

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF  
FOX RIVER GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.  
FOX RIVER GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**II. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

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

**III. WELCOME TO VISITORS, GUESTS, COMMENTS & QUESTIONS**

Audience members – Jackie Krause, Harry Krause, Beth Diller, Marge Tietz, Paulette Nichols, Rick Knapp, Lori Gonzalez, Jodi Steeno, Steve Pickering, and Fred Schuster from RuckPate Architecture – were welcomed to the meeting.

No one signed in to address the Board.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Devin Bright to approve the consent agenda, approve and open to the public the regular minutes of the regular Board meeting of November 15, 2010 and approve the closed minutes of the regular Board meeting of November 15, 2010, approve the November 2010 Treasurer's Report, approve the bills and payroll from November 13, 2010 through December 10, 2010 and approve the November Activity Accounts Report. Susan McGarrigle seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, and Kris Germain. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

**V. REQUEST FOR RECORDS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

The District did receive one FOIA request from the Northwest Herald on December 2, 2010. This request was regarding a former employee and was complied with on December 3, 2010.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the School Energy Efficiency Grant with the Board (10-12-01). Currently, the School Maintenance Grant has not come through yet. Dr. Mahaffy stated that the

District has been saving up for roof work at both schools and a boiler that needs replacement at Algonquin Road School. This is a dollar for dollar matching grant up to \$500,000. The first component of the grant is to have an architect approve the drawings and confirm the energy efficiency. Dr. Mahaffy stated that if the grant is approved for the District, the State will prioritize funding based on the District's EAV. Funding may not be approved until the following year, but the grant is still due by January 15, 2011. Regardless of the grant, the boiler at ARS will need to be replaced this summer.

Mr. Fred Schuster of RuckPate Architecture stated that they reviewed our facilities with their engineer and prepared a five year recommendation totaling \$160,000 for replacement of the boilers at ARS. RuckPate is recommending Option 1 for a dual boiler installation. Option 2 is for a single boiler & pump which totals \$75,000. RuckPate also recommended the replacement of the HVAC system in the front office at ARS with a roof top system. Other roofing at ARS (Area C, D and E on the intermediate wing) would include upgrading the insulation for energy efficiency and roof recovery rather than a complete tear-off. The HVAC in the south computer lab would be replaced with a new ductless split-system AC. Roofing at the Middle School included the tear-off and re-shingle and possibly some additional insulation in any accessible attic space if it is cost effective and would produce additional energy savings.

RuckPate Architecture would prepare the bid documents and also monitor the project through its completion. RuckPate would also prepare all the advertising and answer any questions regarding the bidding process.

Dr. Mahaffy reminded the Board that even if the District does not receive the grant, the District must go out for a bid for the ARS boiler as soon as possible. This would need to be approved at the January Board meeting for delivery in July.

Mr. Schuster stated that part of the grant process included stating what the energy savings would be. The \$160,000 boiler system is based on a higher efficiency boiler. The lower cost boiler option is also based on a slightly lower efficiency boiler. The main concern in using a single boiler is that you would be out of operation if this boiler were to quit working. Types of boilers (cast iron, redundant systems, etc.) were discussed.

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the Operations and Maintenance Fund Balance projection using costs for both Option 1 and Option 2 (10-12-01). Currently there are 18.2 months cash on hand (\$470,137) in this fund. The auditors for the District are aware of this higher amount due to upcoming capital improvement projects. Dr. Mahaffy stated that if the Board chose to go with Option 1, the District would still have 11.6 months of cash on hand (\$299,094) as of 06/30/2012 to do any additional items that would need to be completed in the area of building and District improvement. If the Board chose to go with Option 2, there would remain 13.5 months of cash on hand (\$350,094) as of 06/30/2012. Option 2 would give two additional months of cash on hand over Option 1.

Dr. Mahaffy recommended the Board approving the maximum grant amount in order to get it to the State on time. Grants are based on the District's EAV. Before specifications are put out to bid, documents will be presented to the Board for final approval. Dr. Mahaffy stated that he is leery of getting away from a redundant boiler. Dr. Mahaffy will continue to update the Board on the status of the Grant. The State indicated that the District would probably have an answer by

February 15<sup>th</sup>. Recommendations for what type of boiler system based on receiving or not receiving the grant will be presented at the February Board meeting.

