

**Community Unit School District #95 - Board of Education**  
**Committee of the Whole - Regular Meeting**  
January 22, 2009 – 6:00 PM, Lake Zurich High School Library  
Regular Meeting

Board President Kathy Brown called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 pm, and a call of the roll showed: Members Present: Mrs. Brown, Mr. Goldberg, Mrs. Putbress, Mr. Pietro, Mr. Finn, and Mr. Kropf. Members Absent: Mr. Hussey.

**Public Comments** – Mrs. Shah came forward to request that her neighborhood remain at their current elementary school when the new boundaries are drawn. Mrs. Chung came forward to request that her neighborhood remain at their current elementary school when the new boundaries are drawn. Mrs. Croke came forward to express support for the work of the boundary committee.

**2009-2010 Budget** –

Dr. Knutson noted that the 2008 CPI came in at 0.1%, which is the lowest figure for more than 40 years. This means that the most our tax levy can increase is the 0.1% due to tax cap legislation. The administration is recommending a \$3.7 million budget reduction for fiscal year 2010, the largest reduction in known district history. Ms. Kalou explained further the details and why she is recommending the reduction of \$3.7million, and that those reductions will carry the district for at least 2 years. Some members would like to open the teacher's contract to avoid layoffs. Most feel that the budget should be built as conservatively as possible, and that it would not be responsible to include the TIF money as expected revenue. Members agreed that the budget should be built with a figure of \$4.0 million in reductions.

The administration has explained the financial position to staff and is working cooperatively with them to create possible budget reductions. At the February 12<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole, a listing of those items to be reduced will be presented, as well as a listing of those items that could be added back if the financial situation improves. If a reduction in staff becomes necessary, those decisions and notifications need to be made in March for the proper timeline on notifications per school code. Previously, a commitment had been made to help pay for some band uniforms as matching funds, and that will be reviewed in light of the current financial status.

**Insurance Committee Goal** –

Ms. Becich reviewed the Joint Ongoing Insurance Committee which is comprised of representatives of the teachers association and the administration to annually work together to keep insurance premiums at a goal set by the Board. The insurance broker for the district has provided forecast information showing estimates of from 4% up to 12% increases in premiums for the industry. She notes that it becomes increasingly difficult to hold the increase at a 6% rate without reducing benefits or increasing costs to the individuals. Members asked for investigation of all alternatives, including alternative providers. The past cooperation with the association has been very successful in keeping costs at the lowest possible amount. The charge to the joint committee will be to hold cost increases to a 6% level.

**Redistricting** –

Members had additional questions regarding the process and decision making of the boundary study committee. Some had concerns about the impact of the increase in railroad traffic on the transportation times and routes, which cannot be known until schedules are published. Some additional information on the current experience with train delays will be brought forward. A suggestion came to survey 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents on whether they would be interested in a grandfather process. Some members would like to reconsider whether they need to weight one or the other end statements, specifically whether a better balance of socio-economic is possible without creating an unacceptable trade-off. Members again expressed gratitude to the Boundary Study Committee for all the detailed work and hours of commitment to be objective in their deliberations. Three community forums will be held to gather comments and questions from interested parties. Any questions will be gathered and answers will be posted on the boundary web page.

**Additional Written Information –**

- **Strategic Plan Update** – 2007-08 Priorities/Successes were presented and 2008-09 School Year Priorities were outlined. Each is available on the District website.
- **TIF Program Update** –The Village reported that the TIF had a net loss of \$998,398. For the past year, the Village has been trying to figure out how refinance/restructure the TIF debt to stop the net losses. The Village also stated that they would be talking to all of the taxing bodies about a 12 year extension to the TIF. On January 13th, the Village Finance Administrator and representatives from the Village's consulting firm to discuss the TIF extension.. The District will be sending the Village's consultant a list of items that are needed prior to making any recommendation on the TIF extension.
- **Mid Year Budget Update** – Ms. Kalou shared the progress of receipt of revenues and expenditures to date for the current fiscal year.
- **Short Term Borrowing Needs** – Ms. Kalou will file the application to borrow up to \$5 million with Illinois Funds to cover end of year payroll.
- **Contract Generating Over \$1,000.00** –The School Code requires all vendor contract for goods and services that are intended to generate additional revenue and other remunerations greater than \$1,000 to be approved by the Board of Education. The High School currently uses Royal Publishing Co. for programs and pocket schedules for athletics. These funds will be used for the high school Student Activities accounts, consistent with past practices. This contract will be brought to the Board of Education on January 29, 2009 as an action item.

**Closed Session – Personnel**

Mr. Finn moved, seconded by Mr. Kropf to adjourn to closed meeting to discuss: Personnel Matters: The appointment, employment, compensation, performance, discipline or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. On a voice vote, all members present voted aye.

The Board adjourned to closed meeting at 7:53 pm.

The Board returned to open meeting at 8:18 pm.

As there were no further items on the agenda for the meeting, President Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

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Mrs. Kathy Brown  
President, Board of Education  
C.U.S.D. #95  
Lake Zurich, IL

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Mrs. Jan Putbress  
Secretary, Board of Education  
C.U.S.D. #95  
Lake Zurich, IL

*Respectfully submitted, Marsha Smyser, Board Clerk*

January 29, 2009      *Date Minutes Approved by the Board of Education,*

January 30, 2009      *Date Minutes Made Available for Public Inspection;*

January 30, 2009      *Date Minutes Posted on the District Website*