

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF
FOX RIVER GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2008 – 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, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Gerry Blohm, Kris Germain and Susan McGarrigle. Also present were Superintendent Tim Mahaffy and Principals Karen Machroli and Eric Runck. Absent was board member Lisa Anderson.

WELCOME GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Board President Pat Hughes welcomed audience members Elisa Buss and Steve Pickering to the meeting as well as FRG Rec. Council Representative, Charley Neal.

No one signed in to address the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Kris Germain to approve the consent agenda, approve and open to the public the regular minutes of the regular Board meeting of November 17, 2008, approve the closed minutes of the regular Board meeting of November 17, 2008, approve the November 2008 Treasurer's Report, approve the December 2008 Bills and Payroll and approve the November Activity Accounts Report. Gerry Blohm seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Gerry Blohm, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, and Tom Mollet. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING

A motion to close the regular Board meeting and open to public hearing for the Truth in Taxation Hearing at 7:02 p.m. was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Gerry Blohm, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet and Steve Knar. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that anytime a public entity is looking to increase their taxes over last year's extension by 105%, the District is required to hold a Truth in Taxation Hearing. He then reviewed the Truth in Taxation materials enclosed in the Board packets (08-12-01). A Property

Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTEL) tax cap (5% or the CPI, whichever is lower) does exist for our area. The CPI has been around 2.1 but this year it is up to 4.1. However, all new property is taxed at its full value for the first year. Dr. Mahaffy stated that the computation formula -- your tax rate equals your levy divided by your EAV (Equalized Assessed Valuation) which is one third of the sum of the fair market value of all properties in the District. Taxes on homes are still going up. The fair market value on homes is an average of three years. Dr. Mahaffy stated that when you prepare a tax levy, you are taking an educated guess and there is no penalty for guessing high. There is a huge penalty for guessing low. The District's total levy amount is \$5,019,991. Under the advisement of our auditors, the District is levying a little less in the Tort Fund which allows us to levy a little more in another Fund. Tort, IMRF Retirement and Social Security Funds are driven by the amount the District actually pays. Amounts in the various funds can be manipulated to fit the amount the District requires.

A discussion of the levy followed. Dr. Mahaffy asked if there were any further questions.

A motion to close the Truth in Taxation public hearing and return to the regular Board meeting was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Steve Knar and Pat Hughes. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion to approve the 2008 Tax Levy was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes and Gerry Blohm. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion to approve the following volunteer coaches and assistant coaches – assistant coaches, Nina Mack, Jamie Sarius and Melissa Ritthaler (6th-7th girls' volleyball), assistant coaches, Jacob Cunningham and Nick Diller (6th-7th boys' volleyball) and Gerry Blohm, head coach (8th boys' volleyball, pending an application) with Janet Mollet as assistant coach, was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Susan McGarrigle (08-12-02). A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Gerry Blohm and Kris Germain. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the 403b Plan Document (08-12-03) with the Board. Originally, a 403b Plan Document by law needed to be approved for the District by January 1, 2009. The IRS has now extended this date to December 1, 2009. This date was amended to fix all errors to be in compliance by this December date. The document between the District and our third party administrator, Gatekeeper, fulfils the IRS regulations based off their suggested plan document. The Federal law now mandates that all plan sponsors have a formal written document to govern that plan. All employees are eligible and are annually given a universal availability to defer their salary or not. There is a maximum amount established each year and can be changed at any time during the year. The District does not make any contributions on behalf of the employees. No life insurance is involved. Currently the District has three vendors. The Board has agreed to pay

the TPA (Third Party Administrator) for any employees who have been grandfathered into the program. At the January Board meeting, a revised policy will be presented for vendors who are added but do not pay that fee. Dr. Mahaffy will be recommending that it is the responsibility of the participant to pay that fee. A Gatekeeper representative will be invited to speak to the employees in early January. In this Plan Document, our current policy for a new vendor to come on board requires three people, then it would go to Gatekeeper and if approved that vendor comes on board. Vendors will need to agree to the Plan Document in the future.

A motion to approve the 403b Plan Document was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Pat Hughes. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Tom Mollet, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Gerry Blohm, Kris Germain and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that Village Administrator Art Osten presented a Third Amendment to the Joint Outdoor Facility Use Agreement between the District, the Village and the Rec. Council. The Board agenda was amended to discuss not approve this Amendment. This Third Amendment attempts to revise the scheduling practices of the outdoor playing fields. The Rec Council currently maintains these fields. The original agreement was prepared back in 1993. Dr. Mahaffy recommended that the next step be for the three organizations meet and talk about these revisions to the Agreement.

