

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

Tuesday, September 9, 2008, 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, Andy Morgan, Gene Turk, Molly Gaffney-Keebler, Sandy Charlson and Morteza Daneshdoost. Others present were Lori James-Gross, Jim Berezow, April Haar, Bill Laser, Stephanie Finke, Tammy Lipe, Jill Misner, AJ Chester, Lynette Chester, Daniel Boote, Nicolas Manuel, Kris Uffelman, Makane Nesler, Marilynn Ross, Cody Ellermeyer, Mike Wright, Tim Ward, Ulli Tragoudas, Susan Culton, Samantha Hunt, Michelle Perrott and Steve Murphy.

Morteza Daneshdoost made the motion, seconded by Sandy Charlson to approve the Agenda. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yea.

Andy Morgan made the motion, seconded by Pieter Schmidt to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2008 regular meeting, copy attached. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yea.

A motion was made by Gene Turk, seconded by Molly Gaffney-Keebler to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yea.

Pieter Schmidt recognized guests and visitors that were present.

Discussion was held concerning the Budget for the 2008-2009 school year.

Morteza Daneshdoost made the motion, seconded by Molly Gaffney-Keebler to approve the Application for Recognition of Public Schools for the 2008-2009 school year, per attached. Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yea.

Job descriptions for Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent and kitchen positions were distributed to the Board for review and subsequent approval at the September 23, 2008 regular board meeting.

Lori James-Gross and Jim Berezow presented a playground update. Two proposals were received for site preparation and concrete work for the proposed playground area from D.D. Williams Const. Co. and R.B. Bush Const. Co. A proposal was also received from E. T. Simonds Const. Co. for asphalt work. The 7th-8th grade playground area will be completed first before updating other playground areas.

Rick Asaturian arrived at 6:25 p.m.

April Haar presented information concerning current enrollment figures. Ulli Tragoudas and Jill Misner presented information on a federal grant for fruits and vegetables that was awarded to Unity Point. Development of a parental involvement policy and more detailed expense tracking will be necessary following a recent federal grants audit. Unity Point will continue to work with SIU-C as a professional development school with teachers presenting at courses offered by SIU. Unity Point and SIU will also exchange information on technology in the classroom and RTI.

Rick Asaturian made the motion, seconded by Pieter Schmidt to select E. T. Simonds Const. Co. for asphalt work on the proposed playground; D.D. Williams Const. Co. for excavation and preparation of playground site; and R. B. Bush Const. Co. for concrete work, per attached. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

A motion was made by Gene Turk, seconded by Morteza Daneshdoost to adjourn the Board for an Executive Session to consider information regarding the appointment, employment or dismissal of an employee or officer at 6:54 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

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Rick Asaturian made the motion, seconded by Pieter Schmidt to resume regular session 8:03 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Molly Gaffney-Keebler made the motion, seconded by Sandra Charlson to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2008 Executive Session meeting, copy attached. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

A motion was made by Rick Asaturian, seconded by Andy Morgan to accept the resignation of Brandi Roberts as supervisory aide with best wishes, effective beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Morteza Daneshdoost made the motion, seconded by Molly Gaffney-Keebler to employ Katie Rowland as pre-k aide effective August 26, 2008; Bobbi Jackson as library aide effective September 2, 2008, Tim Ward as head girls basketball coach; Ginger Staples as asst. girls basketball coach; and Mary Williams as part-time cook for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Sandra Charlson made the motion, seconded by Morteza Daneshdoost to approve the maternity leave for Patricia Moore beginning the first week of November 2008 and continuing until January 5, 2009. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

A motion was made by Pieter Schmidt, seconded by Morteza Daneshdoost to approve the 2008-2010 Teacher Contract. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Pieter Schmidt made the motion, seconded by Molly Gaffney-Keebler to approve a 3.0% base increase for all non-certified staff for the 2008-2009 school year, per attached. Motion carried 6-1 with votes as follows: Asaturian-yea, Charlson-yea, Daneshdoost-yea, Gaffney-Keebler-yea, Morgan-yea, Schmidt-yea, Turk-nea.

Sandy Charlson made the motion, seconded by Morteza Daneshdoost to change Pam Stevenson's title from Secretary to Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

A motion was made by Pieter Schmidt, seconded by Morteza Daneshdoost to approve a \$1750 salary increase to Jim Berezow and April Haar for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Mike Wright of the U.P.E.A. inquired about the life insurance benefit for staff; playground update construction costs; teachers covered by Title grants; employment and resignation of aides; and salary increase for the Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent.

Lori James-Gross indicated Open House, Parent IMSA meeting and Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held within the next two weeks. April Haar indicated Becky Borowitz has been certified as a mentor trainer; a book study focusing on reading will be taking place with several teachers; and Unity Point will be hosting the Southern Illinois Reading Council conference in October 2008.

The Board expressed appreciation to the planners of the Board/Community retreat recently held, planning of the new playground area and efforts for successful negotiations between the Board and certified staff.

Andy Morgan made the motion, seconded by Morteza Daneshdoost to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Pieter Schmidt, President

Rick Asaturian, Secretary