

**MINUTES OF THE CLEVELAND HEIGHTS-UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Special Meeting of January 20, 2015

The Board of Education of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, Cuyahoga County, held its Regular meeting at the Deborah S. Delisle Educational Options Center, 14780 Superior Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

Present at Roll Call: Ms. Nancy Pepler, President
Mr. Eric Coble, Board Member
Mr. Eric Silverman, Board Member
Mr. Kal Zucker, Board Member

Also Present: Dr. Talisa L. Dixon, Superintendent
Mr. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer
Members of the Central Office Staff
Patrons of the School District
Representatives of the News Media

Ms. Pepler, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Mr. Ron Register, Vice President, was absent.

LEVY

Scott Gainer, District CFO/Treasurer, and Jayne Geneva, Chair of the Lay Finance Committee, facilitated the second reading of the resolution to place an operating levy on the ballot for the May 5th election. They provided more information to the Board substantiating the need for the tax levy. After a lengthy, thorough review of District finances and projections, and because of the way that Ohio funds its schools, the District must pursue additional operating funds this year, or face major cuts that will impact the classroom. While many school districts request an operating levy every three years, our District managed to stretch its finances and resources to make the last levy last four years instead of three. While the Lay Finance Committee proposed a 6.1 mill levy, the Board directed the Superintendent to present reductions to get the millage amount under 6 mills. Superintendent Dixon and CFO Gainer reviewed the budget and successfully lowered the needed operating levy to 5.9 mills.

As with previous levy campaigns, the Board welcomed the efforts of Citizens for Our Heights Schools, an independent group of resident volunteers, who will campaign to support this operating levy.

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the resolution pursuant to Section 5705.21 of the Revised Code submitting to the electors of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District the question of an additional tax levy for the purpose of current expenses (see official minutes).

No. 15-01-013

It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Silverman, that the above Tax Levy Resolution be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Coble, Ms. Pepler, Mr. Silverman,
Mr. Zucker

Nays: None

NEOLA POLICY

The Board acknowledged the second reading of the NEOLA policies. Dr. Johnetta Wiley, Director of Special Programming and Compliance, facilitated the reading.

FACILITIES

Steve Shergalis, Director of Business Services, invited members of the high school design team to present an update to the Board on the status of the project. Gary Balog, BSHM Architects, shared information from the preliminary review of the project held with the Planning Commission on January 14, 2015. The Commission had questions primarily on traffic circulation around the site. Mr. Balog stated the team will continue to have conversations with the police and fire departments of Cleveland Heights to discuss this issue. The team is continuing to work on the design development of the high school, the redevelopment of CTE spaces at the Delisle Options Center building, and the development of the Gateway building (the freestanding athletic building).

Board members discussed the presentation.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

Statements from the Audience

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Malia Lewis	Facilities
Stuart Pharris	Facilities
Steve Warner	Facilities

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, February 3, 2015 – Regular Board Meeting

MOTION TO ADJOURN

It was recommended that the meeting be adjourned.

No. 15-01-014

It was moved by Mr. Silverman, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the meeting be adjourned.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Coble, Ms. Pepler, Mr. Silverman,
Mr. Zucker

Nays: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Nancy Pepler, President

Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer