

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION,
BELLE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 119, ST. CLAIR COUNTY, ILLINOIS
FEBRUARY 19, 2008

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The Board of Education of District No. 119, St. Clair County, Illinois, met in a classroom, Belle Valley School-South, 1901 Mascoutah Road, Belleville, Illinois, in said District at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2008.

President Kunz called the meeting to order. The roll was called and the following members were present: Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Tiemann. Those members absent were Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Vaughn and Mrs. Baltz.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

President Kunz recommended adoption of the agenda. Mr. Smith moved to adopt the agenda. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. All members in favor, the agenda was adopted.

President Kunz called for public comments from the audience. There were no public comments.

President Kunz asked Mr. Harting, CHR & Associates, to report on the Employee Assistance Program. Mr. Harting reported that the national average utilization rate for an employee assistance program is 5%, while Belle Valley School District has a 10% utilization rate. He attributes the difference to a more educated professional group of individuals utilize the program's services. Mr. Harting and his staff assess an employee's problem and develop a plan during eight sessions. Board members asked Mr. Harting several questions about the program.

Dr. Hill asked the District's social workers to give a report on their student services. Neeley Curtis, North's social worker, reported that she keeps a caseload of 30-35 students due to minutes in student's individual educational plan. She conducts individual and small group counseling, peer conflict issues, behavioral issues, mental health issues, educate teachers for social services, oversees 504 plans, connect parents and students to outside agencies. She is involved in chronic truancy issues, the HUG team, intervention for problem students, identification of special education issues or concerns, writes reports, and lessons on anger management. She is proud of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program where BTHS East junior and senior students are matched as mentors to North students. She is involved with character education, peaceball, speech communication class with Elaine Ramsay and communication with

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parents and students. Marge Belt, South social worker, has a caseload of 31 students with individual education plans plus 20 additional general education students. She oversees the peer mediator program and mentor program for new students. She meets speakers at the door to welcome them to the District. She is involved in the character education walk, the care team, consultation, and enjoys working at one school building. Board members asked the social workers about continuation education. The social workers have attended the Illinois conference for social workers during this school year and in past years.

Mrs. JoAnn Rushing gave a report on school library services. The current funding allows the purchase of one new hard back book per student per year. She reported that test scores tend to be higher where libraries are staffed, larger collections are available, educational technology is more available, collection development and online resources. The District has received \$3,104 from Reading Is Fundamental, a federal grant, for 2007-08 school for the 30th year. In February 2007 Sally Walker, a nationally recognized writer, was a special presenter at Belle Valley and has kept in contact with Belle Valley students. Mrs. Rushing thanked the Board of Education for their library support.

Dr. Hill suggested that the athletic supervision policy be deferred to later time in the meeting.

Mrs. Hoercher reported an overview of the Auto Skills program. She stated that the program is for at risk struggling students. The program is geared for reading and math subject areas. A demonstration took less than 10 minutes and all the work is done at school on computers. Students are in the program for twelve weeks. Every grade level will be able to tell the next year's teacher, which students could be helped. All grade levels would utilize the Auto Skills Program. Board members asked, what are the expected outcomes? Mrs. Hoercher reported that most students succeed, but students with bad attitudes are not as successful. The program is targeted for grade two and above. Board members asked if other elementary schools use the program at the elementary level. She responded yes.

Mr. Vaughn arrived at 7:57 p.m.

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Mrs. Hoercher continued that the teachers must be passionate and involved with the program. Board members thanked the teachers for researching the program.

President Kunz recommended the readopting the School Wellness Policy, 6:50, as a requirement for the school breakfast and lunch programs. Mr. Smith moved to readopt the School Wellness Policy. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann and Mr. Vaughn. Nays none, motion carried.

Dr. Hill reported the District reached an agreement for the building union contract. Contract language changes included vacation days, comp time, retirement incentive and fair share. Mr. Smith moved to ratify the contract agreement between Belle Valley School District #119 and Local #116, Service Employees International Union, for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011. Mr. Byrd asked several questions to which Dr. Hill answered. Mr. Vaughn seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann and Mr. Vaughn. Nays none, motion carried.

Mr. Busch reported on the selection of the social studies textbook adoption. He stated a team of twelve staff members met for the social study textbook selection. Three vendors, Harcourt Brace, Prentice Hall and Scott Foresman, sent sample book sets for review. Grades three and four favored the Harcourt Brace series with the touching on Illinois related materials. Dr. Leib reported grades five and six teachers stated the Scott Foresman series related well with reading series. Each grade level followed the skills for what students needed to learn and aligned to the ISAT standards. The textbooks are purchased every six to seven years. Board members thanked the teachers for principals and teachers for the taking the time for the social studies textbook selection. Mr. Smith moved to adopt the social studies books as recommended. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann and Mr. Vaughn. Nays none, motion carried.

Dr. Hill gave a preliminary review of retention and summer school recommendations. The administrators met to discuss retention and summer school policies. They suggested the no retention policy be eliminated and attendance at summer school will no longer be a contingent rationale for deferred promotion. Board members asked if parents should sign a form that they

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are understanding the progress of student. Mrs. Goetter responded that parents are notified early on that there is a problem with the student at the first parent/teacher conference. Dr. Leib stated that students have behavior based student problems rather than academic learning problems. The plan would document the progress and be articulated with the parents. Board members asked about interventions for the students. Dr. Hill stated the best summer school enhancement would be transportation as an addition.

