

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNITY POINT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, July 10, 2007, 6:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Unity Point Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the president, Pieter Schmidt, with the following members present: Pieter Schmidt, Gene Turk, Rick Asaturian, Sandy Charlson and Shannon Cremeens. Others present were Lori James-Gross, Jim Berezow, April Haar, Bill Laser, Chris Midden, Mike Wright, Bea Geraci, Dan Chester, Kerry Glenn and Susan Pimentel.

Gene Turk made the motion, seconded by Shannon Cremeens to approve the Agenda with discussion of a Waiver Request for parent-teacher conferences prior to Executive Session. No action will occur with hiring a computer teacher since the recommended candidate has declined. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Gene Turk made the motion, seconded by Shannon Cremeens to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2007 regular meeting as corrected (misspelled word), per attached. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Pieter Schmidt recognized guests and visitors that were present.

A motion was made by Pieter Schmidt, seconded by Gene Turk to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Lori James-Gross indicated Unity Point will receive the We The People Picturing America Grant for the library. Resignations were received from Christine Laser, instructional aide, and Leslie Varble, music teacher.

Lori James-Gross indicated the QZAB grant was awarded to Unity Point in the amount of \$1,010,955. A closing date will be determined in the near future. Immediate projects funded by the grant will include roof replacement, internal wiring, flooring replacement and software upgrades (STI). A core planning team consisting of a Board member, teachers and administration will set a timetable for project completion dates. A press release will occur in the local newspaper after final closing.

Gene Turk made the motion, seconded by Pieter Schmidt to approve the installation of a single 1kW photovoltaic system at Unity Point in conjunction with a \$10,000 grant award from the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation. Total cost of the project will be approximately \$21,000. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Gene Turk made the motion, seconded by Shannon Cremeens to approve the Linkage Agreement with Southern Illinois Regional Social Services for the 2007-2008 school year, per attached. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

A motion was made by Sandy Charlson, seconded by Pieter Schmidt to approve the 2007-2008 Student/Parent Handbook and Athletic Handbook, as presented by April Haar. Motion carried 4-1 with votes as follows: Asaturian-yea, Charlson-yea, Cremeens-yea, Schmidt-yea, Turk-nea.

Discussion was held with April Haar concerning current enrollment figures following pre-registration for the 2007-2008 school year, per attached.

Pieter Schmidt made the motion, seconded by Shannon Cremeens to add a 1st/2nd grade multi-age classroom while reducing the number of kindergarten classrooms from five to four, per attached Scenario #2. A ½ time reading teacher will also be employed for the 2007-2008 school year. Depending on enrollment, a fifth kindergarten class may be added later, per Lori James-Gross and April Haar recommendation. Motion carried 4-1 with votes as follows: Asaturian-yea, Charlson-yea, Cremeens-yea, Schmidt-yea, Turk-nea.

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Pieter Schmidt made the motion, seconded by Rick Asaturian to select Hines Oil Co., Prairie Farms Dairy and Interstate Brands as supplier of diesel fuel, milk and bread/buns respectively for the 2007-2008 school year. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Bill Laser presented the End-of-Year Financial Report, per attached.

A motion was made by Pieter Schmidt, seconded by Shannon Cremeens to approve the Application for Approval for Use of New Temporary Facility regarding the portable classrooms for the 2007-2008 school year. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Lori James-Gross presented information concerning a Waiver Request to the Illinois State Board of Education to hold four parent-teacher conferences in the evening in exchange for two days of non-attendance. A Public Hearing must be held to approve this request. If approved, the effective date would be the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. It was the consensus to hold the hearing in conjunction with an upcoming special meeting to interview candidates for the Board.

Shannon Cremeens made the motion, seconded by Sandy Charlson to adjourn the Board for an Executive Session to consider information regarding the appointment, employment or dismissal of an employee or officer at 7:26 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Sandy Charlson made the motion, seconded by Pieter Schmidt to resume regular session at 7:57 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

A motion was made by Shannon Cremeens, seconded by Sandy Charlson to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2007 Executive Session meeting, copy attached. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Pieter Schmidt made the motion, seconded by Shannon Cremeens to accept the resignations of Christine Laser, instructional aide and Leslie Varble, music teacher with thanks and best wishes, effective immediately. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Gene Turk made the motion, seconded by Pieter Schmidt to employ Brittany Coogan, Ginger Taylor and Cash Johnson as instructional aides for the 2007-2008 school year, per Lori James-Gross recommendation. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Discussion was held with Mike Wright of the U.P.E.A. concerning student scheduling, additional classrooms/staff and the QZAB core team selection process.

April Haar indicated Unity Point met AYP in math and reading for the 2006-2007 school year. Class lists are being finalized and she recently attended a technology conference with Bea Geraci, Chris Midden and Kathy Fuller. Jim Berezow indicated athletic schedules are set and coaches are being employed. Lori James-Gross indicated the Board/Community Retreat will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2007.

A motion was made by Sandy Charlson, seconded by Pieter Schmidt to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. Motion carried 5-0 with all voting yea.

Pieter Schmidt, President

Rick Asaturian, Secretary