

SPECIAL MEETING

**A Special Board of Education Meeting
for
Lockport Township High School District No. 205
Will County, Illinois,
was duly held at the
East Campus,
1333 East Seventh Street,
Lockport, IL,
on this 5th day of November, 2009,
in said District**

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE TO FLAG, ROLL CALL

President Ronald Svava called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and Member Lukasik led the Pledge to the Flag.

The following members were present:

Lou Ann Johnson, Secretary
Angela Kamely, Member
John Lukasik, Member
Susan L. Forbes, Vice President
Ronald Svava, President

A quorum was present.

Absent were: Members Michael Lewandowski and Cindy Polke

Administrators present:

Garry W. Raymond, Ph.D., Superintendent
Todd P. Wernet, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel
Peter M. Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Richard A. Lesniak, Director of Business Services
K. Brett Gould, Principal, East Campus
Dennis P. Hicks, Principal, Central Campus
K. Patrick Olmsted, Assistant Principal, East Campus
Matthew R. Dusterhoft, Director of Technology

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PETITIONS

None

INFORMATION REPORTS**STAFF RECOGNITION – JOHN LUKASIK**

Member Lukasik stated that he would like to see the District have some type of Recognition Program for milestone anniversaries—not a large expense item. Todd Wernet, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, informed the Board that the District currently has a program in place. Employees are recognized at the end of the year for perfect attendance, which they might add a middle of the year award for perfect attendance as well. Certificate awards are recognized for every five years of service. In addition to a certificate award, gift certificates are issued for employees for 25, 30, 35, etc. years of service. Also, teachers are recognized for earning Master’s Degrees. A recognition breakfast is held at the Transportation Building and certificates are given to our bus drivers in the same manner. Some Board members suggested the possibility of safety awards (small gift, certificates) or even a senior luncheon.

ENROLLMENT TREND DATA – RICH LESNIAK

Rich Lesniak explained that normally the District uses the Annual State Housing Reports to compile the enrollment data but he asked the Board to consider using a cohort survival projection average over a three-year window and keep the attendance flat. Rich explained that enrollment is increasing in all districts except District 92, which is down about 100 students. The District’s enrollment decreased slightly this year. Probable causes of the decreased enrollment were felt to be caused by the economic situation, the housing market, unemployment, and the overcrowded conditions in District. Rich asked the Board if they felt comfortable with using the assumptions to keep the number flat for the next three years. Some members felt that three years was very conservative, but consensus of the Board was that they were comfortable keeping the number flat over the next three years.

INFORMATION REPORT #0910-05 – SCHOOL REPORT CARD DATA

Pete Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, briefly reviewed the 2009 School Report Card Data with the Board. He explained that based on an enrollment of 3,900 students, the District is designated as a large high school. State averages are based on information from regular public schools only. The State uses the 10-day count (3,900 students) to determine school size. He reviewed the ten-year enrollment summary (2000-2009) noting that the student racial/ethnic background was not reported until 2005. The 2009 LTHS attendance percentage was 94%. Low income, limited English proficiency, and dropout rates for LTHS for 2009 were 8.6%, .7%, and 2.2%, respectively. Low income was described as any student who qualifies for the free lunch program. A “dropout” was defined as any child enrolled in grades 1-12 whose name was removed from the district enrollment roster for any reason other than death, extended illness, graduation or completion of a program of studies and who has not transferred to another public, or private school. Although the State uses the 2nd and 5th periods of the day to determine the average class size—21.4—the more realistic figure for the District is approximately 25-30 students per class in core areas. The average teacher salary is not broken down for high schools. Some discussions took place regarding the high school graduation percentage rate (LTHS 91.6%). Some members felt that they would like to see the District should compared to other schools our size and socioeconomic status. President Svava commented that 80% of the District’s revenue is generated from local property taxes. He felt the Board-as-a-whole should go down to Springfield to plead its case to the State to make them recognize the disproportionate amounts.

INFORMATION REPORT #0910-06 – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Pete Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, provided the Board with a report on the 2009-2010 Professional Development Plan. He highlighted some major areas of focus beginning with Differentiated Instruction (DI). He explained that Differentiated Instruction was instruction which reflects the need of the learner according to the learner's ability level. President Svava commented that it sounded similar to the Hawthorne Effect used in business. Discussions ensued regarding various ways of testing, rubrics, evaluating students, and best practices/strategies used in the classroom. Other areas of the professional development plan that were briefly touched on were Literacy Initiative, Diversity, the Consortium for Educational Change, Tutors, and Departmental Needs. A Literacy Council was formed to provide a venue for discussion of best practices, analysis of data, and the dissemination of information to departments. Training for tutors consisted of a one-day workshop provided an overview of both district curriculum and methods of tutoring when working with reluctant learners, especially in Reading and Mathematics.

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: Member **Johnson** moved, Member **Lukasik** seconded the motion to enter into Closed Session to discuss collective negotiation matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057, if needed.

VOTE: Ayes **5** Nays **0** Absent: **2 (Polke, Lewandowski)**. Motion **CARRIED 5 – 0**. Closed Session commenced at 8:32 p.m.

RECONVENE MEETING

MOTION: Member **Lukasik** moved, Member **Forbes** seconded the motion to reconvene the meeting.

VOTE: Ayes **5** Nays **0** Absent: **2 (Polke, Lewandowski)**. Motion **CARRIED 5 – 0**. The meeting reconvened at 9:10 p.m.

ACTION TAKEN AFTER CLOSED SESSION**ACTION CONSIDERATION #0911-01 – TERMINATION OF EMPLOYEE**

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Employee #4609, as presented.

MOTION: Member **Lukasik** moved, Member **Forbes** seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Employee #4609, as recommended.

VOTE: Ayes **5** Nays **0** Absent: **2 (Polke, Lewandowski)**. Motion **CARRIED 5 – 0**.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Member Kamely asked why Joliet was not part of the Graduating Class of 2009 ACT Comparison for Regional High Schools. Administration will check into that. Also, Member Johnson asked when the CEC Results would be in. Superintendent Raymond stated that a paper copy of this report is to be received within the next seven to ten days. As soon as the written report is received, he will email it to the Board. CEC representative will be invited to attend the Special Meeting on December 3 to give a presentation on their results. Member Kamely was disappointed that Perry didn't contact her to see if he could have provided her with another date to share information with him. She emailed him three times and he never responded to her. Also, Pete Sullivan stated that he would be providing a Summer Curriculum Project Summary at the next Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Member **Lukasik** moved, Member **Johnson** seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes **5** Nays **0** Motion **CARRIED 5 – 0**. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Ronald Svara, President

gkm

Lou Ann Johnson, Secretary