

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196  
NOVEMBER 9, 2015  
6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196 was held in the High School Conference Room at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 9, 2015. The meeting was called to order by President Carroll Kelly.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Malinee called the roll with the following result:

Members Present: Acosta, Hicks, Kelly, Loucks, Stacey

Members Absent: Gulley, Robbins

Staff Present: J. Henry, J. Logsdon, N. Page, V. Malinee, B. Dilliner, S. White,  
R. Schwartzkopf

Visitors Present: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE**

CORRESPONDENCE: Superintendent Henry presented two letters from IASB Representatives, Patrick Rice and Carolyn Brooks, thanking the district for hosting the IASB Fall Dinner Meeting.

Donnie Robbins arrived at 6:02 PM.

**REPORTS**

SEA: No report.

LABORERS' LOCAL 773: No report.

CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: Brandon Dilliner, Maintenance Supervisor, reported that the new football field sound system was 99% completed.

K-8 PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Logsdon, Elementary/JH Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, recent events/activities, upcoming activities, professional development activities, and a student engagement highlight. The most recent copies of the S-V Happenings were presented to the board members.

H.S. PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Page, High School Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, upcoming calendar entries, parent/teacher conference

information, student engagement highlight, professional development activities, and information on the 2015 S-V Holiday Tournament. Mrs. Page wanted to congratulate the S-V Marching Band for placing 4th at the Pinckneyville Mardi Gras Parade.

SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Henry, Superintendent, presented the following information to the board:

1. The consent agenda for this month's meeting includes the following additional item(s):

*No additional items*

2. This month's board agenda includes approval of student transportation van bid specifications. As was reported last month, GM/Chevrolet is not offering a 10-passenger van like the district has purchased since 2007. Ford is now making a 10-passenger van, and the current bid specifications were developed for the purchase of a Ford vehicle. Following a public bid opening on Monday, November 30, 2015, Superintendent Henry indicated that he planned to recommend one of the following:

- Accept the low bid received; or
- Reject all bids received and move forward with purchasing a van using the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Program (state master bid/contract)

In either circumstance, board action on a van purchase should be completed at the regular December, 2015, meeting.

3. Based on an inquiry that was received at last month's board meeting, a copy of Board Policy 7:40, the policy that governs part-time attendance was presented to the board for review. In summary, the district accepts non-public school students, including parochial & home-schooled students, who live within the district for part-time attendance in the District's regular education program on a space-available basis. Parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of non-public school students who desire to attend a district school on a part-time basis must make a written request to the applicable building principal on or before May 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. On October 13, 2015, a Freedom of Information Act request was received from Patrick McCraney of the Better Government Association. On October 15, 2015, Superintendent Henry issued the district's response (copies of both the request and the district's response were attached).
5. Information regarding the 2015 tax levy, including the adoption of the tentative tax levy resolution for 2015, was included in the board packet. As the board considers the tax levy for 2015, Superintendent Henry strongly encouraged the board to utilize the following five (5) guiding principles (as the board has discussed in detail in the last 8 years):
  - Realization that the levy is based on unknown (projected) property values;
  - Realization that this year's levy represents next (fiscal) year's local revenue;
  - Realization that each year's levy impacts all future years' levies;

- The need of the board to determine the appropriate balance between the fiscal responsibility (Are we levying enough to meet budgetary needs?) and fiscal excess (Are we levying too much to meet budgetary needs); and
- Realization that it is widely believed that the State of Illinois will further reduce school revenues and increase school expenses (e.g. pension cost-shift) in the coming months/years.

6. Copies of the following newsletters and/or reports was presented to the board for review:

- Illinois School News Service (November 9, 2015)

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Robbins approving the minutes of the previous meeting: October 13, 2015 (Regular Board Meeting); Treasurer's report; bills in the amount of \$268,303.05 and salaries in the amount of \$367,799.20, as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Acosta, Hicks, Kelly, Loucks, Robbins, Stacey

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**APPROVAL OF STUDENT TRANSPORTATION VAN BID SPECIFICATIONS:** A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Loucks to approve student transportation van bid specifications, as presented.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

Superintendent Henry presented an executive summary for the 2015 tax levy.

**ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE TAX LEVY RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Robbins to approve a Resolution Regarding Estimated Amounts Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2015 (Tentative Tax Levy), as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Hicks, Kelly, Loucks, Robbins, Stacey, Acosta

Nays:           None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

**CLOSED SESSION:** At 6:44 PM, a motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Acosta to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-57)
- b. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning the salary schedules for one or more classes of employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas:           Kelly, Loucks, Robbins, Stacey, Acosta, Hicks

Nays:           None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

**RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION:** At 7:15 PM, a motion was made by Acosta and seconded by Robbins to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT NOTICE (KRAMER, BRENDA):** A motion was made by Loucks and seconded by Stacey to acknowledge the following employee retirement notice(s):

- Elementary Classroom Teacher: Brenda Kramer (effective June, 2019)

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

**AUTHORIZATION FOR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT TO BARGAIN SIDE-LETTER AND/OR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SVEA:** A motion was made by Robbins and seconded by Acosta to authorize the district superintendent to bargain a side-letter and/or memorandum of understanding with the Sesser-Valier Education Association.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT COACH(ES) AND/OR SPONSOR(S):** A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Loucks to approve the following volunteer assistant coach(es) and/or sponsor(s):

- High School Boys' Basketball: Justin Raby, Eric Drake, John Vercellino
- High School Girls' Basketball: Jonathan Neace

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Hicks and seconded by Loucks to adjourn.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

**CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES**

The above-listed account of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, November 9, 2015 at 6:00 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.

  
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Board President

  
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Board Secretary