

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 172
ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON JANUARY 11, 2012 – 5:00 P.M.**

Meeting Convened

The Board of Education of School District No. 172, Adams County, Illinois, met in special session on January 11, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Office, Room 214, located at 1416 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois, in said school district.

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Krause, who directed the secretary to call the roll. On the call of the roll, the following members were present and answered to their names: Members Dickerson, Erwin, Krause, Mays, Niekamp, and Stone; and the following member was absent: Member Daniels. Whereupon the vice-president declared that a quorum was present.

Questions and Comments

Vice-President Krause opened the meeting to questions and comments to members of the Board, by members of the public and employees of the district, in compliance with state statutes. There were no questions or comments at this time.

Public Hearing on P.E. Waiver

Vice-President Krause opened the public hearing on the ISBE Renewal of Waiver of Section 27-5 and 27-6 of School Code (Physical Education Waiver) at 5:05 p.m. Attorney Penn explained that the five-year waiver currently in place expires at the end of the year. The statute has changed limiting the physical education waiver to two years, renewable for two, two-year periods only (six years total). The renewals are not automatic. An application must be submitted for renewal.

Testimony from staff and others

Peg Pryor, QHS P.E. Department Chair, read a statement opposing the renewal of the waiver. The statement is included with the P.E. Waiver documents submitted to ISBE (Doc. Reg. No. 2576).

Jeff Kerkhoff spoke in support of the waiver for secondary students.

Close Public Hearing

Hearing no other testimony, Vice-President Krause closed the hearing at 5:12 p.m.

Approve Physical Education Waiver and Authorize Submission

It was moved by member Dickerson and seconded by Member Mays to approve the Physical Education Waiver and authorize submission of the waiver application to ISBE (Doc. Reg. No. 2576).

Board members discussed physical education and the impact on academics if the waiver was not submitted. Assistant Superintendent Trish Viniard said if there was no P.E. waiver, more P.E. teachers would need to be hired to offer P.E. daily for all students. She said she is not sure if there is even enough space at Junior High for all students to have P.E. every day. Kindergarten through third grade students receive three 30-minute sessions of P.E. per week. Students in grade 4-6 receive two 40-minute session per week. Secondary students are excused on a case-by-case basis. Member Erwin expressed concerns about the financial impact it would have to offer P.E. daily. Member Mays said there are only 300 minutes in a school day and if more time is needed for P.E., the day would need to be lengthened so as not to detract from academics.

Member Krause said students not exposed early to physical activity will reap unhealthy benefits. He said the sedentary society concerns him. Getting kids more active will make them healthier and able to learn better. He asked if the waiver has helped students accomplish more academic success. Mrs. Viniard responded that has not been tracked as the waiver has been ongoing. Member Mays said the most accessed waiver state-wide is for P.E. Quincy is similar to other districts in that regard. He said it is a choice the Board needs to make relevant to the best use of minutes in the day.

Jody Steinke, assistant principal at QHS, said the waiver is applied on a case by case basis for high school students, whether for academic reasons or other school activities the students participate in.

Member Erwin stressed the need for students to have a physical outlet during the day. Mrs. Viniard commented that although not a replacement for P.E., K-6 students have recess every day.

Member Dickerson asked about the number of P.E. teachers who would need to be hired if this waiver was not obtained. Assistant Superintendent Dickens estimated 12-14 additional P.E. teachers, the cost of which would need to be paid for by cutting elsewhere.

Member Krause said he cannot support less physical activity for students. Member Erwin said she agrees, schools cannot continue to dwindle down physical activity without bad results. Member Stone said administration needs to develop a plan for when the waiver runs out.

Superintendent Lemon said the committee he served on to make recommendations regarding academic unfunded mandates has sent a report to the governor. Other options need to be considered, such as activities outside of school counting toward P.E. time. He said time is needed to study other options and push for more flexibility.

On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Mays, Niekamp, and Stone; and the following members voted Nay: Members Erwin and Krause; and the following member passed: Member Dickerson; and the following member was absent: Member Daniels. Member Dickerson then changed his vote to: abstain. Whereupon the vice-president declared the motion carried.

Executive Session

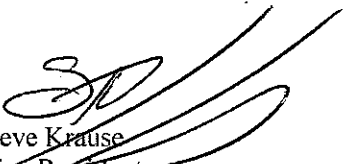
It was moved by Member Stone and seconded by Member Erwin that the Board suspend the rules and go into executive session to discuss employment of personnel and student discipline at 5:39 p.m. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Dickerson, Erwin, Krause, Mays, Niekamp and Stone; and the following member voted Nay: None; and the following member was absent: Member Daniels. Whereupon the vice-president declared the motion carried.

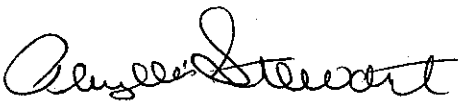
Resumption of Rules

It was moved by Member Stone and seconded by Member Erwin to resume the conduct of the special meeting under rules. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Dickerson, Erwin, Krause, Mays, Niekamp and Stone; and the following member voted Nay: None; and the following member was absent: Member Daniels. Whereupon the vice-president declared the motion carried.

Adjournment

It was moved by Member Erwin and seconded by Member Mays that the special meeting adjourn at 6:06 p.m. On the call of the roll, the following members voted Aye: Members Dickerson, Erwin, Krause, Mays, Niekamp, and Stone; and the following member voted Nay: None; and the following member was absent: Member Daniels. Whereupon the vice-president declared the motion carried and the special meeting was duly adjourned.


Steve Krause
Vice-President


Phyllis Stewart
Secretary