

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION,
BELLE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 119, ST. CLAIR COUNTY, ILLINOIS
NOVEMBER 21, 2006

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The Board of Education of District No. 119, St. Clair County, Illinois, met in the library, Belle Valley School-South, 1901 Mascoutah Road, Belleville, Illinois, in said District at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 21, 2006.

Vice-president Kunz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The roll was called and the following members were present: Mr. Baysinger, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Vaughn and Mrs. Baltz. Those absent: Mr. Byrd and Dr. Feder.

The Board of Education and others in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

Vice-president Kunz recommended adoption of agenda. Mr. Smith moved to adopt the board agenda. Mrs. Baltz seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Vice-president Kunz called for citizen's non-agenda items. There were no public comments.

Supt. Floit recognized Judi Herzog and Lori Zeiter for their leadership in our new mentorship program. She reported that they brought the idea of an official mentor program to our attention, participated in a 2-day training on the development of a mentor program, and co-authored the mentorship plan that the District submitted to ISBE. Subsequently, they developed a mentor handbook, a new teacher handbook, and all of our training materials and lesson plans. The results have been even better than the District hoped. All reports from our veteran teacher mentors and our new teacher mentees have been extremely positive. The District truly believes that the success of this program is due to the grassroots efforts of these exemplary educators. In addition, Judi and Lori have been asked by the Regional Office of Education to consult with the ROE in the preparation of materials and the presentation of training modules for the ROE's mentor program. Lori and Judi were thanked for their contribution to retaining and promoting our newest and most promising teachers. Their efforts are making a difference.

Supt. Floit asked Judi Herzog and Beckie Brombolich to explain their gender based action research project. Mrs. Herzog and Ms. Brombolich set up a pilot program for gender based reading/language arts instruction. Mrs. Herzog teaches one section of boys and Ms. Brombolich teaches one section of girls. Ms. Brombolich stated that her classroom of girls showed increased participation over mixed gender classes. Mrs. Herzog stated that the boys are

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much more active and a related well to activities that include movement. The two teachers are very pleased with the gender based classroom and will report back again at the end of the school year with academic achievement data.

Supt. Floit recommended employing Deanna Coleman as an extended school program employee as Belle Valley North. Mr. Baysinger moved to employ Deanna Coleman as an extended school program employee. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mrs. Kunz, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Vaughn, and Mrs. Baltz. Nays none, motion carried.

The following items were presented: an enrollment report showed a total of 919 students, which was an decrease of 3 students over the prior month. The North Extended School Program has approximately 61 students participating. The year-to-date income for the program was \$15,131 through 10/31/06 compared to \$18,904 through 10/31/05. The South Extended School Program has about 18 students participating. The year to date income for the program was a \$322 through 10/31/06 compared to a loss of \$752 for the prior year. The cafeteria breakfast and lunch program report included a utilization report of the number of breakfasts and lunches served per building for each month. Board members asked for further explanation on the lunch column titles and the averages. Supt. Floit stated that the student lanyard identification cards keep the free and reduced lunch students confidential. Mrs. Goetter noted that the noon supervisors encourage all students to eat lunch, but some students choose not to eat very much lunch.

Dr. Feder arrived at 7:25 p.m.

Supt. Floit reported that the parent teacher conferences had 90% of parents attended at North and 85% of parents attended at South.

Information concerning the proposed tax levy for 2006 was discussed. A projected increase in the equalized assessed valuation from 4% to 8%, and the correlating tax rates were discussed. The overall recommended increase on the levy is 4.99% with the Bond & Interest Fund included. The corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2006 are estimated at \$2,967,721, which represents a 4.99% increase over the previous year. Supt. Floit, Mrs. McKay and board members discussed the projected equal assessed valuation (EAV) of real estate. As the EAV goes up, the tax rates decrease. Mr. Smith moved to adopt the tentative

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proposed tax levy for the following amounts: Educational Fund \$1,914,500.00; Building Fund \$336,519.00; Transportation Fund \$115,378.00; Working Cash Fund \$48,074.00; Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund \$105,500.00; Social Security Fund \$110,000.00; Tort Immunity Fund \$97,500.00; Special Education Fund \$19,750.00; Life Safety Fund \$48,000.00; Lease Levy \$45,000.00, and the amount needed in the Bond & Interest Fund \$127,500. Mrs. Baltz seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Vaughn, Dr. Feder, and Mrs. Baltz. Nays: none, motion carried.

Supt. Floit discussed the appraisal for the Belle Valley South property from Collier Appraisers, Ltd. Board members asked about the value of the property on the audited financial statements. Mrs. McKay stated the depreciated values are reported on the statements. The Collier appraisal estimated the land at \$600,000 for the 22 plus/minus acres at Belle Valley South. Board members inquired if Chicago Title and Trust mailed the Amann land deed and title. Supt. Floit will contact the title company for those items.

Supt. Floit and board members discussed long-term building plans, establishing a steering committee, which includes administrators, staff, board members, parents, community members, and students. Board members suggested a 10-15 member committee, and asked Supt. Floit to make recommendation of parents and interested teachers. The building committee will meet with the administrators to develop the steering committee.

Vice President 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 October 17, 2006, and the minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Education on October 24, 2006, the financial report, the treasurer's report and payment of bills. Mr. Vaughn noted a correction on the October 17, 2006 minutes. He was absent, but he was noted as present within the minutes. The bills were presented for approval and payment in the following amounts (see itemized lists attached): Ed. Fund \$53,861.70; Bldg. Fund \$58,157.66; and Transportation Fund \$41,635.74. Board members discussed the transportation expenses and the number of special education students transported. Supt Floit responded that the District has three special education buses compared to two special education buses for last year. Mr. Smith moved to approve the items listed on the consent agenda with the corrected minutes. Mr. Vaughn seconded the

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motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Vaughn, Dr. Feder, and Mrs. Baltz. Nays: none, motion carried.

Supt. Floit discussed the informational meeting held by the developers of the property directly across Mascoutah Avenue from Belle Valley South School prior to the board meeting. The developers are seeking a zoning change from the City to allow them to put in a planned unit development. The District received a freedom of information request from the St. Louis Post Dispatch for teacher position and salaries. She noted that a reservation form for the IASB Southwestern Governing Committee dinner meeting on December was enclosed, and asked interested board member to call the administrative office.

Upon the recommendation of President Feder, Mr. Vaughn moved that the Board of Education go into closed executive session at 8:50 p. m. to discuss student discipline and personnel. Mrs. Baltz seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Baysinger, Mrs. Kunz, Mr. Smith, Mr. Vaughn, Dr. Feder and Mrs. Baltz. Nays none, motion carried.

At 9:40 p.m. Mr. Vaughn moved that the Board of Education reconvene in open session. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All members in favor, 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. Smith seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Thomas J. Feder, President
Board of Education
Belle Valley School District No. 119
St. Clair County, Illinois

Joan E. McKay, Secretary
Board of Education
Belle Valley School District No. 119
St. Clair County, Illinois