

**Dist. 205 Board of Education**  
**Aug. 11, 2015**  
**7:35 pm – 9:40 pm**

**No Bastedo, Stuefen**  
**Public: 6 Staff: 9 Press: 0**  
**Observer: J. Dorner**

The Board was in closed session from 6:00 p.m. for employment of employee.

President Collins called the meeting to order and led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

**Public Comment:** None

**Superintendent's Communications:**

A. Superintendent Conference Recap: The District Administration Leadership Institute Superintendent Summit focused on two major themes, assessment and student engagement. District 205's Student Achievement Action Plan for this school year are these two subjects, so attendance was appropriate.

B. Student Achievement Action Plan: Two action plans for "raising the bar and closing the achievement gap" are suggested (and will be voted on later in the meeting):

- Develop a balanced assessment system and improve assessment literacy throughout the District.
- Increase student engagement in all grades EC – 12.

C. Recap of Budget Year 2014-15 (cash Basis): Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Chris Whelton presented. The operating revenue growth was 1.5% over the prior year due to a higher collection of the June taxes and a slightly higher than budgeted tax extension. The budgeted 2014 operating tax extension increase was 2.7% but it actually increased by 3.8%. Also, \$28 million was budgeted for new construction EAV (Equalized Assessed Valuation), when over \$33 million was realized.

Operating expenditures were 98.5% of budget. Three teaching positions were budgeted as a contingency in case enrollment increased, but it was never needed. Benefits increased 5.2% over the previous year. Electricity was over budget by over \$350,000 and natural gas was under budget by less than \$38,000.

The revenue exceeded expenses by about \$1.9 million. This was added to fund balances, which produced the ratio of operating fund balance to annual expenditures to be in excess of 41%. Board policy called for this ratio to be 25% minimum. Mr. Whelton stated that a high fund balance is necessary due to questionable state funding.

D. Tentative FY15 Budget Presentation: This budget will be posted (at [www.elmhurst205.org](http://www.elmhurst205.org)) for at least 30 days for public input. The form used is standardized per the State of Illinois.

Budget discussions started in January 2015. The Board decided to have a third year in a row without any budget cuts. Local sources make up over 90% of the revenue side of the '15-'16 budget. Almost 78% of expenditures are for salaries and benefits. 7.5 certified staff were added to take care of increasing enrollment/needs and almost 25 special education aides were cut from the budget. A contingency of 5 special education aides is budgeted.

The Board accepted the minutes for the 7/20/15, 7/21/15 and 7/27/15 Board meetings.

**Superintendent's Consent Agenda** The Board approved:

- Personnel Report
- Financial Report
- Posting of FY16 Tentative Budget
- Student Achievement Action Plans
- Bid #16-01 School Activity Bus - \$45,587

**Superintendent's Agenda – Action Items** The Board approved:

- Funding of York Chrome Books – D205 Foundation gift of \$9,003 to be used for the purchase of Chrome Books for York students that have requested financial assistance and demonstrated financial need.

**Action on Closed Session:** The Board voted not to approve a grievance.

**Upcoming Meetings:** The next regularly scheduled meetings are Tuesday Sept. 8th and 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 pm. All committee meetings as well as the regularly scheduled Board meetings are held at the D205 Center:

- Mon., Aug. 24, Finance and Operation Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm.
- Mon., Sept. 14 Learning & Teaching committee Meeting, 7:00 pm.

**Board Communications:**

A representative from Wight Architects was present to discuss a letter that Wight had generated to discuss the “dual usage” of D205 field for both athletics/PE and rain water detention. The letter addressed 3 specific areas – safety, maintenance and security, besides other concerns of loss of use and environmental. It also mentioned Washington Park in Downers Grove, a dual use soccer/baseball field. Although the City has used this area as a positive example, Wight mentioned that from personal experience of their staff, the fields remain unplayable for several days after the water has drained. It was also explained that the field drained “too well,” which required irrigation of the fields to keep them in playable condition.

Mrs. Ebner encouraged all to participate in Focus 205, a community engagement initiative. The first meeting will be Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at York High School in the Commons.

**The Board moved to enter into closed session for the purpose of negotiations. No action was expected.**