



**MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, February 19, 2008, 6:00 p.m.
Belvidere Community Unit School District #100
1201 Fifth Avenue
Belvidere, Illinois 61008**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District #100, Boone, McHenry, DeKalb Counties, Illinois met in a regular meeting on February 19, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. in the Learning Center at Belvidere High School, 1500 East Avenue, Belvidere, Illinois, which is within the boundaries of said District.

1. Call to Order:

The Vice President called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Vice President Smiley called for a moment of silence in honor of the staff, students, families and community members affected by the recent shootings at Northern Illinois University.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call:

Members present were Mr. Cunningham, Ms. Gorman, Mrs. Norem, Mr. Stenerson and Mr. Smiley.

Also present were Mr. Houselog, Mr. Metz, Mr. Moeller, Dr. Davis, Attorney Curt Tobin and Mrs. Hansen.

4. Administer Oath of Office to the Newly Appointed Member of the Board of Education:

Vice President Smiley administered the Oath of Office to Michael Rathbun and welcomed him to the Board of Education.

5. Public Hearing Regarding District #100's Intent to Sell Working Cash Fund Bonds

Superintendent Houselog read the following prepared statement:

"I'd like to give you a brief overview of the process and the history associated with my recommendation to issue working cash bonds.

In September, October, November, and December the School Board had discussions about the overcrowding issues at the K-8 level, especially at the two middle schools.

We updated enrollment projections based on 6th day enrollments in early September, and started the regular dialogue, exploring possibilities such as another new 6-8 middle school, returning 6th graders to elementary buildings and then building two new elementary schools, utilizing parts of both high schools, building a new 6th grade center, a new 8th grade center, or a kindergarten/early childhood center.

We addressed building, transportation, finance, and educational merits of the options. Gradually the decision to expand the two current middle schools became the most viable option based on educational consideration, transportation and cost.

Cost estimates to add capacity of 1,000 more students were developed by using the services of our architect. Currently, the middle schools are 103% of capacity with 6 portable classrooms already in place at Central Middle School.

Within the past few months we became aware of a funding option available to all school districts operating in tax cap counties.

Then, at the December Board meeting the Board had more discussion about the middle school overcrowding and explored the educational merits and reviewed preliminary information about the cost of making additions to the middle schools to ramp them up to 1,500 students each for capacity.

At the January Board retreat, the Board discussed the middle school overcrowding issue again, and asked that the issuance of working cash bonds be placed on the regular Board agenda for action.

Then at the January Board meeting the Board approved a resolution of intent to issue working cash fund bonds.

Despite my best intentions, I wasn't able to communicate the benefits of this plan to the larger community. Time simply didn't permit it. We were under a deadline that had to be adhered to in order to secure the funds for construction to start this fall for completion prior to the 2009-2010 school year.

I believe the plan is doable and addresses one of the most pressing needs of the District: That being middle school overcrowding.

I'd like to recommend that the Board vote not to proceed with the issuance of working cash bonds. Instead, I would like to recommend that we spend time in the coming months visiting with the community about the middle school issues, as well as other pressing needs in our schools such as construction of elementary school space, which is now above the 85% threshold established for consideration of future

construction and the necessary infrastructure needed at the high school level to ensure that our graduates are competitive with other local and regional high schools.”

With Member Smiley echoing her thoughts, Member Norem stated she supports Superintendent Houselog looking into all options and obtaining community input.

Member Cunningham made a motion and Member Norem seconded the motion to table this item. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Cunningham, Norem, Gorman, Rathbun, Stenerson and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

6. Approval of Minutes:

Member Norem made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 22, 2008. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Gorman, Stenerson, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Rathbun
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Member Cunningham made a motion and Member Stenerson seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the executive session meeting on January 22, 2008. The President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Cunningham, Stenerson, Norem, Gorman and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Rathbun
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Member Gorman made a motion and Member Stenerson seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting on January 28, 2008. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Gorman, Stenerson, Cunningham, Norem and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Rathbun
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Member Stenerson made a motion and Member Cunningham seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the executive session meeting on January 28, 2008. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Stenerson, Cunningham, Gorman, Norem and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Rathbun
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

7. Committee Minutes:

Member Norem made a motion and Member Stenerson seconded the motion to approve revisions to policy 6:235 for first reading. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Stenerson, Gorman, Rathbun, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Member Norem made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to approve revisions to policy 7:70 for first reading. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Gorman, Rathbun, Stenerson, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

8. Approval of Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Personnel Report
- B. Approval of Bills (#100 and #222)
- C. Approval of Treasurer's Report
- D. Approval of Imprest Fund Report

- E. Approval to Continue to Exempt Insurance Plan from the Requirements Imposed by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA)
- F. Acknowledgement of \$100 Donation from the Boone County Gardeners Association to the BNHS Vocal Music Program
- G. Approval of Overnight Trip February 9 and 10 to Springfield, Illinois by the JV Competitive Cheer Squad (ICCA Cheer Championships)
- H. Acknowledgement of \$9115.96 Donation from the PTO to Seth Whitman Elementary School for Four Laptop Computers and Projectors
- I. Approval of Vendor Contract (Great American Opportunities and Belvidere High School Vocal Music Department)
- J. Approval of Vendor Contract (Gourmet's Delight, Inc. and Belvidere North High School Band)
- K. Approval of Overnight Trip to Lorado Taft Field Campus in Oregon, Illinois April 25-27 by Belvidere North High School Science Students

After a clarification on Item G and acknowledgements for the donations, Vice President Smiley inquired if any Board member wished to have an item or items removed from the Consent Agenda for independent consideration, and no one wished to have any items removed. Member Stenerson made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A through K as listed previously. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Stenerson, Rathbun, Cunningham, Gorman, Norem and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

9. Administration Reports:

A. Student and Staff Recognitions

Members of the Board of Education recognized the efforts and accomplishments of 28 students and staff members.

The meeting was adjourned from 6:25 p.m. to 6:37 p.m. to allow Board members to interact with those recognized.

B. Review of Draft Guidelines Revising the District's Student Dress Policy

Superintendent Houselog reviewed the directive give by the Board of Education at its January meeting. As a result, three sets of guidelines were presented to the Board for discussion purposes: (1) the current policy taken

directly from the parent handbook; (2) guidelines patterned after a few schools, considered “middle of the road”; and (3) guidelines similar to #2 but more restrictive.

After a rather lengthy discussion regarding whether or not there exists an issue with dress, how the current code is enforced, and how restrictive the policy should be, Member Norem made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to direct administration to further develop guideline proposal #3. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem and Gorman
NAY: Rathbun, Stenerson, Cunningham, and Smiley
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion failed.

The Board of Education then directed Administration to have each building obtain opinions of its students, staff, and parents. Administration shall share the opinions with the Board at a later date. The Board also directed Administration to obtain samples of clothing and the costs of same.

C. Review of Registration Fees for 2008-2009

Administration presented the Board with a list of all current fees. It is the recommendation of Administration that the fees for the 2008-2009 school year remain as they are at present. The Board will take action on this matter at its March meeting.

In addition, the Board directed Administration to ascertain whether or not income verification can be requested prior to waiving athletic, co-curricular, or student parking fees. Administration was also directed to compare the District’s fee for behind-the-wheel to that of other districts.

D. Department Highlights

Department Highlights were attached.

E. Board of Education Committee Structures

Member Rathbun volunteered to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors for the Boone County Special Education Cooperative left by the departure of Greg Wilhelm.

F. Consideration of the Establishment of a Regional Vocational High School

District #100 would like to partner next year with Rockford and North Boone School Districts and Rock Valley College and offer to approximately 15 of its high school students an opportunity to attend a regional vocational high school. This school will be housed on the Stenstrom campus in Rockford and transportation will be provided to those students attending. It is anticipated each year the program will expand, bringing in a new class of students, and all students will graduate from the vocational school but will receive diplomas from their home high schools. Additional information will be provided to the Board at a later date.

G. Review of Proposal to Renovate the Bus Barn at Washington Elementary School

A proposal was presented to renovate the old bus barn at Washington Elementary School. It is anticipated the District's shipping and receiving, as well as buildings and grounds, would occupy this space. Mr. Metz stated a portion of the \$1.5 million in impact fees would be used to pay for the renovations, which are estimated to cost \$600,000.

Member Smiley requested a wants/needs list and Member Stenerson suggested having the high school building trades program complete some of the renovation work.

Board members took a break from 7:34 p.m. to 7:43 p.m.

10. Hearing of Visitors:

Dean Marcellus, 921 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois – Clarification on the numbers used for computing tax caps (item 9G).

Pat Mattison, 7982 Distiller Road, Belvidere, Illinois – Read a prepared statement regarding the issuance of working cash bonds.

