

# ***Spotlight on the Board***

## **Notes from the District 15 School Board Meetings**

### **May 13th, 2009**

This was a Special Board of Education meeting. Its initial purpose was to go into executive session to discuss information regarding collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. The agenda was amended the afternoon of Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

All Board members were present as well as Superintendent Daniel Lukich, attorney Mike Loizzi, an additional attorney from the firm and two citizens.

### **To Reconsider Adding Additional Operable Windows to Curtain Wall Replacements**

**Board member Tim Millar** – Asked for this item to be added to the agenda. Said that the information provided to the BOE is different than what the architects were describing at the last meeting. In his view, he thought the Board was just imagining windows that were operable or not operable; it was hard to get a gauge of what the scope of the project was. After having walked through all of the buildings, Millar said that these rooms are definitely much darker, less inviting than the rooms that had more glass. He thinks it is a very big difference if you just look at the esthetic view from the outside. We would be adding double the amount of windows at that level. It increases the glass by 30%, creates a better working environment as well as an environment for the kids.

When you are looking at \$142K, it is over 45 years. This is going to be here a long time. It is like building a house, you have to make sure to do certain things that you can't fix later – windows would be one of them. There would be 70K to 80K kids that will go through these facilities over the years. He thinks it is one of those times when you should spend the money and bring in the natural light; bring in better ventilation and just a better environment. Most of our schools have more glass; you don't see a lot of them with just a small section of windows like this. That is why he asked to bring this back, only because he thinks the architects did not fully explain what we were buying.

**Board President Gerald Chapman** – From his perspective, he thought the architects did explain that. One of the issues that the architects mentioned was that if the Board did not make the decision (then), the project would be delayed. Asked Lukich if the BOE made this decision (tonight) what effect would it have on construction?

**Superintendent Daniel Lukich** – Tonight would be the last opportunity, if the change was made they could still stay on schedule, administration checked with the architects earlier this week.

**Board member Sue Quinn** – Agrees with Chapman, thought the architects explained the alternate the first time around. It was in their description that it would add better light. Her argument at the time and it still stands is that she has no doubt that this would be exactly as billed. However if we have \$142K to spend, she is not sure that is the highest priority item that we have on our docket. There are many Life Safety items out there that need to be covered. Quinn would prefer to put that money back in the queue and work on the items from the top down (that need to be done). Understands that you can't go back and fix it later for \$142K but we do not have the luxury to do that (now).

**Millar** – These are long term investments in the facilities that we have, it adds to the school dramatically. When you are talking about \$142K over 45 years, it comes out to about \$3K a year. These three buildings impact a large number of students. Millar thinks that we would be shortchanging these communities by not doing it when we have this opportunity.

**Board member James Ekeberg** – Said that he is having trouble understanding it (speaking to Chapman) because in the drawings shown for the Hunting Ridge windows, shows the single pane

windows and then two larger windows as they currently exist. Is that correct? (Chapman replied yes.) So we are not adding glass.

**Millar** – The architects put this in and Millar asked them about that also. This is an example of what it would look like if they didn't do the windows at Hunting Ridge. This is basically how it would look if you didn't do them and (the other drawing) is how it would look if you did. They put the other two schools (WCE, LL) with the windows and put the HR drawing in if you did not do the windows. Esthetically it balances out better if you have the windows on both sides.

Millar made a motion to approve Option #7 for the additional windows at Winston Campus, Hunting Ridge and Lake Louise for \$142,700.

**Attorney Mike Loizzi** – Asked if this was on the agenda? **Chapman** – It had been amended. Ekeberg seconded the motion.

**Vote to spend \$142,700** – Alternate #7 - **Failed 5:2**

Bloom NAY, Bokor NAY, Chapman NAY, Ekeberg AYE, Millar YES, Quinn NO, Babcock NAY

**Ref: Motion to reconsider** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reconsider>

*"The motion to reconsider may only be made within a limited time after the action on the original motion -- usually at the same meeting, or in the case of a multi-day session or convention, on the next day within the session or convention in which business is conducted"*

### **Schedule Special Meeting**

Board President Gerald Chapman asked Board members to check their availability on several dates in June and July for a Special meeting to be held with the IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) to review Board operations.

### **Executive Session**

The Board went into executive session at approximately 9:15 a.m. with attorney Mike Loizzi and his associate.

### **CCSD15 Summary of Board Actions and Official Minutes**

A "Summary of Board Actions" will be posted on the District 15 Web site as quickly as possible after each Regular Board of Education meeting, usually within two days. Official minutes of Board of Education meetings cannot be posted until after they are approved by a vote of the board at the next regular monthly meeting. Board of Education meetings are open to the public, and all board actions, with the exception of closed sessions, are considered to be public records.

[www.ccsd15.net/AboutDistrict15/BoardOfEducation/HTML/BOEMeetingDates.html](http://www.ccsd15.net/AboutDistrict15/BoardOfEducation/HTML/BOEMeetingDates.html)

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