

**Union School District #81
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPEN SESSION
Regular Meeting
October 18, 2006**

I. Call to order

Motion by AH, 2nd by JL called the October board meeting to order at 6:53 p.m. Members present were: Mrs. Cindy DelSasso, Mrs. Nancy Lamb, Mr. John LaRocca, and Mr. Adam Hauert. Others present: Mrs. Barbara Littlejohn, Dr. Richard Dombrowski, Mr. Ed Marso and Mr. Scott Nemanich. Members absent: Mr. David Butterfield, Mr. Tim Mayo and Mr. Keith Kuzma.

II. Call to Order

Mr. Hauert led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Cindy DelSasso, Nancy Lamb, John LaRocca and Adam Hauert. Member Absent: David Butterfield, Tim Mayo and Keith Kuzma.

III. Audit Review

Mr. Hauert introduced Mr. Ed Marso to report the 2005-2006 financial audit. Mr. Marso thanked the school board for the opportunity to handle the audit. Mr. Marso directed the board to page 4 of the financial report. The transportation fund has been overspent. Mr. Marso suggested to the board to increase the provision for contingency. Mr. Marso stated that he is pleased to see healthy finances. Mr. Marso added that the district should use 180 working days as a benchmark. September and early October are the tax revenue months. The deficit in the OM fund would be handled with General State Aid next year. The financial report would look better to the State Board of Education if the fund balances were all positive. Dr. Dombrowski added that industry in the school district is projected to increase the education fund to \$2.5 million by the year 2012. Mr. Marso stated that is nice problem to have. Dr. Dombrowski stated that the school board plans to move General State Aid to the OM and Transportation Fund. Mr. Marso stated that several school districts have found problems with school issued credit cards and cellular phone bills and was happy to see that Union School does not own either. Dr. Dombrowski stated that the Bond will be paid in full in three years. Mr. Marso concluded his review and asked the school board if they had any questions.

Mr. Marso exits at 7:23 p.m.

IV. Hinshaw and Culbertson LLP

Mr. Hauert introduced Mr. Scott Nemanich of Hinshaw and Culberston LLP. Mr. Nemanich stated that he is former prosecutor for Will County, Northwestern Law School Graduate and is currently a lobbyist for State and Federal Funding. Mr. Nemanich proposed to the school board to employ his law firm as additional council. If the board would approve Hinshaw and Culbertson as additional council, Mr. Nemanich would be able to find additional funding for Union School.

Mr. Butterfield enters at 7:53 p.m.

Mr. Nemanich added that acting on behalf of legal council, he would be able to inquire on updates for funding.

Mr. Nemanich exits at 8:11 p.m.

V. Closed Session

Motion by JL, 2nd by AH to enter closed session at 8:12 p.m. Voice Vote: All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

Roll Call: David Butterfield, Cindy DelSasso, Nancy Lamb, John LaRocca and Adam Hauert. Members Absent: Tim Mayo and Keith Kuzma.

Motion by JL, 2nd by AH to end closed session at 8:21 p.m.

VI. Consent Agenda A

Motion by AH, 2nd by NL to approve Consent Agenda A with corrections to the Open Session Minutes of September 20, 2006. Changes should reflect the wording for Vancina and the term "overflow storm line" to describe the water line that would be buried underground on the West property line.

Roll Call Vote: AH, NL, DB, CD, JL. All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

- a. Open and Closed session minutes of September 20, 2006 with changes
- b. Destroy verbatim recorded minutes of March 2005

Mr. Butterfield exits at 8:33 p.m.

Motion by AH, 2nd by JL to approve the consent agenda B of September 20, 2006.

Roll Call Vote: AH, JL, CD, NL. All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

- c. Treasurer's Report
- d. Balance sheet of September 30, 2006
- e. Budget Comparison of September 30, 2006
- Payroll & Bills
- f. September 2006 Payroll in the amount of \$53,652.45
- g. Payment of vouchers for October 2006 in the amount of \$61,288.85

VII. Communication/Freedom of Information

No comments were made.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

- Mrs. Littlejohn stated that school needed to be closed on October 3, 2006 due to no power at the school and surrounding area. Mrs. Littlejohn added that before closing school, Com Ed could not guarantee when the power would be restored. Since the school is on its own well and septic, power is needed. Also the washrooms and gym are not useable during power outages and lunch would not be served. The power subsequently went on at approximately 10:00 a.m. that morning.

