

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 18, 2005
7:00 P.M.
Albany High School

PRESENT: Edward Brown
Susan Kushner
Patricia Fahy
Teneka Frost
Dr. Eva Joseph
Terrance White
Robert Paquette
Linda Jackson-Chalmers
Kathy Wolverton

ABSENT: William Barnette
Barbara Gaffuri

Call to Order:

Mr. Brown called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

FACILITIES PROJECT REPORT

Action Item

Collins & Scoville Surge Planning Proposal

Dr. Joseph noted the contract for the surge space planning with Collins & Scoville as it relates to the Albany High School restructuring planning was presented to the Board at the last meeting for discussion. Mr. Gifford has made an effort to contact board members this week to review some of the concerns and questions that were raised at that meeting. Mr. Gifford advised this proposal will include planning of surge space in order to have facilities prepared for moving schools during the remainder of the facilities plan and the high school restructuring, should that be approved. Funding issues have also been discussed with Board members. Ms. Fahy made a motion to approve the contract. Ms. Kushner seconded the motion.

The Board voted unanimously (4 ayes) to approve the motion.

ACTION ITEM

Approval of 2005-2006 Tax Warrant

Dr. Joseph noted traditionally a special Board meeting is necessary to set the tax rate, due to assessment information that is not available until the middle of August. Dr. Joseph noted Mr. Paquette has reviewed the information with Board members prior to this meeting. Dr. Joseph commended Mr. Paquette in his interim position for doing a yeoman's job of putting the tax warrant together to meet the tax rate of 3.9%, which was put before the voters in May.

Mr. Paquette noted background information has been provided to Board members. The main issue is the Tax Warrant, which is the official document that outlines the actual assessments. Mr. Paquette reviewed four sources of additional revenues that would reduce the tax levy from \$90.9 million to \$90.2 million.

Mr. Paquette noted the tax rate for Homestead is \$22.85 and Non-Homestead is \$29.05 per \$100,000 of assessment, which slightly lower than last year. Mr. Paquette noted these figures are also used in setting the library levy as well, which is collected by the District and forwarded on to the library (\$42 million). Ms. Frost made a motion to approve the tax warrant. Ms. Kushner seconded the motion.

The Board voted unanimously (4ayes) to approve the motion.

Adjournment

Ms. Frost made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Kushner seconded the motion. Board meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Catherine Cutting
Clerk of the Board