

BROWN COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

Mt. Sterling, Illinois

November 19, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, November 19, 2014, at 6:03 p.m. in the Elementary School Music Room at 503 NW Cross Street, Mt. Sterling, Illinois. The meeting was called to order by President Philip Krupps. The minutes were recorded by Sandi Roberts, Board Office staff.

On roll call, the following members answered present: Blakeley, Kackley, Koch, Krupps, McCaskill, Meservey and Miller.

Public Comment Speakers: none.

1. Motion by Koch, seconded by Blakeley, to approve the consent agenda.

Roll call: Blakeley, yea; Kackley, yea; Koch, yea; Krupps, yea; McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea; Miller, yea.
Motion carried.

Correspondence: thank you note from LoAnn Orr

Committee Reports: none

Reminder that the Truth in Taxation hearing will be at next month's board meeting, December 17 at 5:45 pm.

Discussion and possible action regarding a replacement tractor for the district:
Chad Roley attended the meeting to answer questions during the discussion. Mrs. Phillips went over the information we've received thus far about tractor options. It was decided to request bids for a heavy-duty four-wheel drive cab tractor with specs that include the following more or less to be determined in official bid:

- a. Power Transmission
- b. Industrial Tires
- c. Cold Weather Pack including block & transmissions heater, rear windshield wiper if appropriate
- d. Front bumper/Grill Guard
- e. Pallet Forks
- f. Flexible Snow Blade—8' width
- g. 72" Bucket
- h. Lease to Own Financing 60 months at 4% or less APR with \$1-100 buyout at end of lease.

2. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Koch, to request bids from the heavy tractor specs.

Roll call: Kackley, yea; Koch, yea; Krupps, yea; McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea; Miller, yea; Blakeley, yea.

Motion carried.

School Report Card Results: The administrators gave an overview of the results for their buildings which can be found at <http://illinoisreportcard.com/>

PRESS Plus Policy Update Issue # 87 FIRST READING.

Board Member Meservey provided a report of the options available and made recommendations to the full board of most appropriate choices.

Discussion and possible action on Middle School Baseball and Softball

- IESA:
 - Fee would be \$50 per sport
 - We would be able to play in the IESA next school year
- Scheduling:
 - Setting a baseball schedule would be not be a major concern
 - Setting a softball schedule would be more difficult as there are fewer teams that offer softball, but viable
- Financial – Estimates:
 - Yearly \$5000 per sport
 - Start-up costs add another \$2500-\$3000
- Areas of concern:
 - Field maintenance
 - Coaching
 - Numbers - participants

No Action was taken

Administrators Reports and Raising Expectations Speakers:

Principal Ellefritz reported:

- On October 30th and November 5th the Elementary School hosted 15 school teachers and administrators from the Winchester School District. We were happy to share our journey as a school, but also it was great for him to be able to show off how hard his teachers work every day. All of the evaluations on the visit stated that they cannot wait to come for another visit and they were so impressed with our learning culture.
- He also want to give his students and staff praise for their efforts for hats off to cancer and to our team up against bullying week. Both opportunities were character builders for our students.

- Mr. Ellefritz also gave an overview of the type and quantity of notes/explanations that are needed in order to do the teacher evaluation observation with fidelity as required by the research study that we are currently a part of with Illinois State University. Although this has and will be a huge amount of work and takes a great deal of time, he noted the value of the feedback that teachers can gain and use to increase their teaching expertise and grow as professional educators. What he and his teachers are doing right now for the research study is the type of work all principals will be doing next year as we move forward with the implementation of the Framework for Teaching evaluation/observation rubric for teacher observations.

Board Member Miller noted that he appreciated the Veterans Day Program that was organized by Mr. Ellefritz. It was nicely organized and well done by all. He also noted how well-behaved the students were.

Principal Logan reported:

- The BCHS National Honor Society will be holding its Induction Ceremony on Wednesday, December 3 in the BCHS Auditorium at 7 pm. All board members are invited to attend.
- Board members were invited to attend the Ribbon Sculpture Tile Making Event for the Breast Cancer Awareness Sculpture in the art room with the BCHS Art Club on Thursday, November 20 at 5 pm.

Board Member Krupps noted that BCHS has a very strong candidate for West Point. This is an outstanding accomplishment for the young lady that is the potential candidate as well as a compliment to the school district.

Assistant Principal Driskell reported that the district has been chosen to host the upcoming IHSA Sectional Basketball Tournaments and recently hosted the IHSA Supersectional Volleyball Tournaments due to our good reputation as handling the processes and expectations well that are imposed by IHSA. This is a compliment and an honor to us as a district to be repeatedly asked and approved to host high-profile tournaments.

Technology Director, Mr. Gallaher informed the board that a number of hardware and software updates have taken place over the last month and more are coming in the weeks and months ahead. Work was also completed to store archived e-mail in a more organized fashion.

