

BROWN COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

Mt. Sterling, Illinois

September 14, 2011

The 2011-2012 budget hearing was held on Wednesday evening, September 14, 2011 at 5:50 pm in the Board of Education Office at 503 NW Cross Street, Mt. Sterling, Illinois.

1. The 2011-2012 budget hearing is open.

2. The following comments were made:

Mr. Adcock thanked both Tracy Flowers and Sandi Roberts for their hard work to help get the budget worked out. He gave a general review of the budget for the 2012 fiscal year. The budget reflects a loss in revenue for state levels of about \$400,000 (\$150,000 in General State Aid and \$250,000 in Transportation). The final results show a net deficit of \$62,346 in the education fund. This is partially due to a large number of maternity leaves and the cost of substitutes for those teachers, an increase in the technology budget to cover the infrastructure improvements and an over increase in supplies through requisitions. An additional deficit account was IMRF fund of \$86,262. This deficit was planned for as there is a healthy balance in that fund which needs to be spent down. The overall budget deficit after all revenues and expenses is expected to be close to \$50,000, which is well within the budget reserves currently on the books and does NOT require a deficit reduction plan for the state. The budget is considered balanced and was accepted as presented.

3. The budget hearing closed at 5:56 pm.

*Introduction of new teachers:* The teachers and Board enjoyed cake during a welcome reception where board members welcomed each teacher personally and were given an opportunity to hold friendly conversations. After introductions, the teachers were dismissed and allowed to leave the meeting. The following teachers were in attendance: Kristen Wilson, Shannon Craven, Lauren May, Ann Logan, Tori Campbell and Sarah Maas.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, September 14, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Office at 503 NW Cross Street, Mt. Sterling, Illinois. The meeting was called to order by President Alan Koch. The minutes were recorded by Tracy Flowers, Board Secretary.

On roll call, the following members answered present: Kackley, Kerley, Koch, Krupps and Long. Absent: Kassing and Meservey.

*Public Comment:* none

*Raising Expectations Speakers:* Mr. Wilson spoke about the professional development they are doing at the high school and the teacher committees met yesterday to set goals, etc. for the year.

Mr. Ellefritz updated the board on the workings of the sustainability teams and the foundational items they are working on.

1. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Kackley, to approve the consent agenda.

Roll call: Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea.  
Motion carried.

*Committee Reports:* Curriculum Committee: Kevin Kackley, Ben Ellefritz, Van Wilson and Stan Adcock reported the committee (including board member Deb Meservey) met to consider a plan of action. The principals shared class sizes and curriculum changes for this year. The committee discussed the need to move to a common core standards based curriculum and the need to integrate the use of technology when considering new curriculum. The need for textbooks along with technology was discussed as well as a need to look at perceived, and real, weaknesses in our current curriculum. The next meeting is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 pm in the board office.

Discussion of Board Policy – Under Old Business: Because two board members were absent, Mr. Adcock asked the board to put off the first reading of the new board policies until next month so that all members could report on their sections. He asked the board to read the pdf version of the entire manual before next month and that would serve as the second reading. Each member will report next month and recommend changes. Don Kerley will not be able to attend next month so he will make his report electronically. The board can make the changes and then waive a second reading so the policies can be returned to IASB and updated for future reference and adherence.

David Pistorious briefed the board on the refunding of the building bond and the process/outcome involved. His company – First Midstate – was responsible for the process of refunding the bonds for a total savings of about \$207,000 over the course of the next nine years. This savings will be realized through lower interest rates negotiated through local banking institutions which purchased the bond.

6:18-6:25 Matt Bradbury addressed the board and asked them to voluntarily approve annexation of the property where the High School and Middle School are currently located into the City of Mt. Sterling. The process was supposed to be completed many years ago but had never taken place. Although the school enjoys the same services as the city provides, they are not currently a legal part of the city limits.

(*cont.*) Mr. Bradbury stated that it was really only a formality to help clean up the city border lines and would not cost the district any money nor would it have to incur any of the necessary work to be done. The board agreed that they were willing to agree to the annexation but asked Mr. Adcock to contact the School District Attorney (T. J. Wilson) to ensure everything was in order. Mr. Adcock will report back to the board next month and the board will decide what final action to take at that time.

2. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Long, to adopt the 2011-12 budget.

Roll call: Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea.  
Motion carried.

3. Motion by Kerley, seconded by Koch, to approve a Resolution providing for the issuance of General Obligation Refunding School Bonds, Series 2011 for the School District.

Roll call: Koch, yea, Krupps, abstain; Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea.  
Motion carried.

4. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Koch, to approve the ISBE Administrators Salary Compensation Report.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea.  
Motion carried.

5. Motion by Kerley, seconded by Koch, to approve the Application for Recognition of Schools for all three buildings.

Roll call: Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea.  
Motion carried.

Mr. Adcock briefed the board about a family who has requested that their home schooled children be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities. Mr. Ellefritz also explained the situation from the parent perspective as he was the one who spoke with the parents. Mr. Adcock explained to the board that they have the option of allowing this or not allowing it. Due to our participation in IHSA and the IESA, in order for our students to play, they have to be considered eligible through reliable grading practices. This is not a problem for schools such as both Brown County Schools and St. Mary's, but the home schooled student cannot verify this on a weekly basis unless they are enrolled in a valid home school program. Even with that, the district is not bound to accept these as grades for

eligibility. It is also important to remember that not only are grades a factor in eligibility, but behavior is as well, and we do not have any way (nor would we wish to have) to monitor that either. The board discussed the matter and felt that it was in the best interest of the district not to allow home schooled students to participate at this time.

