

**Whiteside School District #115
Board of Education
Public Hearing & Regular Board Meeting
June 20, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by Vice-President Sean McKee followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present: Frank Bennett, Matt Erkman, Kia Gunter, Sean McKee, Terri McKee,
Ty Sterthman

Member Absent: Tim Mueller

Administrators: Peggy Burke, Jaime Cotto, Kevin Johnson, Monica Laurent; Eugene Hanses, Attorney

Visitors: *See sign-in sheet.*

1.0) Public Hearing on the Amended FY17 Budget

Mrs. Burke presented the amended budget which reflects all actual and anticipated expenditures for FY17. The floor was opened for questions. None were presented. Mr. McKee asked for any further questions or comments. Hearing none, the public hearing was closed.

2.0) Closed session - Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, that the Board goes into closed session for the purpose of discussing discipline of a specific student. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

The Board went into closed session at 7:05pm and returned to open session at 7:55pm.

2.1) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, as follows:

I move that, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held on June 13, 2017, the Board of Education find that Student No. 1701 has committed an act of gross misconduct as charged by the District's Administration in that Student No. 1701 was in possession of a knife while at school on May 16, 2017 in violation of Board Policy 7:190 – Student Behavior.

I move that the Board of Education expel Student No. 1701, but that the expulsion be held in abeyance and Student No. 1701 be administratively transferred to an alternative school as determined by the District's Administration, pursuant to Article 13A of the Illinois School Code. Prior to considering a recommendation for expulsion, the District's Administration attempted other behavioral and disciplinary interventions and determined there are no other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions. The interventions previously attempted with the student included: handbook statement prohibiting weapons, including knives; parent and student conference with Mrs. Laurent, Principal and Mr. Cotto, Assistant Principal; student conference with Mrs. Laurent, Mr. Cotto, and Dr. Jean Hasenstab, School Social Worker. Removing Student No. 1701 from the learning environment is in the best interest of the school because this student's continued presence in school would pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff or members of the school community and/or substantially disrupt, impede or interfere with the operation of the school. The duration of Student No. 1701's expulsion is appropriate based upon the safety concerns and/or disruption caused by the misconduct, and the incidence of misconduct after prior behavioral and disciplinary interventions to support the student and promote acceptable behavior.

The expulsion being held in abeyance is contingent upon the student's full participation in the alternative school program, including regularly attending school; complying with attendance policies, school rules, and any referrals for services or counseling made by the alternative school; and successfully completing the alternative school's curriculum.

I move that should Student No.1701 fail to fully participate in the alternative school program and the alternative school refers the student back to the District, Student No.1701 shall be immediately expelled from Whiteside School District #115 for the remainder of the District Administration's recommended expulsion duration, through June 20, 2018.

Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes.
Motion carried.

3.0) Minutes - Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on May 22, 2017 be approved. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

4.0) Business Management

- 4.1) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, that the Treasurer's Report and Report be accepted as presented. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- 4.2) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, that payment of claims be approved. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.
- 4.3) Motion by Bennett, second by Sterthman, to approve the Amended FY17 Budget. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.
- 4.4) Motion by Bennett, second by Sterthman, to authorize loans from working cash to Operations & Maintenance and Transportation, if necessary. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.
- 4.5) Motion by Bennett, second by Sterthman, to approve the accompanying Prevailing Wage resolution and participate in the joint publication by the Regional Office of Education. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.
- 4.6) Motion by Bennett, second by Sterthman, to set student fees for supplies and materials for the 2017-2018 school year as follows: Grades K-5 \$65, and Grades 6-8 \$75. Discussion: This is the same as last year. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- 4.7) Motion by Bennett, second by Sterthman, to set ESP tuition for 2017-2018 at the 2016-2017 rate. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.
- 4.8) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to accept the quote for workers' compensation insurance coverage from Accident Fund for \$52,614. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.
- 4.9) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to accept the quote for excess earthquake insurance coverage from Atlantic Specialty for \$21,900. Discussion: Total earthquake coverage is \$31million - \$11m with PSIC and \$20m with Atlantic Specialty. Our current appraised property value is \$37,262,449. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.
- 4.10) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to approve the School-to-School Agreement with Belleville District #118 for food service for the 2017-2018 school year. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.
- 4.11) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to adopt the Amended 403(b) Plan agreement with American Fidelity. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

5.0) District Management

- 5.1) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to retain all previously determined hazardous bus routes. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

6.0) Miscellaneous

- 6.1) Elementary Principal - The Board reviewed the written report submitted by Mr. Rakers.
- 6.2) Middle School Principal - The Board reviewed the written report submitted by Mrs. Laurent.
- 6.3) Superintendent – The Board reviewed the written report submitted by Mrs. Burke.

- 6.4) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, go into closed meeting to discuss employment and compensation of personnel, negotiations with WFT, and to review past closed meeting minutes. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

The Board went into closed session at 8:25pm and returned to open session at 8:50pm.

- 6.5) RECOMMEND MOTION to approve the closed meeting minutes from May 22, 2017 - TABLED.

7.0) Personnel

- 7.1) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to approve the collective bargaining agreement effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2021, as negotiated with Whiteside Federation of Teachers. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

- 7.2) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to eliminate the position of bus aide and give notice of non-reemployment to Patty Vasquez and Cheyenne Schmitz effective with the 2017-2018 school year. Discussion: Bus aides will be provided as needed through District #201. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

- 7.3a) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to employ Joey Murphy as a half-time early childhood teacher and half-time instructional aide for the 2017-2018 school year. Discussion: Ms. Murphy will fill the position created by Deb Wafer's retirement. We anticipate the teaching position will become full-time as enrollment increases to require an additional section. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

- 7.3b) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to employ Brian Egan and Amy Jung as elementary teachers for the 2017-2018 school year. Discussion: Mr. Egan and Mrs. Jung will fill positions created by the retirements of Debbie Gain and KayDeane Rodriguez, with specific grade level assignments determined based on enrollment. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

- 7.3c) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to employ Mary Sabo as a middle school English/Language Arts teacher for the 2017-2018 school year. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

- 7.4) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to set salaries/rates for non-certified & administrative staff as follows: instructional aides at previously agreed increases based on years of service to the district, custodian Richard Sommers at \$12/hour, and all others at a 3.76% increase for 2017-2018. Discussion: Average increase for certified staff (excluding those with retirement incentive) is 3.76%. Roll call: Bennett-yes, Erkman-yes, Gunter-yes, T McKee-yes, Sterthman-yes, S McKee-yes. Motion carried.

- 7.5) Motion by Bennett, second by Erkman, to approve the tuition reimbursement request submitted by Tracy Mentzer. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

- 8.0) Having no further business motion by T McKee, second by Gunter, to adjourn. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Sean McKee, Vice-President

Karma Falkenbury, Secretary