Bill Pysson, 9592 Denver Drive, Belvidere, Illinois – Questioned why PMA said the District can issue working cash bonds but Hutchinson, Shockey said no.

Diann Helnore, 10018 Rellswood Drive, Belvidere – Requested clarification on the motion the Board approved under Item 5. She also read a letter to the Board on behalf of the Boone County Taxpayers Association.

Jan Shigrue, 410 Highland Street, Belvidere – Spoke in favor of a uniform policy and suggested the District contact the Uniform Committee for Rockford Public Schools.

Sue Moore, 1142 Riverside Road, Belvidere, Illinois – Spoke in favor of the dress code policy currently enforced at Belvidere North High School.

Mike Rogers, 1473 Newcastle Lane, Belvidere – Spoke against a uniform policy.

Hearing no one else wished to address the Board, Vice President Smiley closed the hearing of visitors.

11. Board Action and Discussion:

A. Approval of Bid and Awarding of Contract for Healthcare Insurance Effective May 1, 2008

Bruce Hagshenas, President of Benefit Planning Service, provided information regarding the bids received for healthcare insurance.

Member Stenerson made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to approve the bid and award the contract for healthcare insurance effective May 1, 2008 to Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Stenerson, Rathbun, Gorman, Norem, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

B. Approval of Title I ePlan

Member Rathbun made a motion and Member Stenerson seconded the motion to approve the Title I ePlan as presented. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Rathbun, Stenerson, Gorman, Norem, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

C. Approval of 2008 Summer School Program

Member Norem made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to approve the 2008 summer school program as presented. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Rathbun, Gorman, Stenerson, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

D. Approval of Job Description for the Director of Business Services

Member Cunningham made a and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to approve the job description as presented. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Cunningham, Rathbun, Norem, Stenerson, Gorman and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

E. Approval to Add Alternative Forms of Contraceptives Allowed Under the District's Insurance Plan (IUD's, NuvaRings) Effective March 1, 2008

Member Norem made a motion and Member Stenerson seconded the motion to approve the addition to the plan as presented. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Stenerson, Cunningham, Gorman, Rathbun and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

F. Approval of Resolution to Amend the Current Budget

Mr. Metz stated the reason for the amendment was due to a \$500,000 increase in special education purchase services (transportation to and from private placement facilities). This increase would be in addition to the already anticipated deficit.

Member Stenerson made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to approve the resolution allowing for the amendment of the current budget. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Stenerson, Gorman, Rathbun, Norem, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

G. Approval of Restructuring Plan for Belvidere High School

Because this is the fifth year some subgroups of students at Belvidere High

School failed to make adequate yearly progress, the State requires the District to prepare, adopt and implement a restructuring plan. If the subgroups make safe harbor, which we should find out some time in June, it will not be necessary to restructure.

Member Norem made a motion and Member Cunningham seconded the motion to approve the restructuring plan for Belvidere High School as recommended. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Cunningham, Gorman, Rathbun, Stenerson and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

H. Approval of Contract Between Belvidere High School and Salkeld Sports (Nike Team All School Program)

Member Gorman made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to approve the contract between Belvidere High School and Salkeld Sports. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Gorman, Rathbun, Norem, Stenerson, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

I. Approval of Crossfit Training Program at Belvidere North High School

Several questions were fielded regarding the purpose of the program, whether or not it is geared towards students, the openness of the program and when the program would be run.

Member Stenerson made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to approve the CrossFit Training Program at Belvidere North High School. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Stenerson, Rathbun, Norem, Cunningham, Gorman and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

- J. Approval to Increase Insurance Maximum From \$80,000 to \$100,000 Per Individual Effective May 1, 2008

Member Stenerson made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to increase the insurance maximum as recommended. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Stenerson, Gorman, Cunningham, Rathbun, Norem and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

- K. Approval of Bid and Awarding of Contract for the Installation of Six Modular Classrooms at Belvidere South Middle School

Member Stenerson made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to approve the bid (\$666,360.00 base bid, minus \$1,740.00 for carpet, plus \$20,541.00 for Alternate No. 2) and award the contract for modular classrooms at Belvidere South Middle School to Modular Space Corporation. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Stenerson, Rathbun, Cunningham, Gorman, Norem and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