Mr. Adcock explained to the board that he had been approached about the need for an athletic policy concerning athletic practices on days when school is released early for either excessive heat or due to weather. The board asked about current policy, which does not exist. Instead, coaches follow IHSA guidelines and use due caution in regard to heat and cold. Mr. Driskell explained the IHSA Policy for practices and contests and stated that he ensures the coaches are aware of, and follow these procedures and policies. As the board felt all due caution was being exercised and all IHSA policies and procedures adhered to, it was decided through a voice acclamation that a policy was not needed at this time.

Mr. Adcock asked the board for dates and times to set a special board meeting for the purpose of a Board Retreat. The board retreat will focus on common goals and mission statement of the district. The board will develop a five-year plan for academics as well as physical state of the buildings and grounds. It was decided to meet Wednesday, October 19, 2011 from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm at the Golf Course. Dinner will be provided.

*6:50-7:06 Administrative Reports:*

Mr. Wilson reported that school is up and running much more smoothly now partly due to the cooler weather. Several days were very uncomfortable at the high school. Extra fans were in use and water was provided for all students in containers in the hallways because two of our water fountains were not operational. Chad has ordered new ones and they should be installed soon. The parking lot in front of the high school has been resurfaced and the parking/handicapped areas have been striped. It was well done and looks very nice. As I mentioned last month, the Class of 2012's test scores for the PSAE are in but as of this writing have not been released to the public. Reading and science were down while math scores remained the same. The good news is writing scores were up. ACT scores for the class of 2011 rose for the second consecutive year. A composite score of 21.0 was attained which was above the state average of 20.9. ACT composite scores have risen 3.4 points since 2007. Ready for College, Ready for Work certification program recipients from the junior and senior classes were announced at the football game on September 9th and will receive their certificates before the Homecoming game on September 23rd. The sports season is in full swing with sixteen (16) volleyball players (eleven of which are freshmen/sophomores) having already played seven games. Fourteen (14) golfers (eight boys and six girls) have hit the links for the Hornets and have been very

successful so far. The football team is currently ranked second in the state before their big showdown with Triopia tonight (September 9th). Both teams won their first two games handily. The Hornet football team has forty-nine (49) boys participating this year.

Mr. Ellefritz reported that at both schools we have been spending time talking about the common core standards that are going to replace the Illinois State Standards. These standards will cover English Language Arts and Math. One of the new things with these standards is that they cover literacy in areas like history, science and technical subjects. They are going to really help all academic areas become more targeted in the way that they teach literacy in K-12 classrooms. We have also spent a lot of time looking at our ISAT data and writing goals based on the results for this school year.

Kris Gallaher asked if there were any questions about his report and discussed the graphs he prepared showing the number of computers that have been added over the years.

6. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Kerley, to go into closed session to discuss and possibly take action upon employment, retention, dismissal or non-renewal of employees and reduction in force, collective bargaining, possible litigation and student discipline at 7:07 pm.

Roll call: Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea.  
Motion carried.

7. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Kerley, to go out of closed session at 8:24 pm.

Roll call: Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea.  
Motion carried.

8. Motion by Kackley, seconded by Long, to approve the minutes of closed session.

Roll call: Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea.  
Motion carried.

9. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Koch, to hire Monica Hoenes, One-on-One Special Education Aide in Jacksonville, subject to the student's attendance.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea.  
Motion carried.

10. Motion by Koch, seconded by Kerley, to hire Kristen Wilson, elementary school Noon Supervisor.

Roll call: Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea.  
Motion carried.

11. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Koch, to hire Kim Roberts, elementary school Noon Supervisor.

Roll call: Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea.  
Motion carried.

12. Motion by Koch, seconded by Long, to transfer Kris Taylor to the 0-3 Parent Initiative Parent Educator position, effective immediately.

Roll call: Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea.  
Motion carried.

13. Motion by Koch, seconded by Kackley, to hire Susan Houston as Pre-K teacher's aide, effective immediately.

Roll call: Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea.  
Motion carried.

14. Motion by Kerley, seconded by Long, to hire Samantha Valentine as middle school girls basketball coach.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea.  
Motion carried.

15. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Koch, to hire Danny Moorman as middle school girls basketball assistant coach.

Roll call: Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea.  
Motion carried.

16. Motion by Koch, seconded by Krupps, to approve the maternity leave request of Morgan Venvertloh for 12 school work weeks beginning approximately November 7, 2011.

Roll call: Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea.  
Motion carried.

17. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Koch, to approve the maternity leave request of Anne Schmidt for approximately six school work weeks, beginning approximately December 12, 2011.

Roll call: Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea.  
Motion carried.

18. Motion by Koch, seconded by Long, to approve the maternity leave request of Melissa Ransom for approximately seven to eight weeks, beginning approximately January 13, 2012.

Roll call: Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea.  
Motion carried.

19. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Kerley, to approve the following golf volunteers: Nichole Miller, volunteer coach; Nicki Ussery and Tracy Hendricker, volunteer drivers.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea.  
Motion carried.

20. Motion by Koch, seconded by Long, to adopt a Resolution Reference the Termination of Sheryl White, custodian.

Roll call: Long yea; Kackley, yea; Kerley, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea.  
Motion carried.

21. Motion by Kerley, seconded by Krupps, to adjourn at 8:33 pm.

Motion carried by acclamation.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY