

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING,
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL
DISTRICT #225, COOK COUNTY,
ILLINOIS, December 11, 2006**

A special meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 225 was held on Monday, December 11 2006, at approximately 7:38 p.m. at the Glenbrook High Schools Administration Building, pursuant to due notice of all members and the public.

The president called the meeting to order. Upon calling of the roll, the following members answered present: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Matsakis, Torf Absent: Shein. Also present: Dill-Varga, Freeman, Hales, Helander-Heiser, Ptak, Riggle, Schilling, Siena, and Wegley.

(Mr. Shein arrived at 8 p.m.)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING WITH THE ADDITION OF
CONSENT AGENDA ITEM # 6.8 (APPOINTMENTS), MODIFIED MINUTES
FOR NOVEMBER 27, 2006 AND THE EDITING OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEM
6.6 TO READ "APPROVAL OF THE 2006 TAX LEVY"**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Hammer to approve the agenda for this meeting with the addition of consent agenda item #6.8 (appointments), modified minutes for November 27, 2007, and the editing of consent agenda item # 6.6 to read "Approval of the 2006 Tax Levy."

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Matsakis, Torf

nay: none

Motion carried. 6-0

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF WHO EXCEL

Mrs. Diane Freeman introduced Mr. Nate Unterman and Mr. Marcel Grdinic, science teachers at Glenbrook North High School, who shared their curriculum development in nanotechnology captured in an article they co-wrote and published in *The Science Teacher*, entitled "Seeing the Unseen."

RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY VISITORS

No community visitors asked to be recognized.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Mr. Matsakis reported that he had attended the board finance committee meeting in the past two weeks and that an update would be provided later during the meeting by Dr. Schilling.

President Torf reported that District 30 is searching for a new superintendent. She reported that some concern had been expressed about the snow day policy.

Mr. Jeffery provided an update on the Glenbrook Foundation.

Mr. Shein and Mr. Boron reported that they had attended a facilities meeting recently and that details would be coming later in this meeting as a part of Dr. Schilling's presentation.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF ITEM #6.8 (APPOINTMENTS) AND THE DELETION OF ITEMS #6.5 AND 6.6 REMOVED FOR A SEPARATE VOTE

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Shein to approve the following items on the consent agenda with the addition of item #6.8 (appointments) and the deletion of items #6.5 and #6.6 removed for a separate vote.

1.) the issuance of Vendor Checks Nos. 26001 through 26161 in the amount of \$415,481.5 as listed on the attached checks register dated December 5, 2006

the issuance of Vendor Checks Nos. 25149 through 2538 in the amount of \$883,408.71 as listed on the attached checks register dated September 29, 2006

2.) the issuance of the electronic wire transfers for credit union, TRS, federal taxes, employee and employer portion of FICA and Medicare taxes and state taxes, and payroll check numbers 48079 through 48249, 48272 through 48327. Total checks issued were \$130,806.27. Vendor Payroll check numbers 48250 through 48271, and 48328 thru 48339 totaled \$37,771.42. With employees' Federal, State, and FICA/Medicare withholding taxes of \$761,005.9 TRS contributions of \$349,466.85 other deductions of \$334,126.11 and direct deposit of \$2,876,571.65, the gross payroll for the month of November was \$4,451,976.78. TRS employer contribution was \$42,467.41 and employer matching FICA and MED was \$76,147.96.

3.) the reimbursement of the Revolving Fund for Employees the month of November in the amount of \$41,184.57 represented by checks No. 36329 through 36333, 36358 through 36438, 36530 through 36537, 36560 through 36611 and 36614 through 36617 and 36639 through 36644. the reimbursement of the Revolving Fund for Vendors for the month of November in the amount of \$133,902.02

represented by checks No. 36334 through 36357, 36439 through 36529, 36538 through 36559, 36612 through 36613 and 36618 through 36638 and 36645 through 36691. Checks issued in November voided in November: 36447. Check issued in previous months, voided in November: No. 36186, 35787.