Mr. Schuster mentioned that grants for gas savings are expected to be out shortly. However, normally you cannot receive funding from two grants for the same purpose. If the District gets funding for this grant but is prioritized for Year 2 or Year 3, the District can apply for another grant.

A motion to approve the School Energy Efficiency Grant at the Option 1 Level was made by Gerry Blohm and seconded by Tom Mollet. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

## **VII. TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING FOR 2010 LEVY**

A motion to close the regular Board meeting and open to the public for the Truth in Taxation Hearing for the 2010 Levy was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Devin Bright. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle and Devin Bright. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the 2010 Tax Levy including the levy process and the basic formula (10-12-02). The CPI is currently 2.7% as compared to 0.1% last year. As you move towards 2011, the trend for CPI is moving towards 1%. Dr. Mahaffy estimated the EAV (Equalized Assessed Valuation) to go down 7.5% from 2009.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that he visualizes the taxpayers' tax rate as follows. If the growth of the EAV is greater than that of the CPI, the tax rate will go down. However, if the growth of the EAV is less than the CPI, the tax rate will increase. In two years the District could meet the maximum tax rate if the EAV continues to decrease and the CPI continues to outpace the EAV. Final figures are sent to the District from the County Assessor in April. Numbers can be changed at this time as long as the District does not go over its limiting rate. Dr. Mahaffy reminded the Board that there is no penalty for guessing too high.

The District's Public Notice now includes Item V. – The taxing district has estimated its equalized assessed valuation to secure new growth revenue and must adhere to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL or "tax cap" law). PTELL limits the increase over the prior year in the property tax extension of this taxing district to the lesser of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is 2.7%.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that the 2009 actual certified EAV amount for existing property was \$133,759,794 and the EAV for new property was \$329,570. The projected 2010 certified EAV amount for existing property is \$123,727,809 and the projected EAV amount for new property is \$300,000. The 2009 actual certified rate was 3.54 and the 2010 projected certified rate is 3.89.

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

A motion to close the Public Hearing and return to the regular Board meeting at 8:13 p.m. was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Pat Hughes. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Devin Bright and Tom Mollet. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

A motion to approve the 2010 Tax Levy as presented was made by Devin Bright and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the following volunteer coaches – 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls volleyball – Bekaila Dorn, 6/7<sup>th</sup> grade boys' volleyball – Dex Garcia and Anne Lindberg, 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' volleyball – Michael Conway and track – Anne Lindberg – was made by Lisa Anderson and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, and Gerry Blohm. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed current and projected class sizes for the 2011-2012 school year. The estimated enrollment at Algonquin Road School next year is 259 students with 240 students at the Middle School. If grades remain in three sections, the average number of students per section ranges from 16 in first grade to 21.33 in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level. If grades go to two sections, the average number of students per section ranges from 24.0 up to 32.0. Currently, Kindergarten is in two sections and all other grades are in three sections. Dr. Mahaffy recommended that by no later than the February Board meeting the Board make a firm decision regarding sections so Administration can project staffing needs for the FY12 school year.

Dr. Mahaffy also reviewed a class size reduction plan based upon projected enrollment from FY10 through FY16. The chart shows what sections would look like at each grade level as the current and future Kindergarten classes with two sections move through the years. If the trend in enrollment continues with fewer students (50 or less) and with going to two sections at the grade levels, at the end of FY16, the District is looking at an attrition of 8 staff members. This chart was prepared for discussion only. Dr. Mahaffy also reminded the Board that another option is to maintain the lower class sizes as long as the District can afford to do so.

Dr. Mahaffy will prepare a fund balance summary for the second quarter through December 30<sup>th</sup> as well as an update on State revenues. Dr. Mahaffy stated that he applauds this community and past and present Board members for being so fiscally responsible. The Board will continue to look at all options regarding class size.

