

News Release

Mulberry Grove Community Unit School District #1

Board of Education Meeting @ 6:30 & 7:00 p.m.

Budget Hearing & Regular September Meeting

The Mulberry Grove Community Unit School District #1 Board of Education met on September 22, 2008 @ 6:30 & 7:09 p.m. The Board met for the Annual Budget Hearing & Regular September Board of Education meeting. Present were members Mark Blankenship, Kevin Lewis, Bill Johnson, Teresa Tompkins, Keith Steiner, & Mike Kendall. Also present were Superintendent, Greg Irwin; Dean of Students: Ryan Bauer; Teachers: Candy Kirsch, Justin Joiner, Michele Huhn, and Sara Nolte; Guests: Larry Hoffek, Glass & Schuffett, Centralia, IL, Liz Miller, Bill Walker, Greenville Advocate. All votes 6-0, unless noted.

Superintendent Irwin presented the Mulberry Grove CUSD #1 Budget for the 2008-'09 School Year. The District Budget is a balanced budget and shows improvement in all areas with the exception of the Transportation & Fire Prevention & Safety Funds. Superintendent Irwin indicated that he was pleased with the progress made over the previous school year. This was also the message from the District Auditors. Larry Hoffek of Glass & Schuffett, Centralia, reviewed the 2007-'08 District Audit for the Board. Mr. Hoffek expressed the positive improvements of the overall District financial picture and emphasized the movement from "Financial Warning" to that of "Recognition" status.

Superintendent Irwin and Dean Bauer reported the good use of the Parent Connect Program now at all grade levels. Parents are encouraged to see and participate in both the Parent Connect Program **the new District Website @:** www.mgschools.com. We are doing our best to ensure that the new website is regularly updated and current on school activities and general information.

In Regular business the Board approved the Treasurer's report and Board bills as presented. Dean Bauer discussed the recent Regional and Sectional Championship performances of the JH Girls Softball team. The Lady Eagles are scheduled to play in the IESA State Tournament this Friday at 2:30 p.m. Go Lady Eagles! Superintendent Irwin presented the Board with updates on the OBM & Life/Safety work completed this past month. Improvements continue in the Agricultural/Industrials Arts Education lab and classroom areas. A new roof is being installed on the MGES building, including the Elementary Gymnasium. The Mulberry Grove School Buildings are in the process of tuck pointing and brick replacement work at this time.

The Board went to closed session @ 8:08 p.m. to discuss Personnel, finance & negotiations, and returned to open session @ 8:54 p.m. Board action included the following:

1. The Board approved the 2007-'08 District Audit as presented.
2. The Board approved via resolution the Intergovernmental Agreement between the MG # 1 Board of Education and the Okaw Vocational Center for the 2009 -'10 SY.
3. The Board approved the 2008-'09 District Budget as presented.

4. The Board approved the hire of Johnny Webber Assistant HS baseball Coach for the fall season.
5. The Board approved the second readings of BOE Policies and AP's (4:55 AP, 4:55 E, 4:80 AP, 4:170 AP, 6:20).
6. The Board approved the application for Recognition of Schools for Mulberry Grove Elementary School, MG Junior High, MG High School & the Mulberry Grove CUSD #1 District.
7. The Board approved the revisions, new policies, and behavior intervention plans from Mid-State Special Education Coop as presented.
8. The Board appointed Deb Jaskowiak as the Board's designee for Board Election materials.
9. The Board approved the hire of Steve Swain as ½ time District Mechanic as presented. Effective October 1, 2008, salary and benefits to be prorated accordingly.
10. The Board approved the request for leave by teacher Mary Adams as presented.
11. The Board approved the travel and meal expenses related to the Lady Eagles participation in the IESA State Softball Tournament as presented.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 P.M.

Next meeting: The Regular October meeting for the Mulberry Grove Board of Education will be Monday, October 20, 2008. The meeting will be held in the MG CUSD #1 District Media Center @ 7:00 p.m.