

**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2
CRAWFORD COUNTY ROBINSON, ILLINOIS
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 21, 2008**

6:00pm-Closed Session

6:45pm – Hearing for Holiday Waiver

7:00pm – Regular Meeting

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Ron Legg
2. Debbi Lowrance (arrived at 6:25pm)
3. Leslie Swaner
4. Von Meeks
5. Dennis Inboden (arrived at 6:10pm)
6. Larry Keeler
7. Bill Ecton

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

1. Earl Williams, Superintendent
2. Josh Quick, WGS Principal
3. Kevin McConnell, LGS Principal
4. Sue Catt, NMS Principal
5. Troy Hickey, RHS Principal
6. Jason Stark, RHS Assistant Principal
7. Terry Roche, Extended Services Director
8. Alice Taylor, Special Services Director

OTHERS ATTENDING:

1. Debbie J. Pethel, School Board Secretary
2. Randy Harrison, News Media
3. Chris Forde, WTYE
4. Kirk Rardin, CUTEA Co-President
5. Courtney Hoalt, CUTEA Co-President

President Legg called the April board meeting to order at 6:00pm with the pledge and roll call.

At 6:05pm a motion was made by Meeks and seconded by Swaner to convene to closed session to discuss student discipline, personnel, and litigation. Roll call vote: Yeas – Keeler, Swaner, Meeks, Ecton, Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

At 6:45pm a motion was made by Meeks and seconded by Keeler to return to open session. Roll call vote: Yeas – Inboden, Swaner, Lowrance, Keeler, Ecton, Meeks, Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A Public Hearing was held to discuss an application for a renewal of the Holiday Waiver to allow attendance on a school holiday (Lincoln's Birthday) in exchange for no school attendance on President's Day. If approved, this waiver renewal would be in effective for five years to expire at the 2013/2014 school year. After no questions or comments from the public, the hearing was closed at 6:55pm.

At 7:05pm a motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Swaner to return to closed session to discuss student discipline, personnel, and litigation. Roll call vote: Yeas – Swaner, Lowrance, Keeler, Inboden, Ecton, Meeks, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

At 8:00pm a motion was made by Lowrance and seconded by Keeler to return to open session. Roll call vote: Yeas – Ecton, Keeler, Swaner, Inboden, Meeks, Lowrance, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Lowrance to approve the following:

- Prior minutes for regular & special meetings (March 17, March 31)
- Prior closed minutes (March 17, March 31)
- Payroll and bills

COMMENTS FROM CUTEA/PUBLIC:

CUTEA Co-President Courtney Hoalt reported a Legislative Breakfast to be held at Effingham High School on Saturday May 10th to begin at 9:20am. If any faculty and/or board members are interested in attending, please contact Janis Loughery, Courtney Hoalt, and/or Kirk Rardin.

OLD BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Meeks to approve revisions to the following policies:

- 2:260-Uniform Grievance
- 4:10 – Fiscal & Business Management
- 4:60-Purchases and Contracts
- 4:110-Transportation
- 5:10-Equal Employment Opportunity & Minority Recruitment
- 6:20-School Year Calendar & Day
- 6:60-Curriculum Content
- 6:320-High School Credit for Proficiency
- 7:20-Harassment of Students Prohibited
- 7:70 – Attendance & Truancy
- 7:180 (New) Preventing Bullying, Intimidation & Harassment
- 7:220 – Bus Conduct
- 7:340 – Student Records
- 8:20- Community Use of Facilities

NEW BUSINESS:

After hearing a request from Band Booster member Jay Holtzouser, a motion was made by Meeks and seconded by Swaner to approve a Band Booster trip to St. Louis on May 18th & 19th as a “fun and thank you” trip for all band members. The trip is not mandatory for the students and will not be any cost to the school district. There will be approximately 71 students with 6 chaperones including a RHS administrator. Roll call vote: Yeas – Swaner, Lowrance, Ecton, Keeler, Inboden, Meeks, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Swaner and seconded by Lowrance to approve the Holiday Waiver Application for student attendance on Lincoln’s Birthday in exchange for no attendance on President’s Day for the next five school years. Roll call vote: yeas – Ecton, Meeks, Swaner, Lowrance, Keeler, Inboden, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Meeks and seconded by Lowrance to authorize a resolution to loan \$100,000 from the Working Cash Fund to Transportation Fund to meet monthly expenses. The loan will be repaid as soon as funds are available. Roll call vote: Yeas – Keeler, Meeks, Ecton, Lowrance, Swaner, Inboden, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Swaner to uphold recommended Unit #2 bus transportation expulsion for student #209219 for the remainder of the 2007/2008 school year. Roll call vote: Yeas – Ecton, Inboden, Swaner, Meeks, Lowrance, Keeler, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Keeler and seconded by Lowrance to uphold recommend expulsion for student #208012 for the remainder of the 2007/2008 school year with expulsion of said student to be held in abeyance and said student be placed in the Optional Education/Safe School Program. Roll call vote: Yeas – Lowrance, Meeks, Ecton, Swaner, Keeler, Inboden, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Lowrance to approve membership continuation in the Illinois High School Association for 2008/2009 school year at no cost to the school district. Roll call vote: Yeas – Inboden, Ecton, Swaner, Lowrance, Keeler, Meeks, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Upon recommendation from Transportation Director Terry Roche, a motion was made Inboden and seconded by Ecton to purchase three (3) International Buses from Midwest Transit Equipment at \$78,748.00 each for total cost of \$236,244. This includes trading in 3 buses. These new buses will not be delivered until after July 1, 2008. Roll call vote: Yeas – Swaner, Ecton, Lowrance, Keeler, Meeks, Inboden and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

CUSD #2 PERSONNEL:

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Swaner to accept the resignation of Bob Goebel, RHS Head Football Coach and RHS History Teacher effective April 25, 2008. Roll call vote: Yeas – Inboden, Meeks, Keeler, Ecton, Lowrance, Swaner, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Swaner and seconded by Lowrance to accept the resignation of Eric Combs, NMS Band Director effective at the end of the 2007/2008 school year. Roll call vote: Yeas – Ecton, Inboden, Swaner, Meeks, Lowrance, Keeler and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Lowrance to accept the resignation of Dion Wright, Head Custodian at Washington Elementary School effective April 25, 2008. Roll call vote: Yeas – Ecton, Keeler, Swaner, Lowrance, Inboden, Meeks, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lowrance and seconded by Meeks to accept the resignation of Devan Harper as NMS Speech Team Coach effective the end of the 2007/2008 school year. Roll call vote: Yeas – Meeks, Swaner, Keeler, Ecton, Inboden, Lowrance, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lowrance and seconded by Ecton to accept the resignation of Jay Jared as RHS Student Senate Sponsor effective the end of the 2007/2008 school year. Roll call vote: Lowrance, Inboden, Ecton, Keeler, Swaner, Meeks, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Lowrance to employ Lauren Gullett as RHS Science Teacher effective for the 2008/2009 school year. Roll call vote: Yeas – Inboden, Meeks, Ecton, Swaner, Keeler, Lowrance. Nays – Legg. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Swaner and seconded by Lowrance to employ Julie Dickerson as NMS Guidance Counselor effective 2008/2009 school year. Roll call vote: Yeas – Keeler, Inboden, Swaner, Meeks, Ecton, Lowrance, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lowrance and seconded by Inboden to employ Courtney Britton as NMS 6th grade language arts teacher effective 2008/2009 school year. Roll call vote: Yeas – Lowrance, Meeks, Swaner, Keeler, Inboden, Ecton, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Lowrance to employ Kate Maurer as NMS 7th grade language arts teacher effective 2008/2009 school year. Roll call vote: Yeas – Ecton, Inboden, Lowrance, Meeks, Swaner, Keeler, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lowrance and seconded by Inboden to employ Nancy Moden as a paraprofessional at NMS with the LD/MI Cross-categorical program effective April 4, 2008. Roll call vote: Yeas – Keeler, Swaner, Meeks, Ecton, Inboden, Lowrance, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Ecton to appoint the following extra-curricular positions for the 2008/2009 school year:

- Kelly Brookman - NMS 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach for 2008/09 School Year
- Lauren Gullett - RHS Dance Squad Sponsors for 2008/09 school year–split stipend of \$544
- Katie Baker – RHS Dance Squad Sponsors for 2008/09 school year–split stipend of \$544
- Approved RHS Softball Split Stipends

Roll call vote: Yeas – Inboden, Swaner, Ecton, Meeks, Lowrance, Keeler, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Inboden and seconded by Lowrance to approve a recommendation from Principal Hickey to employ the following Driver's Ed. Instructors for the summer of 2008, this will not mean they will all receive drive time, however there will be enough names approved to cover for vacations and number of students:

- Levi Damron, Jason Waggoner, Les Wilson, Larry Higgins, Jason Hartke, John Repp, Travis Blank, and Dick Muston.

Roll call vote: Yeas – Swaner, Meeks, Keeler, Lowrance, Inboden, Ecton, and Legg. Nays – none. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Supt. Williams recognized NMS Principal Sue Catt, Lynn Roche, and Sarah Hemrich for their day spent at Mattoon Middle School recently to help facilitate Mattoon's Middle School teams to reflect on current and best practices in teaming to help students learn and reach their potential. Todd Vilardo, Principal of Mattoon Middle School said by listening to Unit #2 staff members, he believes their dialogue was indicative of a *professional learning community in action* – educators learning what works best from other educators. Principal Catt, Lynn Roche, and Sarah Hemrich were recommended by Deb Schrock, Executive Director of AIMS.

Supt. Williams told of recently receiving a "*Certificate of Financial Recognition*" from the Illinois State Board of Education for CUSD #2's highest category of financial achievement based upon the 2007 fiscal year financial statements and the 2008 School District Financial Profile. Given the many challenges that are faced by school districts, the Illinois State Board of Education commends Unit #2 for achieving excellent financial results!

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

Principal Josh Quick reported the success of Health & Safety week with Debbie Tedford, Illinois Extension Office; MAP CAP Program, Health Department, County Sheriff and local Police Department who were all on board to help teach elementary students about safety and developing healthy habits. Principal Quick noted that 85 students took part in the Kindergarten pre-registration recently. He also noted he predicts the average K-2 class sizes for 2008/2009 school year to be 21, 22 students per class.

Principal Kevin McConnell noted Health & Safety week will be held at LGS on May 12th. He commended Becky Miller for the recent 4th grade Music Program held at LGS recently. McConnell mentioned trips coming up for 5th graders to Lincoln's Home in Springfield on Friday and LGS Conservation Day trip to Oblong Tuesday April 22nd. He thanked the board for supporting all the trips for students at the end of the school year.

Principal Sue Catt reported NMS hosted the evacuation site recently and everything went smoothly. She noted upcoming events for NMS as follows:

- Performing Arts Musical – Thursday, April 24th at 7:00pm at RHS and Sunday, April 27th at 2:00pm at RHS
- Music Concert – May 6th at 7:00pm at NMS
- 8th Grade Recognition – May 20th at NMS at 7:00pm

Principal Troy Hickey and Assistant Principal Jason Stark reported ACT tests are up-coming as well as Prairie State Achievement tests at RHS. The Academic Banquet is Tuesday night (4/22/08) with the Spring Concert as well at RHS. They noted RHS Graduation is Saturday May 24th in the RHS New Gym. Hickey thanked the custodial staff for the mulch that looks terrific in the front lawn landscaping at the RHS building.

Terry Roche, Extended Services Director – No reporting at this time

Alice Taylor, Special Services Director made note of upcoming preschool screening to begin May 12 and will be held through May 15th.

A motion was made at 8:28pm by Inboden and seconded by Keeler to adjourn the April 21st regular board meeting. Roll call vote: Yeas – Keeler, Swaner, Ecton, Meeks, Inboden, Lowrance, and Legg. Motion carried.

The next regular board meeting will be held May 19, 2008.

Ron Legg, School Board President

Debbie Pethtel, School Board Secretary