

December 12, 2005

### **Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance**

A regular, scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of the Olympia Community Unit School District Number 16 held in the Olympia Administration Office was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Brian Spaulding with the following Board members and administrators present: Brian Spaulding, Laura Cremeens, Sondra Hayes, Trena Glenn, Steve Matter, Curt Morr (arrived at 6:33 p.m.), Leslie Schmidgall; Superintendent Donald F. Hahn, Curriculum and Instruction Director/Asst. Superintendent Brad Hutchison, Business and Operations Manager Brock Butts, Technology and Media Coordinator Mary Ann Nannen, OMS Principal Steve Wilder, and Olympia North Principal Fred Shears.

Others present were Roberta and Rachel Park, Stacey Rinkenberger, and Rose Willis

Brian Spaulding, Board President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Executive Session**

A **motion** was made by Sondra Hayes, seconded by Steve Matter, to meet in Executive Session at 6:34 p.m. to discuss employment with Doug Blair, IASB representative, and to discuss other employment of personnel.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### **Action As A Result Of Executive Session**

There was no action as a result of Executive Session.

**\* Brian Spaulding left the meeting at 7:00 p.m. due to a family emergency. He returned at 8:15 p.m. Laura Cremeens, Board Vice-President, led the meeting during his absence.**

### **Open Session**

A **motion** was made by Steve Matter, seconded by Sondra Hayes, to reconvene open session at 7:24 p.m.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

A **motion** was made by Les Schmidgall, seconded by Sondra Hayes, to approve the consent agenda that included:

- A. Approval of Agenda

- B. Approval of Minutes (with the correction of one voting statement), including Executive Session, from the November 14, 2005, Regular Board of Education meeting
- A. Approval of Bills and Financial Reports
- B. Employment of the following Educational Support Personnel
  1. Valerie Wahls as Classroom Aide effective November 21, 2005
  2. Mary Egli as Special Education Individual Aide effective December, 5, 2005
  3. Susan Wheeler as OHS Guidance Secretary effective December 8, 2005
  4. Michelle Hankins as Cook effective November 28, 2005
  5. Tina Berube as Special Education Classroom Aide effective December 12, 2005
  6. Charmaine Ringer as Student Supervisor effective November 14, 2005
- C. Confirmation of the following resignations
  1. Karen Marlatt as Cook effective November 25, 2005
  2. Francine McCullen as Cook effective December 19, 2005
- D. Approval of the increased employment of Linda Schmidgall, secretary and aide, from 6 hours to 7 ½ hours per day effective August 8, 2005
- E. Approval to designate Friday, December 9, 2005, as an official Emergency “Snow” Day

Discussion. Vote: Schmidgall (aye), Hayes (aye), Spaulding (absent), Cremeens (aye), Glenn (aye), Matter (aye), Morr (aye). Motion carried 6-0.

### **Communications**

A communications folder was circulated among the board members.

### **Committee Reports**

Policy committee members Sondra Hayes and Trena Glenn, along with Superintendent Hahn, presented final revisions to various Board policies including a change in the policy for correspondence, internet and summer school courses (6:310). This particular revision will allow sophomores and second-semester freshmen to receive high school credit for comparable work completed provided that they have a waiver from the Principal and follow administrative procedures. There was a brief discussion regarding the policy revision that states all schools must stress the role and contributions of several listed ethnic groups (6:60). This policy was pulled from the list of others to be voted on separately.

Board members shared information and commented on their participation in the IASB, IASA & IASBO Joint Conference that was held November 18-20 in Chicago. There was positive feedback from all.

## **Administrative Reports**

Assistant Superintendent Brad Hutchison presented the Board with new Science, Literature and Algebra 1 textbooks for review. He noted that Algebra 1 needs to be promoted at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level. Mr. Hutchison commented that the district language arts committee is continuing to make progress in revising the language arts curriculum. Mr. Hutchison provided the Board with a parent/teacher conference comparative summary. This summary showed an increase in participation of over 80% at the high school level. A parent/teacher conference committee is currently working to find ways for continued improvement of conference participation. Mr. Hutchison congratulated Olympia West first grade teacher, Staci Steiger, who was a recipient of the Ameren Power Up Grant. Mrs. Steiger will receive a SMART board for her classroom. Mr. Hutchison announced that Dr. Todd Whitaker will be the guest speaker at the January 3, 2006, district institute. Faculty members from Tremont Unit School District #702 will be joining Olympia and sharing in the cost of this institute.

