

BROWN COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
Mt. Sterling, Illinois
December 21, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, December 21, 2016, 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 Philip Krupps. The minutes were recorded by Tracy Flowers, Secretary.

On roll call, the following members answered present: Blakeley, Fry, Fullerton, Krupps, McCaskill. Blaesing was absent. Koch arrived at 6:01.

Public Comment: Mrs. Craven introduced the first student of the month, it was Dylan Wort. He introduced his parents and Mrs. Craven read his recommendation submitted by a staff member.

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

Roll call: Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea.
Motion carried.

Correspondence: Mrs. Phillips informed the BOE that a card had been received today from Mr. & Mrs. Stamerjohns along with a donation to the music program denoting their support of such. The board and staff noted their appreciation of the support that the music program at BCSD received from this generous donation, as well as the community support that is enjoyed.

Committee Reports: none

6:03-6:20 *Audit Report for FY16 by Kathy Shupe, Senior Auditor*, reviewed the yearly audit performed by herself and colleagues with their firm of Arnold, Behrens, Nesbit, Gray, PC. The overall opinion presented and provided in the Annual Financial Report was that of limited findings regarding deficit filing of economic interest statements and late filing of the amended budget to ISBE. The Financial Profile Information was reviewed with the BOE showing the district to be rated at the "Review" designation which is the same designation it was rated at last year. Ms. Shupe noted that the district's "Number of Days of Cash on Hand" was calculated at 174.71 which is an excellent designation not found in many neighboring districts. She also noted that the district's percent of "Long-Term Debt Margin Remaining" percent was calculated at 35.86% which is also higher, but understandable by the debt that has been incurred to update all the existing HVAC systems as well as working cash. The district's total Profile Score was a 3.35. Ms. Shupe provided additional general information in a small booklet regarding the utilized designations and calculations and definitions of each to Mrs. Phillips for anyone who had additional questions to access if desired.

2. Motion by Koch, seconded by McCaskill, to approve the audit report as presented by Kathy Shupe of Arnold, Behrens, Nesbit, Gray, PC.

Roll call: Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blakeley, yea.
Motion carried.

6:21-6:45 Presentation by Anna Melgreen and Jillian Theis on Gifted and Talented. Anna Melgreen and Jillian Theis are currently enrolled in Principal Preparation programs at WIU and UIS to obtain their ISBE endorsement for Principal. As a part of that experience, they have been charged with performing research and making recommendations to the Brown County School District Administration and Board of Education of implementation of a Gifted and Talented Learners program throughout the district. Their recommendations and presentation reviewed topics including:

- Definition and characteristics of talented and gifted learners—who they are and who they are not based on criteria
- Short-term and long-term goals of a addressing effective and appropriate instruction
- Options for challenging students who are gifted or talented
- Recommendations of Ms. Melgreen and Mrs. Theis for the district to implement a program at BCSD
- Noted concerns to be cautious of throughout the initiation and implementation of a program.

Discussion took place among the BOE members, presenters and district staff regarding pro's and con's of such implementation and a discussion surrounding the need to challenge our students more when appropriate. The district is in the "fact finding" stage of the process of looking at how we can better address the needs of the students who should be more directly challenged. As the process develops, more information will be available.

Presentation by Pollee Craven (for Dave Phelps) to raise the official's pay scale. Mrs. Craven presented a request by Dave Phelps, AD, to raise official's pay for the 17-18 school year. The pay rate requested is in line with the neighboring school districts.

3. Motion by Krupps, seconded by Koch, to raise the official's pay scale to begin in FY18 as presented. (see attached.)

Roll call: Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea.
Motion carried.