## **IX. POLICY**

A motion to approve the first reading of the following revised policies – 2:230 – Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board, 2:260 – Uniform Grievance Procedure, 4:10 – Fiscal and Business Management, 4:170 – Safety, 5:10 – Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment, 5:30 – Hiring Process and Criteria, 5:220 – Substitute Teachers, 5:260 – Student Teachers, 7:100 – Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students, 7:290 – Adolescent Suicide Awareness and

Prevention Programs – was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Devin Bright, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, and Pat Hughes. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

## **X. SCHOOL REPORTS**

**Algonquin Road School – Ms. Machroli** – The K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade concert held today under the direction of Mrs. O’Reilly-Greene was a great success. Everyone is invited to the 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade concert to be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Market Day is also on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> is “Polar Express in PJs Day”. Students will be doing a compare/contrast and various writing projects on the book and the movie. The mobile dentist will also be at ARS that day. Holiday parties will begin at 2:00 on the 17<sup>th</sup>. A steel band assembly sponsored by the PTO is scheduled for January 13<sup>th</sup>. The end of the first semester is January 14<sup>th</sup> with report cards going home on January 21<sup>st</sup>. There is a lot of testing (MAP, AimsWeb, ELL) coming up after January.

**FRG Middle School – Mr. Runck** – On December 8<sup>th</sup> the Cary-Grove High School Swing Choir, with four former students from the MS, put on an excellent show for our students. The MS Band and Chorus Concert was wonderful. Currently there are 145 students in band and chorus. Mrs. Limpus and Mrs. O’Reilly-Greene did a wonderful job with this performance. Students in band and chorus did an excellent job in the selling of pies for their fundraiser. Twenty-four students sold over 10 pies. At the assembly on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup>, these students will be allowed to throw a pie at Mr. Runck. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys’ basketball tournament and volleyball tryouts will begin the first week in January. The winter sports parents meeting is scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup>. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting outlining end of year activities and graduation will be held on Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. The volleyball season for both girls and boys begins on January 18<sup>th</sup>. The fall and early winter sports awards night will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **XI. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Mahaffy met with District 155 and other feeder schools to discuss the FY12 calendar. District 3’s school calendar and in-service committee will meet tomorrow to discuss the calendar as well. District 155 is possibly trying to complete one full semester before the winter break for the 2011-2012 school year. In order to accomplish this, District 155 would be starting school earlier and going longer before winter break would begin. District 3 normally had the same spring and winter break as District 155 in order to accommodate families with students in both schools. Many feeder schools were not very receptive to this idea. Dr. Mahaffy will present an update on what District 155 is considering as well as what our committee is recommending for the FY12 calendar at the January Board meeting.

Dr. Mahaffy briefly reported on the joint agreement between the Cary Grove Youth Softball/Baseball (CGYSB), the Rec. Council, Village, and District 3. The agreement states that CGYSB agrees to maintain the premises in a safe and appropriate condition, keep the same free from debris deposited thereon during the period that CGYSB uses the premises. This includes mowing and trimming the grass, repairing the fences, painting the backstops, bleachers and dugouts on the premises as often as necessary to maintain the same in a safe and presentable condition. CGYSB is not charged for the use of the fields. The agreement states that CGYSB will police the premises after each use. CGYSB will also provide full field preparation thirty minutes prior to each scheduled FRGMS home softball game (grooming, bases, chalk lines,

elimination of portable pitching mounds and equipment, etc.). The name of the person and contact information from CGYSB in charge of field preparation will be given to District 3's Athletic Director prior to the first home game each school year. Standard insurance information would be provided. Dr. Mahaffy will make sure that the portable restroom facilities are the responsibility of CGYSB and that school building facilities are not available. A final draft of the joint agreement will be brought to the January Board meeting.

Dr. Mahaffy also reminded the Board that the Agreement between School District 3 and the Rec. Council to not charge for facilities because of their donation of the \$15,000 digital scoreboards is up in October. Currently on the Building Use Forms, the cost for using our facilities is listed but per agreement this amount is waived. Dr. Mahaffy will also be bringing this matter back to the Board in the near future.

## **XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

## **XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

There was one confidential Board of Education email included in the packets for the Board members.

## **XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

## **XV. ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

## **XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye – All ayes. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

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Patrick B. Hughes  
President  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Lois M. Bowman  
Secretary  
BOARD OF EDUCATION