4.) the Board of Education Approval of the Audit for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2006 as contained in consent agenda Item #6.4

5.) the Open and Closed Session Minutes from the November 27, 2006

6.) the Board of Education Approval of the 2006 Tax Levy as contained in consent agenda Item #6.6

7.) the Board of Education Approval of a change in the GBS Debate Travel Calendar as contained in consent agenda Item #6.7

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Matsakis, Shein, and
Torf.

nay: none

Motion carried. 7-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM # 6.5 (modified minutes)

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mrs. Torf to approve consent agenda item # 6.5 (modified minutes).

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Matsakis, Shein, and
Torf.

nay: none

Motion carried. 7-0.

(see consent agenda item #6.5)

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM #6.6 (Approval of the 2006 Tax Levy)

Mrs. Torf complimented the efforts of Dr. Schilling and his staff.

For the 2006 tax levy, a 4.95% increase was recommended and approved. This includes both a maximum tax cap increase of 3.4% plus a "hedge" factor of 1.55% for new growth and construction. Based on historical data the increase will be approximately 4.4%.

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Hammer to approve consent agenda item# 6.6 (2006 Tax Levy).

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Matsakis, Shein, and Torf.

nay: none

Motion carried. 7-0.

(see consent agenda item #6.6)

DISCUSSION/ACTION: SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES AND VERBATIM RECORDINGS

Mrs. Dill-Varga indicated to the board that this was the time for them to make two decisions regarding closed session minutes. The board consensus was to keep the minutes and verbatim recordings confidential. The board requested that more detail be provided to them as to which meetings under review involved the presence of school attorneys so that the verbatim tapes of those meetings could be kept in tact. Mrs. Dill-Varga stated that she would bring that information to the next meeting for their information and action. Action will be taken on this item at the next board meeting in early January.

DISCUSSION/ACTION: FACILITIES PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT

Dr. Schilling presented his timeline for facility projects for both buildings. He recommended that each project have a lead architect or manager so that these projects could run simultaneously, with work being completed by second semester of the 2008-09 school year. He provided an overview of each of the building projects at each school. He introduced Mr. Rick Cozzi who introduced his team of project architects and described the general process to be used.

Board member Matsakis stated that the scopes of the projects are consistent with information disseminated to the communities during the referendum. Dr. Schilling indicated that three

individual estimates of the cost of the projects would be brought forward at key points to monitor the progress of the projects. Mr. Matsakis asked that part of our routine should include benchmarking the costs and progress to keep the community apprised. He also asked that maintenance assumptions be crystallized. Dr. Schilling also described the process for informing the board of any changes. To address questions by Mr. Boron, Mr. Rick Cozzi described how the process for design and construction would proceed between his team of architects, construction managers, and contractors. Board members Shein and Matsakis asked that a balance be examined between the initial cost of the project with the long term cost of operation of the facility so that intelligent choices can be made by the board as the project proceeds.

President Torf wanted to be sure that the projects about to commence would be in line with what was communicated to the public. Dr. Schilling said that a website would be created to show the status on the construction projects and financial aspects with progress reports posted semi-annually to communicate to the public on the \$94 million cited in the referendum is spent. President Torf asked that the construction highlights be clearly tied in this communication to the educational goals being served.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN AGENDA ITEM #8
REGARDING THE FACILITIES PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN
IMPLEMENTATION**

Motion by Mr. Shein, seconded by Mr. Matsakis to approve the recommendations in agenda item #8 regarding the Facilities Projects and Management Master Plan Implementation.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Matsakis, Shein, and Torf

nay: none

Motion carried. 7-0

(see agenda item #8)

DISCUSSION/ACTION: DEBT POLICY

Dr. Schilling explained that the bond rating agencies are now looking at financial management and policy as a key component of their ratings, especially for AAA rated agencies. One of the components they are looking for is a Debt Management Policy. No

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other school district in Illinois has one, so Glenbrook High School District 225 will be on the cutting edge. This policy along with the District 225's Budget Policy and financial management procedures will reinforce the district's positions for continued recognition as an AAA rated district.

The Board discussed this policy and asked that it be brought to the next meeting for approval with noted changes.