6:51-6:58 *Tax Levy discussion:* Mrs. Phillips presented the proposed Estimated Tax Levy Request which has a tentative tax rate of \$4.6306 based on an estimated EAV of \$89,394,861 which would be an increase of property value over last year's EAV. The rate is dependent upon the amount of property value increase or decrease for the year, so there is always an element of estimation when the tax rate is determined since there is no way for a person to know what the EAV will be calculated to be in the future. Therefore, the actual Certificate of Tax Levy is stated in dollars rather than a rate of a tax rate. This Certificate of Tax Levy requests the following amounts for the use of the school to operate:

Educational Fund: \$1,644,865
Operations & Maintenance: \$446,974
Transportation: \$446,974
Working Cash: \$44,697
Municipal Retirement: \$176,500
Social Security: \$177,000
Fire Prevention & Safety: \$44,697
Tort Immunity: \$300,200
Special Education: \$35,758
Leasing: \$44,697
Total Levy Request: \$3,362,362

4. Motion by Fullerton, seconded by Blakeley, to adopt the Certificate of Tax Levy.

Roll call: Koch, yea; Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea.
Motion carried.

5. Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Fry, to approve to keep closed session minutes through November 2016 closed due to confidentiality as per Section 2.06 of the Open Meetings Act.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea.
Motion carried.

7:00 – 7:23 Jeff Terry of Schmeideskamp, Robertson, Neu & Mitchell Law Firm lead the *PRESS Plus Board Policy First Reading and discussion:* PRESS Plus Board Policies Issue #93, policies 2:120; 2:125; 2:125-E1; 2:125-E2; 2:200; 2:220; 2:220-E1; 2:220-E2; 2:220-E4; 2:220-E5; 2:220-E6; 2:220-E7; 2:220-E8; 4:60; 4:110; 4:175; 5:10; 5:60; 5:60-E1; 5:60-E2; 5:100; 5:125; 5:185; 5:190; 5:250; 5:260; 5:280; 5:330; 6:15; 6:50; 6:60; 6:145; 6:160; 6:170; 6:310; 6:340; 7:50; 7:60; 7:70; 7:250; 7:260; 7:305; 7:310; 7:315; 8:30; 8:70

6. Motion by McCaskill, seconded by Fry, to appoint Sarah Therriault as Brown County Schools Foster Care Point of Contact.

Roll call: McCaskill yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea.
Motion carried.

Administrators Reports and Raising Expectations in Brown County:

Mrs. Phillips discussed the HVAC system in the Middle School is still going through the process of calibration that takes place during the first year of implementation and operation. This process is normal and requires patience and cooperation to be sure that all systems with the Heating and Cooling systems are working together effectively and appropriately. Therefore, there have been a few days that were specifically cooler than desired because of this process. Chad and myself are in constant communication with TRANE and Prairie State as well as Prairie State is on site to work through this final stage of implementation.

7. Motion by Koch, seconded by Krupps, to go into closed session to discuss and possibly take action regarding a) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the School District at 7:30 pm.

Roll call: Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea.
Motion carried.

8. Motion by Fry, seconded by Koch, to go out of closed session at 7:54 pm.

Roll call: Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blakeley, yea.
Motion carried.

9. Motion by Koch, seconded by Blakeley, to approve the minutes of closed session.

Roll call: Fullerton, yea; Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea.
Motion carried.

10. Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Fry, to approve the list below as presented regarding personnel issues.

Roll call: Koch, yea, Krupps, yea; McCaskill yea; Blakeley, yea; Fry, yea; Fullerton, yea.
Motion carried.

- Accept the resignation of Peggy Dewitt as custodian, effective November 23, 2016
 - Accept the resignation of Melanie Harvey as MS Breakfast Duty Supervisor, effective December 21, 2016
 - Hire Andi Vogel as MS Breakfast Duty Supervisor, effective January 3, 2017.
 - Hire Kathleen MacGregor as Spanish/ELL teacher, effective December 21, 2016
 - Hire Danielle Burge as ES one-on-one aide, pending completion of the paraprofessionals license
 - Accept the request of Kathy Grady for a Leave of Absence from her mid-day Pre-K bus route for second semester FY17.
 - Approve intern, Caitlyn Fink with Ann Hill, SLP for Spring of 2017
 - Approve Kristen Buss as volunteer- JH Volleyball
 - Approve Nick Hendricker as Athletic Dept volunteer
 - Assign Lori Lindsey-Richardson to the mid-day Pre-K bus route for second semester FY17.
 - Hire Chris Kniffin as High School Night Custodian, effective immediately.
11. Motion by McCaskill, seconded by Fry, to adjourn at 7:56 pm.

Motion carried by acclamation.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY