

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF
FOX RIVER GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2009 – 7:00 P.M.
FOX RIVER GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Board President Pat Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain and Devin Bright. Also present were Superintendent Tim Mahaffy and Principals Karen Machroli and Eric Runck.

WELCOME GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Board President Pat Hughes welcomed everyone to the meeting.

No one signed in to address the Board.

ARS Principal Ms. Machroli introduced parent Steve Pickering, kindergarten teacher Beth Diller, and former Superintendent Jackie Krause.

There were no other comments or questions at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Susan McGarrigle to approve the consent agenda, approve and open to the public the regular minutes of the regular Board meeting of November 16, 2009, approve the closed minutes of the regular Board meeting of November 16, 2009, approve the November 2009 Treasurer's Report, approve the Bills and Payroll from November 14, 2009 to December 11, 2009 and approve the October and November Activity Accounts Report. Devin Bright seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Devin Bright and Tom Mollet. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING

A motion to close the regular Board meeting at 7:05 p.m. to open to the public for the Truth in Taxation Hearing for the 2009 Levy was made by Gerry Blohm and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Superintendent Mahaffy reviewed the Truth in Taxation Hearing information (09-12-01). Dr. Mahaffy reminded the Board that the State allowed Districts to add Item V. on the Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Fox River Grove School District 3. In summary, as a PTEL District, the District will receive in an extension the lesser of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is 0.1%. This is important because it is such a low CPI year.

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the levy process and the basic formula. The average CPI increase from 1996 to 2008 was 2.1% and for 2009 the CPI is 0.1%. The EAV (Equalized Assessed Valuation) is leveling off and actually may go down for a couple of years.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that he chose not to balloon levy in the manner we had done in the past. Instead, we are projecting at a 9% increase to tax cap affected areas in the levy; however, the District will only capture what the CPI is anyway – 0.1%. In April, when the final figures come out and the new property and final EAV hits the county, the County Assessor will send the final figures to the District for confirmation. At this time the numbers can be tweaked as long as the District does not go over its limiting rate.

Dr. Mahaffy asked if there were any additional questions from the Board and audience on the Levy and there were none.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that some Districts have decided not to levy at all, and by law, can do this but would be frozen at last year's rate. Under this scenario, if a District was to receive more, they will not get the increase and if a District was to receive less, they would be moved to this lesser amount. A District can only lose by not levying.

A motion to close the public hearing at 7:19 a.m. and return to the regular Board meeting was made by Devin Bright and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson and Gerry Blohm. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion to approve the 2009 Tax Levy as presented was made by Lisa Anderson and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, and Pat Hughes. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Copies of the actual Tax Levy will be signed by the Board Members and delivered by Dr. Mahaffy to the County Clerk's office (09-12-01).

A motion to approve the following volunteer coaches – Jamie Sarius, Nina Mack and Melissa Ritthaler as assistant coaches for 6/7th girls volleyball and Katie Springer as assistant coach for 8th grade girls volleyball – was made by Susan McGarrigle and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Abstain – Tom Mollet. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

The new Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) which goes into effect on January 1, 2010 has many additional changes including response turnaround time has been changed from seven days to five days. Extensions are also now limited to five days. Requests can be submitted on our form or any other paperwork. Also new within the law is the requirement to appoint Freedom of Information Officers. These officers would be Dr. Mahaffy and Lois Bowman and these names will be posted on the District's web site. Any decision making on these FOIA requests would remain the responsibility of Dr. Mahaffy. Dr. Mahaffy stated that the Board is only notified of these requests if deemed necessary by the Superintendent. Health records and student records still remain exempt from this list. Any questions or concerns on these requests would be referred to our legal counsel.

A motion to appoint Dr. Tim Mahaffy and Lois Bowman as Freedom of Information Officers for District 3 was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Tom Mollet. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle and Kris Germain. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Board President Hughes asked if there was any other New Business and there was none.

POLICY

A motion to approve the first reading of the following revised policies – 2:20 – Powers and Duties of the School Board, 2:40 – Board Member Qualifications, 2:110 – Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers, 3:40 – Superintendent, 4:30 – Revenue and Investments, 4:40 – Incurring Debt, 4:100 – Insurance Management, 4:110 – Transportation, 4:140 – Waiver of Student Fees, 4:160 – Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds, 5:30 – Hiring Process and Criteria, 5:90 – Abused and Neglected Child Reporting, 5:100 – Staff Development Program, 5:120 – Ethics, 5:250 – Leaves of Absence, 5:280 – Duties and Qualifications, 5:330 – Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays and Leaves, 6:50 – School Wellness, 7:190 – Student Discipline and 8:100 – Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Devin Bright. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain and Devin Bright. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Algonquin Road School – Ms. Machroli – Ms. Machroli commended Mrs. O'Reilly-Greene on a wonderful K-2 Holiday Concert. She also thanked all the teachers and aides who helped with the performance. The 3rd-4th Holiday Concert is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16th at 2:00 p.m. The mobile dentist will also be at ARS that day. Holiday parties for the students are scheduled for Friday, December 18th. Following the holiday break, two assemblies are scheduled for the ARS students – “Ease the Tease” on January 8th and a Train Safety Presentation from Health World is scheduled for the 13th. AIMSweb winter benchmarking is scheduled for January 11th-15th to see how students are progressing. The PTO has scheduled a family movie night on Friday, January 22nd at ARS.

Fox River Grove Middle School – Mr. Runck – Mr. Runck expressed gratitude to Mrs. Limpus, Mrs. O'Reilly-Greene, Mr. Miller and the rest of the custodial staff for their help in making the Winter Band and Chorus Concert such a success. Over half of the students at the MS are in chorus and band this year. An assembly is scheduled for Friday, December 18th to recognize students with perfect attendance and no discipline referrals as well as to recognize the boys in the basketball conference tournaments scheduled for January 5th-8th and the chorus and band pie sales. Volleyball tryouts begin in January. The 8th grade parent meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13th. The end of the 2nd quarter/1st semester is January 20th. The Sports Awards Night is Wednesday, January 27th at 7:00 p.m. at the MS. Through a request from Governor Pat Quinn, students under the direction of Mrs. Shirley Slater produced holiday cards in her computer classes for Illinois service men and women. Mr. Runck also shared a letter from a veteran who attended our Veterans' Day program. Under the direction of 5th grade teacher Mrs. Norene Carr, students participated in a Book Club Classroom Pair through Scholastic and 5th grade students read over 100 books from October to December.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the Energy Star® Rating that was prepared by Johnson Controls on Algonquin Road School (09-12-02). In order to achieve an EPA Energy Star® status a building must have a rating of at least 75. ARS already has this Energy Star® Status with a rating score of 82. Dr. Mahaffy further stated that in terms of energy efficiency, only 18% of similar buildings out performed ARS. Johnson Controls installed most of the unit ventilators in the District. Johnson Controls will be submitting information as well as CTS and any other vendor for a new boiler at ARS. This will be listed on the Capital Improvement Plan in January.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that currently School District 3 is a member of the Illinois Energy Consortium (IEC) for our electricity. This is a coop group who works through IASBO for school districts to use their size as buying power for electricity. There is also a program for natural gas. Dr. Mahaffy will continue to investigate options for natural gas and will report back to the Board with results from meeting with the IEC as well as meeting with Andi Cashmore of Centerpoint Energy in order to save on natural gas costs.

Dr. Mahaffy also recommended that the District seek a new snow and lawn maintenance vendor in order to meet our standards. In the current contract there is a 60 day notice out clause. Currently the cost is under \$25,000 so the District does not need to put this out to bid by statute. However, School District 3's Board of Education had previously requested that all contracts over \$10,000 be brought to the Board. Dr. Mahaffy recommended requesting applications from vendors for an interview in lieu of the bidding process. This snow and lawn maintenance service is tied to safety and through an interview process the vendors can be made clear of the expectations and trust the people we are working with. The District would seek candidates for the interview. After this interview process, the District will need to follow the guidelines of bid law if the amounts are over \$25,000. The snow removal can be separate from the lawn maintenance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss an individual employee resignation and contract was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Devin Bright, and Tom Mollet. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy excused Ms. Machroli and Mr. Runck from Executive Session and stated that there will be action.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to return from executive session to open session at 8:53 p.m. was made by Gerry Blohm and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the irrevocable resignation of Karen Machroli at the conclusion of the 2012-2013 school year was made by Susan McGarrigle and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson and Gerry Blohm. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Board President Pat Hughes asked if there were any other items and there were none.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. was made by Devin Bright and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye – All ayes. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

Patrick B. Hughes
President
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lois M. Bowman
Secretary
BOARD OF EDUCATION