

North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200
Minutes of the Business Services Committee Meeting
District Office
6248 North Boone School Road
Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065
Monday, November 27, 2017
6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Ed Mulholland at 6:30 p.m. The following Committee members were present: Dr. Mike Greenlee, Kelly Holsker, Tom Kinser (arrived 7:20 p.m.), Ed Mulholland, Mary Piskie and Julia Saunders. Also present: Matt Ellingson, Brian Haselhorst and Joe Haverly. Absent: Kelly Hanaman and Jamie Pearce.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

(none)

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The agenda was modified to discuss the levy toward the end of the meeting.

Dr. Greenlee explained we were down three bus drivers due to injuries and a resignation. He told the Committee we had to split some routes to accommodate, and noted some students are on the buses for almost 1.5 hours. He stated there were efforts made to keep the transportation jobs part time, but as drivers need fill in, they could gain hours to qualify for insurance. Mr. Mulholland voiced concerns regarding the length of time students were on buses, and that it could expand to longer ride times once we face winter weather conditions. He said past practice was to split MS, UE and PGE routes due to their length. He suggested outsourcing out of district routes. Dr. Greenlee said they were exploring the Allendale route and he said he'd look into splitting the shorter routes. Mr. Mulholland also recommended holding a discussion regarding solutions to assist in retaining employees. The Committee discussed how to attract more drivers and how to retain current Teacher Assistants, as many are holding second jobs or leaving for positions that offer health insurance. Mrs. Piskie noted there could be some elimination of overlap if hours were expanded for TA's. Dr. Greenlee said the insurance costs to the District are approximately \$17K-family; \$10K-spouse; \$9K-children; \$8K-single. He offered to bring a cost analysis and plan to the January Board meeting showing TA staffing levels, and the price of including insurance for jobs that would qualify.

LEVY

Dr. Greenlee noted the levy handouts included scenarios for: 1) as presented at the last Board meeting; 2) not asking for CPI; and 3) abating the CPI. He explained there could be a future option on the referendum funding bill to freeze property taxes which would be for a two year term. It was noted that we currently have a fund balance that could last for seven months, but there is still

no word on state funding. Mr. Ellingson and Mr. Haselhorst liked the idea of abating taxes but were also concerned for the possible future property tax freeze. The Board discussed the option of taking the levy as presented at the last Board meeting, and abating if we can. Mrs. Saunders said she will check on the levy abatements and the timing window. She suggested if we cannot abate the levy, we could use the interest on the CDB bonds to abate taxes. The Committee agreed to move forward with the levy as presented and have it published. They agreed to discuss the abating piece at the next Board meeting, possibly abating the 2.1% amount.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(none)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Submitted by:

Ed Mulholland, Chair