

**D205 Board of Education Special Meeting**  
**Dec. 1, 2014**  
**7:38 pm – 8:30 pm**

**All Bd members present**  
**Public: 4 Staff: 4 Press: 1**  
**Observer: J. Dorner**

The meeting was called to order and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Public Comment:** Four individuals spoke; three from Washington Street and one was the sixth ward Alderman, Jim Kennedy. All spoke about the flooding situation and encouraged the Board to work with the City to alleviate some of the storm water issues. One individual accused the Board of calling a meeting and posting it on the Saturday after Thanksgiving as a method to meet secretly.

**Superintendent's Communication:**

Discussion of resolutions approving advisory referendum questions regarding the use of school property for storm water management purposes. Superintendent Pruneau suggested that the Board first discuss whether they wanted to have a referendum. If so, there were 6 questions that President Collins had the lawyers draw up for discussion with the Board.

President Collins stated that the reason that the Board is using this meeting to discuss this issue is because the date for bringing this to the County to make sure it would make the ballot is Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> and the Board was meeting on a student discipline issue tonight as well.

Mrs. Bastedo asked what happened when the Board consensus (from their Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> special meeting of the whole was held) was presented to the communication committee made up of Park, School and City representatives.

Mr. McDonough replied that this group thought that the school board's concerns should be written by lawyers into the intergovernmental agreement and that an expert (Architect? Engineer?) advise on the impact of use for storm water detention of the school's green space would have on the school buildings or possible new buildings for these sites. Mr. Pruneau is in the process of writing up an agreement to have the city pickup any additional cost for both of these topics. This would avoid using educational dollars for storm water detention.

Mrs. Ebner stated that D205 would not get any good information out of a referendum. It is not a yes/no question – it is more complex than that.

Mr. Stuefen asked if the City was going to put a referendum on the April Ballot. No one on the dias knew the answer, but Alderman Kennedy said no.

Mr. Collins explained that his thought process was that since the District must go to referendum if they would buy or sell a property that this was a “matter of interpretation” since D205 would be giving the City first right of use of this land. This is why he suggested a possible referendum.

Mr. McDonough does not support a referendum. He wants to continue to work with the City. He did ask if there was a way to get a sense of the constituency's opinion. A survey?

Mrs. Bastedo replied that D205 has parent contact info, but not non-parents, who make up the majority of the community.

Mr. Pruneau stated that a random scientific survey would probably need a consultant and money to conduct the telephone survey.

Mr. Blum said that the City, School District and Park District should work together to get feedback. All have certain contact info that can be combined. He also said that a referendum is probably not the appropriate tool. All the taxing bodies need to talk about the money needed out of the taxpayers pockets.

Mr. Pruneau expressed concern about the safety issue at Madison School, with about 300 3- and 4-year olds attending that building daily. This issue needs to be addressed sooner rather than later.

Mr. Collins summarized that: no referendum was being recommended for the ballot in April, community meetings with each property under consideration needed to be conducted and a possible survey should be conducted (although some Board members objected to the survey piece).

**Action on Closed Session Items:** The two motions for expulsion of York High School student “C” and “D” were carried.