the teacher's contract.

Tyrrell moved, seconded by King, to adopt the Tentative Budget for FY07 as presented, and to establish August 22, 2006 as the date for the public hearing. The following members voted aye when the roll was called: King, Stanbery, Tyrrell, and Dombek. Montgomery and Shipley voted nay. AYES - 4; NAYS - 2. Motion carried.

- 11.2 Approval of Bond Sale Resolution: Mr. Glowiak stated that a copy of the resolution to complete the sale of Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds to pay for the necessary changes to our buildings to meet the requirements of the school code was included in the packet. He explained that the rationale for the sale was previously reviewed with the Board and the appropriate public hearing was held on May 23, 2006.

Montgomery moved, seconded by Tyrrell, to approve the Resolution Providing for the Issue of \$1,250,000 in Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds as presented. When the roll was called, the following members voted aye: King, Montgomery, Shipley, Stanbery, Tyrrell, and Dombek. AYES - 6; NAYS - 0. Motion carried.

- 11.3 Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement: Mr. Glowiak reported that the City of Sycamore passed an ordinance placing a "transfer tax" on the purchase of real property within the Sycamore municipal boundaries. He noted that the tax took effect on June 1, 2006 and proceeds are to be used to support the school district. He explained that it is necessary for both the City and the Board to adopt an intergovernmental agreement for the dispersal of funds. Mr. Glowiak stated that the intergovernmental agreement included in the packet has been reviewed and approved by the school district's legal counsel.

Tyrrell moved, seconded by Stanbery, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Transfer Tax as presented. The following members voted aye when the roll was called: King, Montgomery, Shipley, Stanbery, Tyrrell, and Dombek. AYES - 6; NAYS - 0. Motion carried.

**12.0 PERSONNEL**

12.1 Executive Session for the Consideration of Matters Related to the Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Personnel, and Collective Bargaining\* Tyrrell moved, seconded by King, to go into executive session for the consideration of matters related to the appointment, employment, or dismissal of personnel, and collective bargaining. When the roll was called, the following members voted aye: King, Montgomery, Shipley, Stanbery, Tyrrell, and Dombek. AYES - 6; NAYS - 0. Motion carried.

In at 9:20 p.m. and out at 11:11 p.m.

**13.0 Action Items from Executive Session**

13.1 Personnel Reports: Tyrrell moved, seconded by Montgomery, to approve the non-certificated personnel report as presented. The following members voted aye when the roll was called: King, Montgomery, Shipley, Stanbery, Tyrrell, and Dombek. AYES - 6; NAYS - 0. Motion carried.

King moved, seconded by Tyrrell, to approve pages 1 and 2 of the certified personnel report as presented. When the roll was called, the following members voted aye: King, Montgomery, Shipley, Stanbery, Tyrrell, and Dombek. AYES - 6; NAYS - 0. Motion carried.

**14.0 Open Discussion/Issues/Observations/Questions – None**

**15.0 Future Agenda Items – Curriculum Policy, Final Budget Adoption**

**16.0 Adjournment** – Tyrrell moved, seconded by King, that the meeting be adjourned. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 11:13 p.m.

Minutes approved (\_\_\_\_\_)

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President, Board of Education

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Secretary, Board of Education