

**COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 46**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**December 19, 2012**

The Regular Board of Education Meeting of the Community Consolidated School District 46, Lake County, Illinois was held at Park Campus located 400 W. Townline Rd., Round Lake, IL on Wednesday, December 19, 2012.

President Millington called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. **Members Present:** Ray Millington, Keith Surroz, Sue Facklam, Michael Carbone, Kip Evans, Shannon Smigielski and Karen Weinert. **Members absent:** None.

**Quorum was established.**

Also present: Superintendent Ellen Correll, Business Manager Anna Kasprzyk and District Attorney Kevin Gordon.

Pledge of Allegiance took place at this time.

President Millington called a motion for the approval of the December 19, 2012 Board Meeting agenda as presented. Motioned by Smigielski and seconded by Weinert for the approval of the December 19, 2012 agenda. **Yeas:** Evans, Smigielski, Millington, Carbone, Weinert and Facklam. **Nays:** None. **Motion carried.**

**Member Surroz** arrived at 6:05 p.m.

**2012 TAX LEVY PRESENTATION** by Anna Kasprzyk

**PUBLIC COMMENT for Tax Levy Presentation**

Following are highlights from the public comments:

- State has money issues however many surrounding districts have balanced their budgets.
- Resident concerned about taxes being raised. It's not a solution to raise taxes every year. Anna shared that the district is looking at areas to make budget cuts in special education costs; closing a school or grade centers; copier costs; and utilities. Salary and benefits are the biggest cost and the district has little control over these areas.
- Resident shared data from D127 meeting they attended. In 2006 the tax increase amount was \$6,900. This year that figure is \$9,900.
- Residents and Business Owners have come forward to express their desire to not increase taxes. Business property rental rates are now in the \$5 per square foot range. Businesses cannot absorb more tax increases. Most people in the public sector have received pay increases. The private sector has not seen pay increases. The Business community supports a vote for no tax increase.

- Resident just found out about the possibility of a tax increase the day before this meeting. Can't imagine that anyone would think about increasing taxes.
- Resident asked how many staff members have been cut in the past 4 years? Superintendent Correll shared that 29 staff members have been cut and our district has lost 3 Administrators. Resident feels we cannot fund teachers any longer.
- Resident shared that their home value has decreased by 27% in the 3 years they have lived in Grayslake. Suggested trying to co-op utilities to try and get more of a savings in this area.
- Life long resident, homeowner in Grayslake for 16 years, and Business Owner in Grayslake for 14 years. Business Owners and homeowners cannot sustain the tax rates. Libertyville taxes are half of what it costs here. Member Facklam shared that the main reason the tax rate in Libertyville is lower is the difference in the business base.
- Business Owner stated that raising taxes would not increase the business in Grayslake. Member Smigielski stated that we are going to drive out what business we do have. She shared a document with the public on some options that could be considered to cover the levy money. She supports the community, the staff and foremost her children.
- President Millington shared that the District is not overspending - we don't have the tax base to support the District. Requested a presentation of what our budget will look like if we don't raise taxes.
- Resident stated that real estate taxes are being raised every year. The District needs to think out of the box. Transportation is the highest cost. Can cuts be made in transportation and are there things that can be shared with D127?

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

President Millington requested a motion for the approval of the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approval of the following minutes:
  - December 5, 2012 Regular Meeting
2. Approval of Exception Registers as presented
3. Accounts Payable as presented
4. Imprest Check Listing as presented
5. Approval of November Treasurer's Report as presented
6. Approval of the November Student Activity Fund Treasurer's Report as presented
7. Approval of the November Student Activity Monthly Report as presented
8. Approval of the October/November P-card Statements as presented
9. Personnel Report as presented

Motion was made by Facklam and seconded by Weinert for the approval of the consent agenda as presented. Member Facklam abstained from the approval of the December 5, 2012 minutes only as she was not in attendance. **Yeas:** Carbone, Weinert, Facklam, Millington, Evans, Smigielski and Surroz. **Nays:** None. **Abstained:** Facklam for the minutes only. **Motion carried.**

## **BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

**Member Smigielski** will be reading on Thursday at Meadowview School. Ms. Lunis invited her to come read. The PTO at Prairieview School held a holiday shop that was lots of fun. They did a fantastic job and hopes they do it again every year.

**Member Facklam** wished Board members a happy holiday.

**Member Carbone** thanked everyone for coming out tonight. It is nice to hear detailed comments.

**Member Smigielski** shared that she was not able to attend the Special Board meeting on Monday night. The Board discussed at this meeting the possibilities of how to get through the negotiation process with very little educational interruption. This meeting was simply brainstorming.

**Superintendent Correll** wanted to commend schools on the handling of the Connecticut news. The district will be looking at what we can do to make our schools safer. Also informed the board about the potential weather issue for Thursday night. She will be monitoring weather updates.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Update from PMA – Anna Kasprzyk**

Anna shared that a change has been made in the insurance assumptions and the \$1,000 stipend being offered in the negotiation proposal has been projected in the PMA report presented. Board members asked questions regarding this report and discussed projected amounts.

**Member Carbone** shared a sheet on home values and how the levy affects home values. This information on home sales is for the CCSD 46 district only. Board members discussed the graph on home sales. **Member Surroz** asked how does this information compare to other counties?

**Member Surroz** shared a statement from the State Representative and thanked the community for coming out.

- Board members continued discussions highlighting the following subjects:
- Timeline for when the state would come in to run a school district.
  - Requested a strategy of how the district will look in 3-4 years.
  - Board should talk to other districts to see why their cost per student is lower than CCSD 46's rate.
  - Concern about the long-term affect of decreasing the levy. We can revisit in the spring.
  - Homeowners' taxes do not cover the cost of education. If the state comes in, they will set the tax rate.
  - Community needs to stick to their commitment to help solve the tax problem.

- In the past, people have moved to Grayslake because of the schools and this should continue.
- Need to find ways to balance things out.
- Have known about the 1.2M-dollar deficit since September and have not shown where it will be reduced.
- Residents are selling their homes far below the listed prices to get out of Grayslake.
- If new businesses are brought in, there will not be a need to raise the levy.
- Have to look at staffing and it will take some time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Appoint designated representative, Karen Senase, as local election official.**

Superintendent Correll explained that this is necessary due to Lourie Shipley being on a military leave of absence.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

President Millington requested a motion for the approval of the 2012 Tax Levy as presented. Motioned by Facklam and seconded by Carbone for the approval of the 2012 Tax Levy. **Yeas:** Weinert and Facklam. **Nays:** Surroz, Carbone, Smigielski, Evans and Millington. **Motion failed.**

President Millington requested a motion for the approval to appoint designated representative, Karen Senase, as the local election official. Motioned by Smigielski and seconded by Surroz for the appointment of designated representative. **Yeas:** Smigielski, Carbone, Surroz, Weinert, Evans, Facklam and Millington. **Nays:** None. **Motion carried.**

**Superintendent Correll** shared that Friday is the deadline to file the levy certificate. Since the levy failed, what are the next steps? The board needs to approve other allocations. A motion can be made for a flat levy tonight. Board members discussed how to proceed to meet the deadline of filing the levy resulting in the following motion:

President Millington requested a motion to submit the levy by reducing the Educational Fund by \$750,000 from the original levy. Motioned by Smigielski and seconded by Carbone to reduce the Educational Fund by \$750,000 from the original levy. **Yeas:** Carbone, Millington, Smigielski, Surroz and Evans. **Nays:** Weinert and Facklam. **Motion carried.**

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Conducting essential business only during potential teacher strike

**Member Carbone** shared that Round Lake wants to build a transfer station and the board should have a voice in these proceedings. A representative will be sent to the meetings.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None.

**CLOSED SESSION** – No reason for closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, it was motioned by Evans and seconded by Smigielski for the adjournment of the December 19, 2012 Board Meeting at 8:20 p.m. **Yeas:** Surroz, Millington, Weinert, Smigielski, Carbone, Facklam and Evans. **Nays:** None. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

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**RAY MILLINGTON**, Board President

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**KAREN SENASE**, Recording Secretary