



## **URBANA SCHOOL DISTRICT #116**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

**JEAN F. BURKHOLDER**

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER**

205 North Race St. Urbana, IL 61801

Tuesday, January 5, 2010

7:30 p.m.

[www.usd116.org](http://www.usd116.org)

*Our mission is the Urbana School District #116, through the active engagement of the community, is to provide a quality education by vigorously fostering high expectations for individual growth within a nurturing and just environment, enabling each student to become a self-sufficient, productive, caring, and responsible member of a changing world society.*

Mr. John H. Dimit, President  
Ms. Benita Rollins-Gay, Vice-President  
Ms. Ruth Ann Fisher, Secretary  
Ms. Brenda Carter, Member  
Ms. Elaine Gehrmann, Member  
Ms. Peggy Patten, Member  
Mr. Steve Summers, Member  
Dr. Preston L. Williams, Jr., Superintendent  
Ms. Lori Johnson, Board Secretary

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

**President Dimit called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.**

### **2.0 ROLL CALL**

Present: John Dimit, President  
Benita Rollins-Gay, Vice-President  
Ruth Ann Fisher, Secretary  
Brenda Carter, Member  
Elaine Gehrmann, Member  
Peggy Patten, Member  
Steve Summers, Member

Absent: Preston L. Williams, Jr., Superintendent  
Donald Owen, Asst Supt of Curriculum and Instruction  
Carol Baker, Director of Business and Finance  
Susan Baker, Asst Supt of Special Services  
Ota Dossett, Director of Facilities and Grounds  
Gayle Jeffries, Asst Supt of Human Resources

### **3.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS OF AGENDA**

#### **4.0 CITIZENS STATEMENTS**

Deborah Katz-Downie, 209 West Delaware, Urbana, spoke to the board to show her support regarding the proposed school calendars.

#### **5.0 CALL FOR EXECUTIVE MEETING/SESSION (After current meeting)**

#### **6.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Vice-President Rollins-Gay moved to approve the revised agenda as presented, seconded by Member Summers. Motion passed.*

#### **7.0 ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS**

##### **7.01 First Reading of the 2010-2011 and Tentative 2011-2012 School Calendar**

The Board of Education received a copy of the 2010-2011 and tentative 2011-2012 school calendars for a first reading. Approval will be requested at the January 19, 2010 business meeting.

Don Owen, told the board that the calendar has been changed to end the first semester at the winter break as opposed to January as the calendar stands now. This means starting school a week earlier. He also noted that the Calendar Committee worked to maximize five-day school weeks and maximize instruction leading up to the achievement tests in March. There followed several questions about the proposed calendar. Board President John Dimit. Dimit said currently there are 11 extra days in the second semester as opposed to the first semester. He hopes that the calendar continues to evolve to make the semester school days balanced. The board will formally vote to adopt the 2010-11 and tentative 2011-12 District 116 Calendar at the January 19, 2010, meeting.

#### **8.0 PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **9.0 ACTION ITEMS**

##### **9.01 Discussion and Request of Approval of Race to the Top Agreement**

The Board of Education held discussion regarding the Race to the Top Agreement. Approval was requested to submit the agreement to the State.

*Member Gerhmann moved to request the Board of Education's signature be added to the submission of the agreement, seconded by Vice-President Rollins-Gay. On a roll call vote, motion passed: Aye – Member Gehrman, Member Summers, Vice-President Rollins-Gay, President Dimit; Nay – Member Carter, Member Patten, and Secretary Fisher.*

## 10.0 STUDY TOPICS

### 10.01 Bi-Lingual Education

Joseph Wiemelt, Director of Bilingual and Multicultural Programs, presented an overview of Bilingual and ESL student progress, programs and activities.

President Dimit noted that during school redistricting, the bilingual education program may have to open up on another elementary school campus, joining Leal and Martin Luther King Elementary schools who currently house bilingual education students.

### 10.02 PBIS and Discipline Update

Donald Owen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction gave an update about the District Leadership Committees work on a blended Collaborative Framework. He also provided an overview of data related to discipline.

Member Elaine Gehrman commented that she appreciated his presentation and found it very useful. She also noted that this information can also help the District in strategic planning. President Dimit said he looked forward to an annual discipline report.

## 11.0 CALL FOR FUTURE SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

January 7<sup>th</sup> – Special meeting for the purpose of student discipline and  
January 12<sup>th</sup> – Special meeting for the purpose of student discipline.

## 12.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### 12.0 BOARD'S REPORT

President Dimit congratulated Superintendent Dr. Preston L., Williams, Jr., on the fact that his son, Preston Williams III, recently participated in the International Bowl for Northern Illinois University.

## 14.0 ADJOURNMENT

***Member Patten moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Carter. Motion passed.***

***President Dimit declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.***

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President

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Secretary