Technology and Media Director Mary Ann Nannen informed the Board that the library/technology staff had recently attended database and cataloging training sessions. She also announced that a Heartland Community College technology intern had joined their team to assist with on-site support. It was noted that Heartland pays 60% of the intern's salary. Mrs. Nannen informed the Board that networking problems encountered the week before Thanksgiving were due to an aged server losing its ability to remember instructions. This particular server was due for replacement in June, 2006. Mrs. Nannen shared that the Bloomington/Normal Education Alliance and State Farm were once again sponsoring a student-led technology conference at Heartland in February. She noted that interested persons could obtain more information by visiting [www.sitconference.org](http://www.sitconference.org)

Operations and Business Manager Brock Butts shared an update on the storm damage incurred in November. Costs of repairs are estimated between \$160,000 - \$170,000 to date. Dr. Butts presented final 2005 Levy information for Board approval. The Levy amount of \$8,007,550 represents a 1.7% reduction over the 2004 extension. The tax rate will decline from \$4.90 to \$4.85 per \$100 of assessed value.

Building Principal reports were shared, along with participation and gate receipts for OMS and OHS activities and the OHS sports medicine summary. OMHS activities participation is higher this year than last year.

Superintendent Hahn recommended February 4, 2006, as a date for the Board of Education Winter Retreat. This planning meeting will be dedicated to looking at the district's financial picture and to look at future options. Superintendent Hahn provided the Board with a study regarding future Kindergarten options. It was agreed that the Board will look closer at these options during its planning meeting in February. Superintendent Hahn announced that Fanning/Howey Associates have started the demographics/facilities study. The Olympia Advisory Council will be meeting with a representative from Fanning/Howey in January to help him understand what the

community wants from its school district. Fanning/Howey has been asked to have a presentation ready for the Board in February.

### **Other Business**

Board President Brian Spaulding and Superintendent Hahn summarized the hearing and outcome of the Hopedale detachment determination. The Tazewell County Regional Board voted 6-1 to keep Hopedale in the Olympia district. The Regional Board commented that the decision was based on the best interests of the Olympia students, the financial impact a detachment would have on Olympia, and the fact that the benefits for Delavan would not outweigh the detriment on the remaining Olympia district.

### **Action Items**

A **motion** was made by Les Schmidgall, seconded by Sondra Hayes, to approve the 2005 Property Tax Levy to be collected in 2006 as presented by Business and Operations Manager, Dr. Brock Butts and as listed by the following funds: Education \$5,028,000; Operations & Maintenance \$1,047,500; Transportation \$419,000; Working Cash \$104,750; Municipal Retirement \$175,000; Social Security \$290,000; Life Safety \$104,750; Tort Immunity \$650,000; Special Education \$83,800; Lease/Purchase \$104,750.

Discussion. **Vote.** Schmidgall (aye); Hayes (aye); Spaulding (aye); Cremeens (aye); Glenn (aye); Matter (aye); Morr (aye). **Motion carried 7-0.**

A **motion** was made by Steve Matter, seconded by Laura Cremeens, to approve final changes to Board policies 2:200, 2:220, 4:170, 5:30, 5:180, 5:330, 6:130, 6:140, 6:300, 6:340, 7:60, 7:100, 7:240, and 8:30 as presented by the Policy committee and Superintendent Hahn.

Discussion. **Vote.** Matter (aye); Cremeens (aye); Spaulding (aye); Hayes (aye); Glenn (aye); Morr (aye); Schmidgall (aye). **Motion carried 7-0.**

A **motion** was made by Sondra Hayes, seconded by Trena Glenn, to approve final changes to Board policy 6:60 as presented by the Policy committee and Superintendent Hahn.

Discussion. **Vote.** Hayes (aye); Glenn (aye); Spaulding (aye); Cremeens (nay); Matter (aye); Morr (nay); Schmidgall (nay). **Motion carried 4-3.**

A **motion** was made by Trena Glenn, seconded by Steve Matter, to approve change in Board policy 6:310 regarding the Illinois Virtual High School offering as recommended by the Policy committee and Superintendent Hahn.

Discussion. **Vote.** Glenn (aye); Matter (aye); Spaulding (aye); Cremeens (aye); Hayes (aye); Morr (aye); Schmidgall (aye). **Motion carried 7-0.**

A **motion** was made by Steve Matter, seconded by Les Schmidgall, to approve the date of February 4, 2006, as the day for the special Board Retreat meeting to be held at the Minier Christian Church (8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.).

Discussion. **Vote.** Matter (aye); Schmidgall (aye); Spaulding (aye); Cremeens (aye); Hayes (aye); Glenn (aye); Morr (aye). **Motion carried 7-0.**

### **Adjournment**

At 9:37 p.m., a **motion** was made by Sondra Hayes, seconded by Steve Matter, to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

APPROVED:

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President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

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Secretary, Board of Education

**Executive Session Minutes**  
**December 12, 2005**

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There was no action as a result of this Executive Session.