Mr. Hill discussed the Quality Based Selection Documents leading toward the selection of an architect. Mr. Vaughn asked Mr. Sitton to review the QBS and Request for Qualification for interested architects. Mr. Sitton responded with his recommendations in a letter. Mr. Vaughn moved to incorporate Mr. Sitton's recommendations into the document. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Mr. Hill recommended adopting the RFQ by Thursday with a deadline by Monday, February 25, 2008. All members in favor, motion carried

Mrs. Kunz asked if any board members had any questions for the consent agenda items, which included: the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education on January 15, 2008, the executive minutes of the Board of Education on January 15, 2008, the minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Education on January 30, 2008, the executive minutes of the Board of Education on January 30, 2008, the financial report, the treasurer's report, and payment of bills. Board members discussed contacting other snow removal companies for future services and expenses listed on the board report. The bills were presented for approval and payment in the following amounts (see itemized lists attached): Ed. Fund \$74,118.71; Bldg. Fund \$33,332.14; Bond & Interest Fund \$440.00; Transportation Fund \$45,832.21.

Mr. Baysinger arrived at 8:50 p.m.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the items listed on the consent agenda. Mr. Vaughn seconded the motion. Members voting aye on the roll call: Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Abstained: Mr. Baysinger; nays: none; motion carried.

Dr. Hill discussed the athletic supervision policy. The Belle Fair conference rules requires supervision at boys basketballs games. The administrators reviewed the belief system for supervising home and away activities. Board members suggested that administrators instruct

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students and guests the safest place to go during inclement weather. Dr. Hill suggested that Dr. Leib and Mr. Hickman prepare recommendations for these extra curricular activities where administrative supervisors should be provided.

Mrs. Kunz asked for any board member requests. Mr. Vaughn asked board members if anyone would have a problem asking Mr. Sitton for an hourly rate and if he is interested in working with the board with a defined scope of work. Board members agreed to inquire about Mr. Sitton's hourly rate.

Dr. Leib and Mrs. Goetter reported that parent/teacher conferences went well at both school buildings. Mrs. Kunz reported that the North polling place was well accommodated by the North staff. Dr. Leib reported that listening books, books on tape and books were received free through a literature grant written by Mrs. Herzog. Mrs. Obernuefemann is organizing the science fair on February 28, 2008 and a sleepover at the Science Museum in St. Louis. Dr. Leib discussed ISAT testing from March 3 to 14th. Mrs. Goetter discussed the RTI participation for all K-2 students, which address a brief glimpse for student levels and interventions. Mrs. Goetter stated the yearbook staff is working very hard and McDonald's night is planned for March 4th from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Hill asked Mr. Vaughn about the lawn mower. Mr. Vaughn would get back with Dr. Hill.

Dr. Hill stated the assistant superintendent application process has been extended. The superintendents recommended a special board meeting to interview new applicants for Tuesday, March 4th at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. McKay reported on the number of part time secretary applicants and the time line for interviews.

Dr. Hill recommended employing Kathy Sinclair as a track coach for the 2007-08 school year. Mr. Vaughn moved to employ Kathy Sinclair as a track coach for the 2007-08 school year. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Members voting aye on the roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

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Dr. Hill recommended to approve the family medical leave request from Mrs. Liz David. Mr. Smith moved to approve Mrs. Liz David's family medical leave request. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Members voting aye on the roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

Dr. Hill asked the board of education to reluctantly accept Mrs. Brink's resignation. Mr. Byrd moved to accept Mrs. Brink's resignation. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and moved the previous roll call. Mr. Vaughn seconded the previous roll call motion. All members in favor, motion carried. Members voting aye on the previous rolled call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

Dr. Hill asked the board of education to accept Mrs. Rhymer's resignation. Mr. Smith moved to accept Mrs. Rhymer's resignation. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Mr. Smith moved the previous roll call. Mr. Byrd seconded the previous roll call motion. All members in favor, motion carried. Members voting aye on the previous rolled call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

Upon the recommendation of President Kunz, Mr. Smith moved that the Board of Education enter executive session at 9:40 p.m. for employment, compensation, and/or dismissal of personnel. Mr. Vaughn seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann and Mr. Vaughn. Nays none, motion carried.

At 11:05 p.m. Mr. Smith moved that the Board of Education reconvene in open session. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the technology facilitator contract for Doug Sawyer. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann and Mr. Vaughn. Nays none, motion carried.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the assistant principal contract for Philip Hickman. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Mr. Smith moved the previous roll call. Mr. Baysinger seconded the previous roll call motion. All members in favor, motion carried. Members voting aye on

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the previous rolled call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the business manager contract for Joan McKay. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Mr. Smith moved the previous roll call. Mr. Baysinger seconded the previous roll call motion. All members in favor, motion carried. Members voting aye on the previous rolled call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the principal contract for Kathy Goetter. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Mr. Smith moved the previous roll call. Mr. Baysinger seconded the previous roll call motion. All members in favor, motion carried. Members voting aye on the previous rolled call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the principal contract for Tammy Lieb. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Mr. Smith moved the previous roll call. Mr. Baysinger seconded the previous roll call motion. All members in favor, motion carried. Members voting aye on the previous rolled call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

Mr. Smith moved to release Ashley Shrand as an extended school program employee at Belle Valley South due to lack of student participation. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. Members voting aye on the roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mr. Byrd, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tiemann, and Mr. Vaughn. Nays: none; motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education at this time, Mr. Vaughn moved that the meeting adjourn. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Karen L. Kunz, President
Board of Education

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Joan E. McKay, Secretary
Board of Education
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