Mr. Neal, Rec. Council representative, stated that the majority of the maintenance done on these fields is completed by the Rec. Council. Scheduling of non Rec. Council events seems to be the issue here. The Rec. Council does receive a maintenance fee, not a scheduling fee. The scheduling fee goes to the Village. The School District does not receive any of these funds. The District sees the benefit of maintained fields for use during the school year.

Board member Steve Knar stated that if more outside organizations are permitted to use these fields, they will not be maintained as they are now. The Village only does mowing.

Board member Pat Hughes stated that the Rec. Council still has priority on the use of those fields. The Rec. Council gets them when they want and gets the dates in 14 days before the quarter. These other organizations are second priority and only get the field if no one is using it and they will need to pay for the use of the field as well.

Board member Tom Mollet questioned if other entities are using the District's field, why then does the District not get a cut of this money as does the Village and the Rec. Council.

In the spirit of the original Agreement, Mr. Neal stated that no one has sat down amicably to discuss this third Amendment.....it just came from the Village.

Dr. Mahaffy will contact the Village and arrange to have a meeting between the three parties and report back to the Board.

POLICY

Dr. Mahaffy stated that Policy 4:60 was revised since the December Board meeting to include that expenditures more than \$10,000, but less than \$25,000, would be brought to the Board for State law bid procedure consideration.

A motion to approve the second reading and adoption of the following revised or new Policies – Policy 2:220, School Board Meeting Procedure, 4:60, Purchases and Contracts, 4:70, Resource Conservation, 4:160, Hazardous and Infectious Materials, 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting, 5:150, Personnel Records, 5:240, Suspension and 5:290, Employment Termination and Suspension was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Tom Mollet (08-12-04). A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Gerry Blohm, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle and Tom Mollet. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Algonquin Road School – Ms. Machroli – Congratulations went out to Mrs. O'Reilly-Greene and students on the wonderful K-2 concert. Everyone was invited to the 3-4 concert to be held on Wednesday, December 17th. There will be an instrument assembly for each grade level on January 23rd. During the 3rd week of January, the second round of AIMS web progress monitoring for students in grades K-2 will begin. A new 4th grader enrolled in school bringing the total to 282 students and there will be a new student entering the ECE class after the holidays.

Fox River Grove Middle School – Mr. Runck – Mr. Runck complimented both Mrs. Limpus and Mrs. O'Reilly-Greene on their winter band/chorus concert. Both instructors and students did an awesome job. The boys' basketball conference tournament is set for January 6th-9th followed by the Sports Awards banquet on the 14th at 7:00 p.m. The 8th grade parent meeting will be held on Thursday, January 15th. Rules and end of year activities for the 8th graders will be discussed. The volleyball season begins mid-January. On February 25th, the National Assessment of Educational Progress will be administered to all 8th graders. There will be a Pep Assembly on Thursday, December 18th prior to the boys' last home game prior to the tournament. The band, jazz band, and students with perfect attendance for the first quarter (60 out of 248 students) will be recognized. Coaches, players and cheerleaders will be introduced. Thirteen students plus one teacher (Mrs. Carr) will be throwing pies at Mr. Runck for selling more than 10 pies in their fundraiser activity. Almost half of the students at the MS are involved either in the band or chorus programs.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Mahaffy reminded the Board of the need to begin to look at class sizes.

Dr. Mahaffy also stated that each school District is required to have an RTI (Response to Intervention) Plan in place by January 1, 2009 (08-12-05). Intervention strategies, however, do not need to be implemented until 2010-2011. This ongoing progress monitoring plan will be added to the District Improvement Plan template at the State Board of Education.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:11 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the District was made by Gerry Blohm and seconded by Steve Knar. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Gerry Blohm, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet and Steve Knar. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

There will be action.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to return from executive session at 8:20 p.m. was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Susan McGarrigle. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Steve Knar and Pat Hughes. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to approve Mrs. Jaime White's unpaid maternity leave per her letter dated December 5, 2008 was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Steve Knar. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes and Gerry Blohm. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Tom Mollet. 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