12. Any Other Matters to Come to the Attention of the Board:

- A. Academic Improvement Award – 2007 Illinois Honor Roll School (South Middle School) – Informational Item
- B. Academic Improvement Award – 2007 Illinois Honor Roll School (Central Middle School) – Informational Item
- C. Sixth Day Enrollment Figures (2nd Semester)– Informational Item
- D. Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, March 11 at 6:00 p.m. at the Clock Tower Resort & Conference Center – Informational Item
- E. Annual Retirement Dinner Scheduled for Tuesday, May 6 at 6:00 p.m. at Giovanni's – Informational Item
- F. Joint Press Release Naming 49 Belvidere and Belvidere North Students as Illinois State Scholars – Informational Item

13. Members of the public and employees of District #100 may make comments or ask questions of the Board:

Dan Snow, 409 West Jackson Street, Belvidere, Illinois – Clarification on summer school program approved, CrossFit contract and modular classroom bid approval.

Dean Marcellus, 921 Whitney Boulevard, Belvidere, Illinois – Clarification on modular classroom bid and asked if the District was encouraging the City to follow the findings in the NIU study.

Bill Pysson, 9592 Denver Drive, Belvidere, Illinois – Posed questions regarding the certification requirements for the Director of Business Services position approved earlier this evening.

Hearing no one else wished to address the Board of Education, Vice President Smiley closed the hearing of visitors.

14. Closed Executive Session of the Board of Education from Section 2 of the Open Meetings Act:

The meeting adjourned to closed executive session at 8:20 p.m. for the following:

- A. To consider student disciplinary cases;
- B. To consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of employees of the public body;
- C. To discuss litigation; and
- D. To discuss collective negotiating matters.

Vice President Smiley stated action will be taken after closed executive session.

Member Gorman made a motion and Member Cunningham seconded the motion to adjourn to closed executive session. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Gorman, Cunningham, Rathbun, Norem, Stenerson and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

The open session meeting reconvened at 9:34 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members present were Mr. Cunningham, Ms. Gorman, Mr. Rathbun, Mrs. Norem, Mr. Stenerson and Mr. Smiley.

Member Norem made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to expel Student #1 for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year and the entire 2008-2009 school year. However, the Board shall hold the expulsion in abeyance if Student #10 enters into a probationary contract and meets all conditions of the contract for its entire term. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Gorman, Cunningham, Stenerson, Rathbun and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned to closed executive session at 9:39 p.m. for the following:

- A. To consider student disciplinary cases;
- B. To consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of employees of the public body;
- C. To discuss litigation; and
- D. To discuss collective negotiating matters.

Vice President Smiley stated action will be taken after closed executive session.

Member Gorman made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to adjourn to closed executive session. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Gorman, Rathbun, Cunningham, Norem, Stenerson and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

The open session meeting reconvened at 9:52 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members present were Mr. Cunningham, Ms. Gorman, Mrs. Norem, Mr. Rathbun, Mr. Stenerson and Mr. Van Evera.

Member Rathbun made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to expel Student #2 for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year, all of the 2008-2009 school year and the first semester of the 2009-2010 school year. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Rathbun, Gorman, Cunningham, Norem, Stenerson and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned to closed executive session at 9:54 p.m. for the following:

- A. To consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of employees of the public body;
- B. To discuss litigation; and
- C. To discuss collective negotiating matters.

Vice President Smiley stated action will be taken after closed executive session.

Member Stenerson made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to adjourn to closed executive session. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Stenerson, Rathbun, Cunningham, Gorman, Norem and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

The open session meeting reconvened at 10:23 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members present were Mr. Cunningham, Ms. Gorman, Mr. Rathbun, Mrs. Norem, Mr. Stenerson and Mr. Smiley.

Member Norem made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to extend the employment contract with Gary Gustafson for a period of six (6) months at a cost to the District of \$50,000. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Gorman, Rathbun, Stenerson, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Member Norem made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to terminate Employee #1. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Rathbun, Gorman, Stenerson, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

Member Norem made a motion and Member Gorman seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Kim Frisella effective January 16, 2008. The Vice President put the question, and the following members voted:

YEA: Norem, Gorman, Rathbun, Stenerson, Cunningham and Smiley
NAY: None
ABSENT: Van Evera

The Vice President declared the motion passed.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business to conduct, Member Norem made a motion and Member Rathbun seconded the motion to adjourn. The Vice President put the question, and the motion passed on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Approved this 17th day of March, 2008.

 X As Presented As Amended

President

Secretary