DISCUSSION/ACTION: SALE AND ISSUANCE OF BONDS

Dr. Schilling informed the Board that the original bond financing schedule contemplated the Board of Education approving a bond resolution and escrow resolution authorizing \$69 million of the \$94 million referendum approved bonds to be sold prior to the end of the year. Due to the delay catalyzed by the discovery recount, he believed it necessary to remove these items from consideration at this Board meeting.

Instead, Dr. Schilling provided an update to the Board on the effect of market improvement on the debt structure. He indicated that the intermediate and long-term bond market is currently at 30-year low levels. The lower interest rate environment has allowed the district to make several substantial improvements in the debt structure of the bonds versus the debt structure used in the refunding bonds. The refunding was projected to save \$1.2M due to shortening the payback by 3 years. Due to the low interest rate market, the district can shorten it by 4 years saving over \$2M in interest over the life of the bonds. Additionally, he described that due to lower interest rates, the debt structure has been modified to include level debt service and declining tax rate from 2019 to 2026. This means that the debt is not as "back-end" weighted. The amortization of the debt has also been shortened by 2 years for a 20-year amortization rather than a 22-year amortization. These structural improvements have made the debt structure substantially less costly to taxpayers (by \$17M) than the schedule contemplated in July, 2006 that was used for the purposes of the referendum information.

He indicated that it would be necessary to add a board meeting on January 8, 2007 to provide the board with time to review and consider relevant information to the sale and issuance of these bonds so that action might be taken, if possible. Board members asked about the effects on the district's timeline if further challenges were lodged. Dr. Schilling indicated that if there was a delay beyond late February, the construction would not be able to start until 2008 as it could not be included on the 2006 levy. There would be a cost to taxpayers due to fluctuating interest costs and almost certainly greater construction costs a year from now. If action could be taken soon, the district could enjoy the benefits of 30 year lows on interest rates and lows in petroleum costs due to a light hurricane season. There are no guarantees for the future.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: COOK COUNTY 6B EXTENSION APPLICATION:
NAPCO**

Mrs. Hillarie Siena provided an overview to the Board on the application for a Cook County 6B extension submitted by NAPCO. After discussion, the Board consensus was to direct Mrs. Siena to write a letter indicating they did not support this request as it did not comply with their previously established criteria.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: COOK COUNTY 6B EXTENSION APPLICATION:
R.A. ZWEIG, INC**

Mrs. Hillarie Siena provided an overview to the Board on the application for a Cook County 6B extension submitted by R.A. Zweig, Inc. After discussion, the Board consensus was to direct Mrs. Siena to write a letter indicating they did not support this request as it did not comply with their previously established criteria.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

Board member Matsakis talked about the recent State of the Village meeting and suggested that the Board find a way to interface with these groups.

The Board was reminded that on Thursday, December 14, The GLEN TIF meeting was scheduled to take place at the police station in Glenview. Mrs. Siena indicated that she was planning to attend.

President Torf requested that a special Focus on Education meeting be scheduled in the future to consider issues related to special education. She asked that details be provided about our philosophy, curriculum and textbook review process, and identification/placement issues be discussed.

Board member Boron shared his concern for Glenbrook graduates who may need counseling contact information once they have moved on to post secondary environments.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Mr. Berzon, seconded by Mr. Shein, to move into closed session at approximately 10:02 p.m. to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline performance, or dismissal of specific employees, collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees, student

disciplinary cases and litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, other matters relating to an individual student, namely a determination of a student's residency within the district (Section 2 (c) (1), (2), (9), (10) and (11) of the Open Meetings Act).

Upon calling of the roll:

Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Matsakis, Shein, and Torf

nay: none

Motion carried. 7-0

The Board returned to open session at approximately 10:25p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Shein, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:30 p.m.

Upon call for a vote on the motion, all present voted aye.*

Motion carried.

*

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

PRESIDENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

SECRETARY - BOARD OF EDUCATION

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

Meetings will be held in the
Board Room (unless otherwise noted) of the
Northfield Township High School District #225
Administration Building,

1835 Landwehr Road,
Glenview, Illinois.

Monday, January 22, 2007	7:30 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting
Monday, February 12, 2007	7:30 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting
Monday, February 26, 2007	7:30 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting