

PAWNEE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #11

“Creating a community of empowered learners in an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust”

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING Cafeteria - Thursday, September 18th, 2008

Executive Session 6:00 p.m. Budget Hearing 6:30 p.m. Regular Session 6:45 p.m.

1. Call to Order

President Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Bentley, Daily, Manning, Walters, Burnley, Bowen

Members Absent: Walters (arrived at 8:10 p.m.)

Administrators Present: Rigdon, Cline, Wilson, Hamilton (6:30 p.m.)

3. Executive Session (Superintendent’s Office)

Motion: Executive Session for student discipline and personnel items including extra-curricular assignments, employment, and staff evaluations.

Motion: Manning

Second: Daily

Ayes: Bentley, Daily, Manning, Nelson, Burnley, Bowen

President Nelson declared the meeting open at 6:30 p.m.

4. Budget Hearing—6:30 p.m. (Cafeteria)

Motion: Open the Budget Hearing for the 2008/2009 Budget.

Motion: Burnley

Second: Bowen

Ayes: 6-0

Comptroller Hamilton presented the budget. This year’s budget required the Tort Levy to be deposited in its own fund rather than a line item within the Education, Building, and Transportation Funds. This change will make it more difficult to compare past budgets. The 08/09 budget single-year projections are: Education Fund \$173,234.00; Building Fund \$20,920.00; Debt Service Fund \$24.00; Transportation Fund (\$60,940.00); IMRF Fund (\$38,281); Working Cash Fund \$27,248.00; Tort Fund \$89,538.00; and Health/Life/Safety (\$472,235.00). The H/L/S Fund large deficit is expected because the Bond proceeds were received in a prior year and the expenses occur as work is completed. The deficit in IMRF is planned to spend down carryover. The fund of concern is the Transportation Fund but with the purchase of one new bus and the lease of 2 buses some money will be reimbursed through increased depreciation, better gas mileage, and better fuel economy. Hopefully, the reduction in stops and starts for in-town pickups will also improve the gas mileage.

The 08/09 budget is based on no increase in Corporate Replacement Tax. Pawnee relies heavily on Corporate Tax so a decrease in funding could drastically change the financial picture. Additionally, our State Aid is decreasing, as is our enrollment. All these factors have significant impact on the budget of the school district.

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5. Close the Budget Hearing and return to Open Session- 6:40 p.m.

President Nelson declared the budget hearing closed and sealing of the executive session minutes.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Consent Agenda

Motion: Approve the consent agenda as follows:

- **Minutes**
 - August 14th, 2008 Regular session
 - Approval to destroy executive session recordings over 18 months old
 - Approval to continue to seal the minutes of all previous executive sessions
- **Financial Reports** (bills totaling \$114,264.36)
- **Personnel**
 - Request for “leave of absence” from Scholastic Bowl – Mrs. Schleicher
 - Scholastic Bowl Coach – Mrs. Vreeland
 - Class Sponsor – Mrs. Dirksen 8th grade class sponsor

8. Student Council

No report.

9. Friends of the School

Wes Howard and Melanie Raleigh voiced their concerns pertaining to the elimination of the in-town bus routes. Mr. Rigdon explained the Hazardous crossing designations were being requested to help with this issue.

10. Administrative Reports

- Mrs. Cline (report herein attached) enrollment down by six students; IOWA testing, update on in-service; Oct. 4th PTO Fall Carnival; and principal mentoring program.
- Mrs. Wilson (report herein attached) “Meet the Teachers Night” changes well received; yearbooks have arrived; mid-term progress reports; 9/10 Bus Evacuation drill; 4 teachers completing Masters Program; student rewards program instituted this year; new Ag Program very active (sold 330 mums for fundraising project).
- Mrs. Hamilton (report herein attached) the annual audit, which indicates a 4.0 Financial Recognition will be presented at the next meeting.
- Mr. Wolven – athletic update presented by Mrs. Wilson
- Mr. Langheim (report herein attached)
- Mr. Rigdon - membership in the Illinois Association of School Boards; Bright Star Award; Sixth Day Enrollment down ; E-Rate funding; Ag Grant Update (the grant requires matching funds and the First National Bank will donate \$1000 toward the match)

11. Unfinished Business

None

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12. New Business

12.1 Adoption of Budget for 2008-2009

Motion: Adopt the 2008/2009 Budget as presented.

Motion: Bowen

Second: Burnley

Ayes: Manning, Nelson, Daily, Burnley, Bentley, Bowen

12.2 Approval of Senior Trip

Motion: Approve the recommended Senior Trip April 22-28, 2009.

Motion: Burnley

Second: Manning

Ayes: 6-0

12.3 Application for Recognition

ISBE requires an annual board approval of our Application for Recognition. Essentially, we must state to them that our staff is highly qualified (properly certified) in all areas, including aides. Fortunately, we have a great staff and all are properly certified. SASSED has one employee in our district who is working on certification. Special education teaching positions are becoming quite difficult to fill for all school districts and cooperatives.

Motion: Approve the Application for Recognition.

Motion: Manning

Second: Burnley

Ayes: 6-0

12.4 IDOT Hazardous Crossing

The board needs to approve the submission of forms to declare all of RT104 a hazardous crossing. If they permit it, we will be able to set up reimbursable bus stops south of 104. It is a relatively simple format that requires us to “rank” various concerns and assign them a point value. Once a certain point value is reached, the site qualifies for IDOT review.

Motion: Approve the submission of the IDOT Hazardous Crossing request.

Motion: Burnley

Second: Bowen

Ayes: 6-0

Mr. Rigdon thanked Kent Olsen for his assistance with IDOT.

12.5 Crosswalk at Harrison

We have a number of parents (and older students) crossing 4th street West where Harrison street T's into 4th. Apparently there was a crosswalk painted there at one time and a crosswalk sign is still there. We are going to put it back in place in order to increase safety for these students and parents.

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12.6 Safe Routes To School Grant

The grant requires a “Travel Plan” for board approval. The Travel Plan must be approved by the state in order to apply for the grant. The Travel Plan is supposed to ask for “pie-in-the-sky” level improvements. The actual list of projects is to be detailed in the grant application itself, which will come later if our Travel Plan is approved.

Motion: Approve the SRTSG submission.

Motion: Bowen

Second: Daily

Ayes: 6-0

12.7 Policy Approval

6:250 Volunteers

Add language to require background checks for all “routine” volunteers. Check should be performed prior to the individual starting. Of course if someone on staff has known the person their entire life, we will make exceptions.

6:280 Promotion

The committee would like to know if the full board wants this amended. If so, another date will be set to discuss options.

6:310 Alternative Credit

Changed to reflect our current handbook and to give the principal some discretion in limited hardship cases. Removes the entire section on PE exemptions because the topic has its own policy (see 7:260 below).

7:40 Nonpublic School Students

Changed to allow students who are home-schooled to participate in all extra-curricular activities with board approval. The committee felt that, since we let SCLA and Safe School students participate, we should also allow home-schooled students.

7:50 School Admissions

Allows the principal to determine placements. If placement documentation is lacking, establishes a method for assessment.

7:50AP School Admissions Procedure

Changes added to align the steps with the preceding policy.

7:60 Residence

Add the newly required language pertaining to military service obligations. Currently the district does not permit tuition students.

7:150 Police Interviews

Only slightly reworded, but in an important way. We will always want the building principals to be the point people to work with the police. Also, note the four points not listed in the existing policy. By statute, we are to be fully cooperating with local and state police.

7:150 AP Police Interview Procedures

Identifies what is meant by “minor” and clarifies the DCFS case workers authority.

7:190 Student Handbooks, Electronic Devices

Changes the policy to match the student handbook. Clarifies who may give students permission to use cell phones.

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7:220 Bus Conduct

Changes suspension limits to match student handbook. Requires posted notices on all buses that the occupants may be video taped.

7:260 PE Exemptions

Changes the types of exemptions (paragraph 1)

Field Trip Medications

This is a new form from Kelly Dennis providing instructions for how to manage medications on field trips.

Policy 6:280 Promotion was discussed at length with the final decision that the policy will remain the same.

Walters arrived at 8:10 p.m.

Motion: Approve the first reading of policies as presented with the exception of Policy 6.280.

Motion: Burnley

Second: Daily

Ayes: Nelson, Daily, Bentley, Bowen, Burnley, Manning, Walters

13. Correspondence

14. Future Dates

15. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Motion: Bowen

Second: Daily

Ayes: 7-0