Superintendent Phillips reported:

- She and the principals have three music teacher interviews scheduled for first week of December and hope to have a candidate to bring before the board for hire at the December board meeting with the candidate starting January 5, 2015.
- Reminded the board of the work that is being pursued to put a class in the Family and Consumer Science Program that will provide students who complete the class with Gateways Level I Entitlement for licensed childcare facilities.
- The elementary school has been experiencing HVAC issues with the flow of gas into the two boilers and the roof-top system for the gym. When it is cold outside and all three need to be running, there is not enough gas coming in through the meters to provide enough power for the load. Plus the units in the music room and the cafeteria appear to have a faulty design or build or installation because they are consistently requiring attention from the maintenance director, principal, custodians or superintendent. The board of education gave a directive to the superintendent in response to request a letter explaining next legal steps to resolve these issues be written and sent on behalf of the district by the school attorney's to Trane.
- Curriculum Review of the high school curriculum has been taking place by Ms. Logan and Mrs. Phillips. If the Curriculum committee would like to join in these discussions, please feel free to let us know, and we will schedule with your availability in mind. Deb Meserve said she would like to be part of those discussions and would like to receive information on enrollments in high school classes.
- Mrs. Phillips attended a Hearing in the Capitol Building in Springfield yesterday, November 18 regarding SB 16—BC Schools are winners with this bill (BC schools would receive approximately \$200,000 more funding per year), but the Four Rivers Special Education Cooperative and the alternative schools are losers (will receive less funding under the SB design of education funding) thus causing the school districts to possibly need to pay them more for the services they offer us. Regardless of how this bill ends up, Mrs. Phillips noted that is great news that the legislature and partners are having solid, frank conversations about school funding and will, hopefully, end up with a better funding formula than is in place now at the conclusion.
- Skyward training is scheduled in December to increase our knowledge and usability of the software to its fullest capacity.
- The district will be paying for juniors who wish to take the ACT Test in April. Testing will be done on a Saturday at a nearby location in order to prevent students from losing an additional day of instruction for the sake of testing since this will be the first year the ACT will not be used to determined school AYP by the State. The PARCC Test will be

Superintendent Phillips reported: (cont.)

implemented this year to be used by the State of Illinois to determine Adequate Yearly Progress by public schools.

- TFF Leadership Grant was approved with the following four points of focus—1. marketing--hire a marketing firm to provide us direction for best ways to market the district in the west central area and to new people coming to work in BC 2. Design a teacher career pathways tool on Haiku 3. Begin doing purposeful Teacher recruiting for the best teachers for openings 4. Final Year of contractual service with Focus on Results to provide a Transition Plan to maintaining the structures and lessons learned from the FOR consultation that has taken place over the last eight years.
- Remember the upcoming Madd Hoss Jackson Fund Raiser for Band program November 28 at the American Legion.
- Shared updated information from Diane Settles regarding our Pre-K and Early Childhood Education programs.

3. Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Koch, to go into closed session for a) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the School District and d) the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District; at 8:01 pm.

Roll call: Koch, yea; Krupps, yea; McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea; Miller, yea; Blakeley, yea; Kackley, yea.

Motion carried.

Krupps left at 8:01 pm.

4. Motion by Koch, seconded by Miller, to go out of closed session at 8:37 pm.

Roll call: McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea; Miller, yea; Blakeley, yea; Kackley, yea; Koch, yea.

Motion carried.

5. Motion by Koch, seconded by Kackley, to approve the minutes of closed session.

Roll call: Meservey, yea; Miller, yea; Blakeley, yea; Kackley, yea; Koch, yea; McCaskill, yea.

Motion carried.

6. Motion by Koch, seconded by McCaskill, to authorize the Superintendent to advertise for a new part time temporary bus driver.

Roll call: Miller, yea; Blakeley, yea; Kackley, yea; Koch, yea; McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea.

Motion carried.

7. Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Meservey, to accept the resignation/retirement of Kriss Johnson as elementary school Special Education Teacher, effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

Roll call: Blakeley, yea; Kackley, yea; Koch, yea; McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea; Miller, yea.

Motion carried.

8. Motion by Koch, seconded by McCaskill, to accept the resignation/retirement of Marilyn Seckman as 3rd Grade Teacher, effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

Roll call: Kackley, yea; Koch, yea; McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea; Miller, yea; Blakeley, yea.

Motion carried.

9. Motion by Kackley, seconded by Koch, to accept the resignation/retirement of LoAnn Orr as elementary school Title I Teacher, effective the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

Roll call: Koch, yea; McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea; Miller, yea; Blakeley, yea; Kackley, yea.

Motion carried.

10. Motion by McCaskill, seconded by Miller, to authorize the Superintendent to advertise for a new middle school Special Ed- Self Contained teacher to begin with the 2015-2016 school year.

Roll call: McCaskill, yea; Meservey, yea; Miller, yea; Blakeley, yea; Kackley, yea; Koch, yea.

Motion carried.

11. Motion by Meservey, seconded by McCaskill, to adjourn at 8:37 pm.

Motion carried by acclamation.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY