

Lexington Community Unit #7 School District  
Lexington, Illinois

Regular Board Meeting  
May 20, 2010

President Steve Brown called the regular meeting to order in the district office at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called with the following members present: Steve Brown, Mike Kelley, Ben Kahle, Marsha Killian, Bruce Klein, Andy Schuler, and Randy Winterland. Also present were: Curt Nettles, Superintendent; Sean Berry, Junior High / High School Principal; and, Toni Wilken, recording secretary.

Marsha Killian moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A.) April 13, 2010, regular session minutes.
- B.) Lexington May 20, 2010, regular bills, the payroll liabilities and necessary additional payments made in April, 2010, and ratify Tri-County Special Education Association's bills for April, 2010.
- C.) April, 2010, Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement. There are currently no investments.
- D.) Retirement notice from Kathy Brooks.
- E.) Resignation of Al Schroeder as high school volleyball coach.
- F.) Resignation of Aaron Ellison as head high school boys' basketball coach.
- G.) Abatement of \$418,353 from Working Cash Fund to Education Fund
- H.) Transfer of \$35,000 from Education Fund to Transportation Fund
- I.) Transfer of \$20,000 from Education Fund to IMRF Fund.

Seconded by Ben Kahle. Roll call vote:

Brown	- yes	Klein	- yes
Kahle	- yes	Schuler	- yes
Kelley	- yes	Winterland	- yes
Killian	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

In addition to his written report, Superintendent Nettles reported on the following:

- Lexington will partner with Unit 5 in a grant opportunity to do a study on student achievement in the area of reading comprehension based on the use of *collaborative reasoning*. We will find out if Unit 5 is awarded the grant sometime this summer.
- The district needs to switch to a Windows operating system for its technology network. The current Novell system is outdated and not supported well any longer. A new server is needed for the changeover which will occur this summer.
- U. S. Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa has proposed a bill to congress to bail out states' education systems so massive teacher layoffs can be averted around the country.
- Mr. Nettles is applying to be part of a professional development opportunity sponsored by the Illinois Association of School Administrators called *Illinois School for Advanced Leadership*. This opportunity will benefit the district in regard to improvement of instruction and student achievement.

Elementary Principal Dale Heidbreder arrived at 7:15 p.m.

In addition to his written report, Elementary Principal Dale Heidbreder reported on the following:

- Kindergarten orientation was held this evening with 35 forms submitted.
- Registration packets for next school year went home with students.
- Superintendent Nettles and Principal Heidbreder grilled hot dogs for Elementary Field day at the local park.
- “Ice the Principal” was a huge success. Students surpassed the challenge of 5,000 Accelerated Reader quizzes, completing 6,953. This earned readers the “honor” of turning Mr. Heidbreder into an ice cream sundae.
- Mr. Heidbreder commended Nicole Christianson for a job well done in her one-year position teaching fourth grade.
- He commended Kathy Brooks on a successful first year with the *Response to Intervention* program. A presentation following the administrative reports will demonstrate that RtI can benefit advanced students as well as those who need help in certain areas.

In addition to his written report, Junior High / High school Principal Sean Berry reported on the following:

- Ben Leake and Rachel Mohr were voted Minutemen of the Month for April, under the theme *School Spirit*. Sydney Freed and Ross Miller were voted Minutemen of the Month for May, under the theme, *Pride*. From the monthly winners, Minutemen of the Year will be voted on at the end of May. This successful program will continue next year.
- PSAE testing for juniors was conducted on April 28 and 29.
- JH/HS final exams are scheduled for Mon./Tue./Wed., May 24, 25, 26.
- Baccalaureate and Senior Awards will be held Sunday, May 23 at 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center.
- Eighth Grade Promotion will take place Thursday, May 27, 7:00 p.m. High school Graduation will be held Friday, May 28, 7:00 p.m.
- Math Team placed fourth at State.
- High School Chorus received a *Superior* rating at the IHSA Organizations music contest on April 16.
- The softball team hosted a “Strike out Cancer” game on May 6 vs. GCMS.
- FLOATS (Freshmen Mentoring Program) finished off the school year with a pizza party for all the freshmen and their senior mentors. This program had a good year and will continue next year.

A kindergarten student, Grant Lathrop, accompanied by his parents and kindergarten teacher, Jill Watt, arrived at 7:30 p.m. Grant made a presentation to the board. It was a story he had composed about the Titanic and used a PowerPoint slide show along with the story. For a kindergarten student with such advanced reading and writing skills, the RtI program had made it possible for Grant to work on this project, over and above the regular kindergarten curriculum, showing that RtI can help gifted students as well as those who need additional help.

Mike Kelley moved to approve the district signing of a Memo of Understanding with the State of Illinois in regard to *Race to the Top*. Seconded by Andy Schuler. Roll call vote.

Kahle	- yes	Schuler	- yes
Kelley	- yes	Winterland	- yes
Killian	- yes	Brown	- yes
Klein	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Marsha Killian moved to approve the recommended changes to the High School Handbook for next school year. Seconded by Mike Kelley. Roll call vote:

Kelley	- yes	Winterland	- yes
Killian	- yes	Brown	- yes
Klein	- yes	Kahle	- yes
Schuler	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Kelley moved to employ Jason Bonny as junior high / high school band teacher for the 2010-11 school year. Seconded by Ben Kahle. Roll call vote:

Killian	- yes	Brown	- yes
Klein	- yes	Kahle	- yes
Schuler	- yes	Kelley	- yes
Winterland	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Ben Kahle moved to employ Dan Palmer as second shift custodian. Seconded by Randy Winterland. Roll call vote:

Klein	- yes	Kahle	- yes
Schuler	- yes	Kelley	- yes
Winterland	- yes	Killian	- yes
Brown	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Marsha Killian moved to assign Julie Thomas as head high school volleyball coach for 2010-11. Seconded by Andy Schuler. Roll call vote:

Schuler	- yes	Kelley	- yes
Winterland	- yes	Killian	- yes
Brown	- yes	Klein	- yes
Kahle	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Bruce Klein moved to approve the purchase of a new elementary reading textbook series. Seconded by Ben Kahle. Roll call vote:

Winterland	- yes	Killian	- yes
Brown	- yes	Klein	- yes
Kahle	- yes	Schuler	- yes
Kelley	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Nettles asked the board to reschedule the July meeting to Thursday, July 22, 7:00 p.m., in the district office. He is unable to attend the meeting if held on the regular date of July 15.

The board discussed selling the remaining Health/Life Safety bonds for construction work. They also talked about approving a resolution of intent to sell Working Cash bonds. First Midstate will attend the June board meeting and bring the necessary paperwork to accomplish this. The board discussed authorizing up to one million dollars in Working Cash bonds, but only selling \$500,000 at this time. This would keep the tax rate in line with what it has been in the past.

In *Old Business*, Superintendent Nettles told the board that the board policy customization project is in progress.

Marsha Killian moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Andy Schuler. Motion carried unanimously.

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Steven K. Brown, President

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Marsha M. Killian, Secretary