

BROWN COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
Mt. Sterling, Illinois
May 27, 2015

6:00 pm - Conduct of Public Hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Education to sell
\$249,000 School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds

MINUTES of a regular public meeting of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 1, Brown County, Illinois, held in the Music Room in the Brown County Elementary School Building, 501 Northwest Cross Street, Mount Sterling, Illinois, in said School District at 6:00 o'clock P.M., on the 27th day of May, 2015.

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The meeting was called to order by the Vice President, and upon the roll being called, Alan Koch, the Vice President, and the following members were physically present at said location: Blakeley, Fry, Fullerton, Koch, McCaskill.

The following members were allowed by a majority of the members of the Board of Education in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the Board of Education to attend the meeting by video or audio conference: not applicable

No member was not permitted to attend the meeting by video or audio conference.

The following members were absent and did not participate in the meeting in any manner or to any extent whatsoever: Blaesing and Krupps

At 6:00 o'clock P.M., the Vice President announced that the next agenda item for the Board of Education was a public hearing (the "*Hearing*") to receive public comments on the proposal to sell \$249,000 School Fire Prevention and Safety Bonds (the "*Bonds*") for the purpose of conforming the existing facilities of the District that house students to the building code promulgated by the State Board of Education of the State of Illinois, by altering and reconstructing said facilities and having equipment purchased and installed therein and explained that all persons desiring to be heard would have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect thereto.

The Vice President opened the discussion and explained that the reasons for the proposed issuance of the Bonds were as follows: The School District wishes to make the playground safer for children as well as provide a more stable and handicapped accessible parking lot and entrance to the school.

Whereupon the Vice President asked for additional comments from the members of the Board of Education. Additional comments were made by the following: None

Written testimony concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds was read into the record by the Secretary and is attached hereto as *Exhibit I*. None

Whereupon the Vice President asked for oral testimony or any public comments concerning the proposed issuance of the Bonds. Statements were made by the following: None

The Vice President then announced that all persons desiring to be heard had been given an opportunity to present oral and written testimony with respect to the proposed issuance of the Bonds.

Member McCaskill moved and Member Fry seconded the motion that the Hearing be finally adjourned.

After a full discussion thereof, the Vice President directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion.

Upon the roll being called, the following members voted AYE: Blakeley, Fry, Fullerton, Koch, McCaskill.

The following members voted NAY: none

Whereupon the Vice President declared the motion carried and the Hearing was finally adjourned.

Other business not pertinent to the conduct of the Hearing was duly transacted at said meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, Board of Education

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, May 27, 2015, 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 Vice President Alan Koch. The minutes were recorded by James Blakeley Tracy Flowers, Board Secretary.

On roll call, the following members answered present: Blakeley, Fry, Fullerton, Koch, McCaskill. Blaesing and Krupps were absent.

Public Comment speakers: Otto Ryssman spoke regarding and concerning his daughter's recent experience during a routine drug search at BCHS.

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

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

Surplus Auction – Member McCaskill and Superintendent Phillips discussed that the work is moving forward to have a surplus auction of items that are no longer needed by the district or usable for the district to be auctioned in mid to late July. Sullivan and Sons Auctioneers have agreed to provide their services to the district at no cost. Staff is involved in organizing, tagging, and cataloging all the items that will need to be put in a sale bill. When the date has been set for the auction, the board will be notified. The auction will be held at the BCMS/HS Complex.

Pre-K Extended Day – Mrs. Phillips discussed information regarding the implementation of the Extended Day Pre-K program that is still in the developmental stages. This would be a program for students who are already enrolled in the current Pre School for All Program either in the morning or afternoon sessions. Opposite of the session the child is enrolled in, they would also be in Pre-K for the balance of the regular school day. So if a student normally was enrolled in PreSchool for All from 8-11, then they would be enrolled in the Extended Day Pre-K from 11-3. If they are normally enrolled in PreSchool for All from 12-3, then they would be in Extended Day Pre-K from 8-12. Member Fullerton asked about what curriculum would be utilized during the Extended Day Pre-K. Superintendent Phillips explained that it would be a take-off from the same curriculum that is used in PreSchool for All and would be focusing on Letters/Sounds (Pre-reading skills), numerical skills, physical (gross and fine motor skills), Social/Emotional Skills and daily personal needs skills as needed per child. Superintendent Phillips reminded board members that as of that day, 18 parents had said on a survey that they would be interested in enrolling their child in the Extended

(*cont.*) Day Pre-K and would be willing to pay the fee for the service. There had been over 40 parents who had completed the survey and stated that they were interested in having their child attend the extended day, but they could not pay the service fee. She also discussed that she was still working with the Tracy Family Foundation to possibly provide 20 scholarships to those students whose family income guidelines are at or below the 130% of poverty and whose children screened at preschool screening as having the greatest risk of school success based on the national Head Start guidelines.

Mrs. Ruble's, BCMS 6th grade Teacher was introduced, and she explained that she had the privilege of teaching argumentative writing to her students this past spring. She described how her students learned a great deal from this project and developed their writing and speaking skills as well as their critical thinking skills. She provided the board with four of the essays from her students that represented the good work they had completed. She was also proud to be able to highlight two students who were among the group who had volunteered to read their essay's to the BOE at this meeting. These two young ladies' essays were chosen to be read as representative of the top essays from the class.

Izzy Flynn is the daughter of Jeremy and Jessica Flynn. She wrote her paper on the benefits of having a Balanced-School Calendar.

Janaia Vega is the granddaughter of Peggy Dyer. She wrote her paper explaining why teachers should not be allowed to have weapons in the classroom. Each girl read their paper to the audience with appreciation and congratulations to each from all for a job well done.

Mrs. Heather Wilson, BCHS School Counselor, made a presentation on behalf of a working committee that had been meeting recently to update the Ready for College, Ready for Work Certification Program. Ms. Wilson, Jean Buckley of the Tracy Family Foundation and two DOT Foods employees have been working diligently to ensure that the expectations of the Ready for College and Ready for Work Certificate Program are meeting the needs of both the community businesses and the students. Ms. Wilson provided an overview of the program and the changes.

2. Motion by Koch, seconded by McCaskill, to approve the Ready for College, Ready for Work Certification Program as presented.

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

3. Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Fry, to accept the Elementary School parking lot bid of Hood Demolition & Excavation for Base Bid “A” \$138,000 and contingency allowance \$5,000 (Total \$143,000) and Alt Bid “A-1” \$127,000 for a complete total of \$270,000 .

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

Insurance Bids- Superintendent Phillips shared with the board that bids had been received from various health insurance vendors and agents. At this time staff is working to summarize bid information into a spreadsheet for review by the finance committee along with the one or two teacher representatives from the BCEA. It is hoped that this committee can begin reviewing the bids sometime in the near future.

4. Motion by Koch, seconded by McCaskill, to employ Arnold, Behrens, Nesbit, Gray, PC auditors for the 2014-15 fiscal year review.

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

5. Motion by Koch, seconded by Fullerton, to approve grades 7-12 student/parent handbooks for 2015-2016.

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

6. Motion by Fry, seconded by McCaskill, to authorize the superintendent to prepare a tentative budget for the 2015-16 school year.

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

7. Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Koch, to approve the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) membership for FY2016

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

Discussion on outside lighting by McCaskill for the middle school parking lot. To give Ameren a call to fix lights first.

First Reading of 7:40 and 2:230.

8. Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Fullerton, to approve the Acceptable Usage Policy for Network and Internet Access- Staff and Students.

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

Administrative Reports and Raising Expectations speakers: As presented in packet. Mrs. Phillips provided an overview of some of the highlights from the most recent month of school including the fact that the Class of 2015 was a very successful class as noted by Ms. Logan at High School Graduation in that the members of this class have earned over \$1,000,000 in scholarship monies for college. This is the highest amount of scholarship money that any BCHS graduating class has ever earned. In addition this is the class that had the highest and best ever test scores on the Prairie State Achievement Test as has been now retired but was required by the State of Illinois.

Mrs. Phillips also recognized the retiring staff members of LoAnn Orr, Kriss Johnson, Marilyn Seckman, and Karen Winner and wishes them well in retirement.

It was also noted that the secretaries throughout the district had been good sports and team members during this past school year, as she has asked them to reorganize some of the various responsibilities for efficiency and a better flow of work duties. They have all been very cooperative and willing to make the needed changes, for which she expressed appreciation.

Mrs. Phillips noted that she had expressed to the Faculty and Staff on the last Teacher Institute Day that she believed that the district had not only survived during this past year, but had thrived. Even though there were changes that occurred throughout the year and changes in superintendent, she believed that the final result was a stronger and more effective school district.

Finally, she provided a brief update that Kerry Purcell of Focus on Results was in district that day and the next to work with the Leadership Team on planning the professional development for all teachers for the next year and forward.

9. Motion by McCaskill, 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; h) the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; other matters appropriate for a closed meeting pursuant to the Open Meetings Act at 7:29 pm.

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

In closed session: David Penn, legal counsel and Otto and Molly Ryssman, parents

10. Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Fry, to go out of closed session at 8:09 pm.

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

11. Motion by McCaskill, seconded by Koch, to approve the minutes of closed session.

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

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

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

- hire Connor Propp as High School Math Teacher.
- accept the resignation of Samantha Valentine as Middle School Girls Basketball Coach
- approve Tim Hodge as High School Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach
- approve a maternity leave of absence for Lisa Veatch beginning in early September for approximately six (6) weeks
- approve a maternity leave of absence for Stephanie Furman beginning in late November for approximately twelve (12) weeks

- hire summer school route bus drivers Lori Lindsey-Richardson, Debbie Kemper and James Chaney for summer 2015

13. Motion by McCaskill, seconded by Koch, to adjourn at 8:15 pm.

Motion carried by acclamation.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY