

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46
ELGIN, ILLINOIS
January 8, 2007

CLOSED SESSION

A meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 4:37 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Karen Carney, Joyce Fountain, Dave Mathews, Dan Rich, Dale Spencer and Ken Kaczynski. Board Member Donna Smith was not present at the meeting. Also in attendance were administrators Connie Neale, Patrick Broncato, Barbara Bonner, Karen Fox, Lalo Ponce and John Prince.

- I. Motion by Mrs. Carney, with a second by Mr. Mathews, to enter into Closed Session to discuss Individual Student Disciplinary Matters (Suspensions & Expulsions); Pending or Imminent Litigation/Delgado v. U-46; Acquisition or Sale of Real Property; Collective Negotiating Matters Between the School Board and Its Employees; Information Re the Discipline, Performance, Appointment, Employment or Reclassification of an Employee; and Review of Closed Session Minutes. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mrs. Carney, Ms. Fountain, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Rich, Mr. Spencer and Mr. Kaczynski. No Votes: 0. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

- II. Information re the Discipline, Performance, Appointment, Employment or Reclassification of an Employee. Dr. Neale reviewed the Superintendent's Performance Goals for the Board. Dr. Neale reviewed the Goals and accomplishments since June, 2006.

Top Accomplishments 05-06

- Continued alignment of district goals, budget and staffing
- Operationalizing the Curriculum Roadmap
- Improved financial condition
- Academic Progress—More Making AYP
- Redefining services for Special Populations (Early Learners, ELL)
- Becoming a standards-drive, assessment-based culture
- Continuous improvements in Operations Departments
- Website as a resource
- Facilities improvements and long-range sustainability
- Raising expectations across the system

Dr. Neale added that interdependence is the significant reason why Administration is starting see how to move forward. Dr. Neale explained interdependence as moving in a circle in many directions to connect.

Goal 1: Expand the utilization of the Curriculum Roadmap to ensure a common standards-based rigorous K-12 curriculum monitored by the initiation of benchmark assessments.

Dr. Neale provided the Board with an outline of the Roadmap workshops and stated that by adding benchmark assessments it will allow the District to continue to move forward. There was further explanation of Roadmap workshops.

Dr. Neale explained that there was additional staff development established in the area of aspiring administrators working in the summer intervention program, 2 additional days of training for the 225 newly hired teachers, and mentors (retired administrators and ROE-provided administrators as mentors). There are 12 instructional coaches that go into the schools and provide a "touch back" opportunity for teachers in the classroom for the staff development/training they have already had.

Dr. Neale stated that there also been much work to align School Improvement Plans.

Dr. Neale added that all of this has been done with the support of the Stupski Foundation.

Dr. Neale also spoke to the development of the District's website and the tools that are provided for teachers and administrators regarding the Roadmap.

Dr. Neale further talked about the Assessment Office and adding personnel to strengthen that program.

Goal 2: Continue to refine the systematic continuum of services to special populations with enhanced focus on early childhood and gifted, including high school academies.

Dr. Neale stated All Means All.

In the area of the ELL program, there have been great strides and ELL may be expanded to include Larsen.

Efforts in the Early Childhood program are really just beginning, with all-day kindergarten at Illinois Park, Prairieview and Ridge Circle. Dr. Neale further talked about the progress of the children in these programs because they have simply been provided an opportunity.

In the area of the Gifted Program, Dr. Neale stated that opportunities are provided to these students even though little funding is provided.

The Board will be provided a report on the Academies at Open Session this evening. Dr. Neale also updated the Board on the establishment of an academy at South Elgin High School.

Goal 3: Identify standards, processes, and/or procedures throughout the system that reflect a culture expectation of quality.

Dr. Neale reinforced quality throughout the District and best practices in the operation of the District.

The implementation of the ISO 9001 will focus on the operations side of the District. This includes processes being written by departments and internal auditors being trained to maintain the process.

In summary, Dr. Neale stated that the District is truly changing the way they do business—in education and curriculum. Dr. Neale also stated that at the beginning there was a single focus—to improve student achievement. Systems within the District work in sync—not against each other. The big picture is that U-46 has made broad and consistent gains over recent years and in 2006 every sub group in U-46 made AYP—a 41% improvement in 3 years.

The Board was also provided with a packet of information regarding all the materials presented this evening.

The Board thanked Dr. Neale and her staff for the presentation and the efforts behind all the information provided.

There was a question raised regarding data analysis and what subgroups the District is looking at. Dr. Neale stated that the District has made tremendous strides in the area of data collection and analysis and will continue to improve.

Dr. Neale added that the District is doing things in a proactive systematic way, rather than reactive.

- III. Individual Student Disciplinary Matters (Suspensions & Expulsions).
- IV. Pending or Imminent Litigation.

- A. Village of Bartlett. There was no discussion on this item.
 - B. Boundary Litigation Status. Mr. Broncato updated the Board on the status of this case. The Plaintiffs second motion certifying class action was received and provided to the Board.
- V. Acquisition or Sale of Real Property.
- VI. Collective Negotiating Matters Between the School Board and Its Employees.
- VII. Information re the Discipline, Performance, Appointment, Employment or Reclassification of an Employee. Dr. Neale provided the following personnel appointments for the Board. A question was raised regarding these appointments and whether or not the individuals could be at the Board meeting to be introduced. Dr. Neale stated that it would work best to have them at the meeting following the appointment.
- A. Bilingual Director Appointment. Dr. Neale stated that she is pleased to announce the appointment of Wilma Valero as Director of ELL. Dr. Neale added that Wilma will continue to be a value to the program.
 - B. Abbott Middle School Principal Appointment. Dr. Neale announced the appointment of Shelly Leonard as Principal of Abbott Middle School as Mr. Schneider retires. Shelly will bring many valuable assets to Abbott.
 - C. Lincoln Elementary Principal Appointment. With the retirement of Rita Blankenship, Dr. Neale announced the Administrative recommendation for Lincoln Elementary as Mariann Alyea. Mariann will continue to be an asset to the District.
- VIII. Review of Closed Session Minutes.
- IX. Motion by Mrs. Carney, with a second by Mr. Rich, to move to Open Session 6:50 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mrs. Carney, Ms. Fountain, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Rich, Mr. Spencer, and Mr. Kaczynski. No votes: 0. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Approved this 14th day of May, 2007

President

Secretary