Mr. Butterfield enters at 8:37 p.m.

- Mrs. Littlejohn reported to the board the final cost of the flood damage and cleanup from September 13, 2006 was \$7,738.58. Mrs. Littlejohn stated that

the figure would have been much higher if several board members and staff members were not there to help the cleanup. Mrs. Littlejohn thanked Mr. LaRocca, Mr. Butterfield and Mr. Hauert again for all of their help.

- Regional Office of Education filed their yearly Health/Life Safety Inspection report. The report stated that the school has no violations.
- DCFS has distributed a flier to the board members stating that they too are mandated reporters of suspected child abuse. Please see Mrs. Littlejohn if you have any question on this issue or if you suspect any form of child abuse.
- Included in the board packet are the IASB Membership Report and Belief Statement.
- The lighting grant from 2005-2006 school year has been issued.
- EAV-Dr. Dombrowski stated that he picked up the assessed valuation complaint from the assessors office. Northern Builders does not agree with the multiplier on their property. After discussion, it was decided that Northern Builders needs to know that the school district is aware of such protests and is prepared to contest complaints on their petitions. Dr. Dombrowski confirmed Hickory Farms is moving to the Union School District also. Dr. Dombrowski added that he spoke with a gentleman from Northern Builders and plans to meet him to discuss tax caps.
- Flu Shots will be open to the board members and staff.
- Seniority List needs approval tonight.
- Financial Report was discussed earlier.
- Funding was discussed earlier. Mr. Butterfield asked Mrs. Littlejohn what the hourly rate is for the school's current legal council. Mrs. Littlejohn stated that is was very close to the \$200 an hour for Hinshaw fees. Mrs. Lamb stated that she feels the fees may be well worth the work. Mr. Butterfield added that it would be good for the school to be on top of funding rates and that the board may have to build a building or add to the current building.
- Other-Mrs. Littlejohn reported to the school board that Terra Nova Tests for 3rd through 7th graders have begun and the Explore Test will be given to 8th graders tomorrow. Route 2 students have been given assigned seats and will run their route to the original route. Miss Franz is ordering student I.D.'s and will be in soon.

IX. Action

Motion by AH, 2nd by JL to approve the Seniority List for 2006-2007 school year.
Voice Vote: All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

Motion by DB, 2nd by AH to approve results of FY06 Audit as presented. Roll Call
Vote: DB, AH, CD, NL, JL. All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

Motion by AH, 2nd by NL to approve Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton & Taylor to draft and handle issues regarding assessed valuation and Northern Builders. Voice
Vote: All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

Discussion: Mr. Butterfield asked Mrs. Littlejohn and other board members about the use of the well when the school is connected to city sewer and water. Mrs. Littlejohn stated that the septic tanks would be cleaned out and filled in. Dr. Dombrowski stated that the well would be capped. Mr. LaRocca added that the city of Joliet does not allow the use of both city water and well water except the exterior may use well water. Mr. LaRocca reminded the board that the cost to install the hook up of city water and sewer does not include finish landscape, only rough landscape. Mr. Butterfield asked how long it would take to hook up city water and sewer, and Mr. LaRocca answered that it would take one to one and half weeks and the water would need to be turned off for one day. Mr. LaRocca stated that this day is scheduled for Thanksgiving break so that students will not be interrupted.

Motion by DB, 2nd by JL to approve the water and sewer hook ups at a revised cost.
Roll Call Vote: DB, JL, CD, NL, AH. All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

Motion by AH, 2nd by DB to employ Mr. Dave Caamano as 2006-2007 boys basketball coach. Roll Call Vote: AH, DB, CD, NL, JL. All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

Motion by AH, 2nd by DB to approve request leave by Mrs. Kristina Paul as discussed in closed session. Voice Vote: All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

X. Adjournment

Motion by AH, 2nd by JL to adjourn the October 2006 Board Meeting at 9:25 p.m.
Voice Vote: All ayes. No nays. Motion Carried.

Mr. Adam Hauert, President

Mr. John LaRocca, Secretary