



URBANA SCHOOL DISTRICT #116

BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**JEAN F. BURKHOLDER
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE CENTER**

205 North Race St. Urbana, IL 61801

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

5:30 p.m.

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 5:30 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

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

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Secretary Fisher moved to approve the agenda as modified, seconded by Vice-President Rollins-Gay. Motion passed.

4.0 STUDY TOPIC

4.01 Budget PowerPoint

Carol Baker, gave the public a presentation regarding the proposed budget cuts. Dr. Williams, commented that the district is dealing with a “great deal of non-information at the state level.” He also warned that there will have to be budget cuts in the next few years saying, “We will continue to have issues like we are facing now.” Dr. Williams says the cuts are necessary because of the problems and indecision with the state government. He noted that the state “has proven (it has) not been upfront and honest.” Williams adds that the district “deficits are without any raises, period.” He also noted, “There is not one program or individual hired that we thought we didn’t need.”

4.02 Potential Budget Reduction Considerations

The Board of Education discussed potential budget reduction considerations.

The Board of Education was given a working draft of areas that cuts could take place.

President Dimit commented that the budget cuts will be messy and unpleasant. He stated that “we wouldn’t be here if Springfield was doing its job.” Member Patten noted that “there is no right decision” regarding budget cuts and she encouraged the public to contact their state representatives and senators.

5.0 CITIZEN STATEMENTS (3 minute maximum)

The list of citizens below made supportive statements regarding the following areas: Parent and Community Outreach Liaison, Latino Parent and Community Outreach Liaison, Minority Enrichment Program, CU 1:1 Mentoring Program, Washington Early Childhood, Fine Arts, Nursing, and other general budget reduction considerations:

Barbara Thomas, Ficaro Akins, Elysia Monroe, Shanteea McNutt-Brown, Elaine Owens, Danny Mitchell, Art Howard, Tanja Spires, Johnnie Mae Harvey, Sonya Pickens, Tracee and Fred Palmer, Carolyn Jenkins, Richard Diaz, Adriana Cardona, Pastor Jimmie O. Holmes, Sr., Gabrielle Parsons, Ellen Kirsanoff, Brenda Koester, Greg Scott, Willard Broom, Deborah Rugg, Dr. Michele Olsen, Julian P. Olds, Delores Henry, Stacy Harwood, Derrick Marion, Brian Howard, Delisha Pickens, Delores Roundtree, Lynn Stuckey, Shawn Williams, Martel Miller, and Rev. Troy A. Burks

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

Vice-President Rollins-Gay moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Secretary Fisher. Motion passed.

President Dimit declared the meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

President

Secretary