

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

Special Meeting of June 17, 2008

The Board of Education of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, Cuyahoga County, held a Special meeting in the public meeting room of the Board of Education building at 2155 Miramar Boulevard, University Heights, Ohio, on Tuesday, June 17, 2008.

Michael Cicero, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present at Roll Call: Mr. Michael Cicero, President
Mr. Kal Zucker, Vice-President
Mr. Eric Coble, Board Member
Ms. Nancy Pepler, Board Member
Mr. Ron Register, Board Member

Also Present: Mrs. Deborah Delisle, Superintendent
Mr. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Michael Dougherty, Coordinator of Communications &
Community Engagement
Mr. William Wendling, Wendling Communications, Facilitator
Members of the Central Office Staff
Patrons of the School District
Representatives of the News Media

PERSONNEL

Approval of Retirement

It was recommended that the retirement of the following named personnel be accepted, effective on the date indicated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
<u>Certificated/Licensed Staff:</u>		
Wilson, Patricia	Grade 2	July 1, 2008

Approval of Resignation

It was recommended that the resignation of the following named personnel be accepted, effective on the date indicated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
<u>Certificated/Licensed Staff:</u>		
Bell, Felecia	Instructional Coach-Math	July 1, 2008
Bilek-Golias, Beth	Career Ed.-Technology	June 8, 2008
Burke, Kathryn	Intervention Specialist	June 8, 2008
Chang, Jenel	Social Studies	June 8, 2008
Howell, Julia	Grade 3	June 12, 2008

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective</u>
<u>Classified Staff:</u>		
Wolfe, Randall J.	E.C. Preschool Lead	June 16, 2008

Approval of Appointments

It was recommended that the Board of Education offer employment pursuant to ORC Section 3319.02 to the following individuals, for the positions listed, for the period of time identified, and at the rate of pay specified. It was recommended that the following appointments to the staff of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City Schools be approved, pending successful completion of the pre-employment procedures including criminal history checks, effective on the dates indicated, with limited contracts and with the understanding that such personnel are subject to all the rules and regulations of the Board of Education and to all of the provisions of law pertaining to their employment.

If the pre-employment procedures are not successfully completed, it was understood that, pursuant to Board policy, the Board of Education may immediately release the employee from employment and rescind a conditional offer of employment.

Key: N=New R=Replacement T=Transfer

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
<u>Administrative Staff</u>		
DiSabato, John	Coord. Career/Tech. Ed.-R	\$88,122
Effective 7/1/08-6/30/09		
Assignment: Heights High School – 220 Days		
Gulko, Joel	Coord. for H.S. Gifted	\$89,024
Effective 7/1/08-6/30/10		
Enrich. & Student Activities-N*		
Assignment: Heights High School – 220 Days		
<i>* Additional Funding from ODE to support position</i>		
<u>Certificated/Licensed Staff</u>		
Polanco, Jennifer	Grade 1-R	\$45,900
Effective 8/25/08		
190 Days		
Assignment: Roxboro Elementary School		
Reiser, Joni	Intervention Specialist-R	\$40,700

Effective 8/25/08	190 Days	1M+500
Assignment: Bellefaire School		
Robinson, Darnell	Math Grade 6-R	\$54,700
Effective 8/25/08	190 Days	7M
Assignment: Roxboro Middle School		
Townsend, Consuela	CHAMPS Program Tutor-R	\$36.00/Hr.
Effective 8/25/08	190 Days; 4-1/2 Hrs./Day	
Assignment: Monticello Middle School		
Voros-Rotella, Sylvia	CHAMPS Program Tutor-R	\$36.00/Hr.
Effective 8/25/08	190 Days; 4-1/2 Hrs./Day	
Assignment: Roxboro Elementary School		

Approval of Change of Status

It was recommended that the following change be made in the contract status of the following personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
<u>Classified Staff</u>		
Jakab, Gregory M.	Assistant Custodian	Utility Trades.
Assignment:	Roxboro Middle	Heights High
Effective 6/9/08	\$36,800	\$39,400
45 Day Probation Ends 8/11/08		
Smith, Andrea	Probation	Bus Driver
Assignment: District		\$14.63/hr.
90 Day Probation Ended 6/13/08		

Approval of Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Larson, Debra	Child Care
Effective 8/25/08-6/5/09	

Approval of Summer School Staff

It was recommended that the appointment of staff for the summer school of 2008, pending enrollment, be approved as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
<u>Certificated/Licensed Staff - \$38.00/Hour</u>	
Davis, Shirley	High School-Business

Fahsbender, Marina
Hoover, Brock
Knoch, Jacqueline

High School-English
Middle School-Math
High School-Science

Classified Staff

Steffancin, Linda

Secretary - Elementary

Approval of Name Change

From

Cook, Bridgette

To

Bondarenko, Bridgette

Approval of Extended Time

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve to compensate the following personnel at the following rate up to the indicated number of days for extended time:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Gulko, Joel	Coord. HS Gifted	10 Days	85% per diem
DiSabato, John	Coord. Career/Tech	10 Days	85% per diem
Shelton-Townes, Josephine	Social Worker	10 Days	60% per diem

No. 08-06-083

It was moved by Ms. Pepler, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the above Personnel items be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register, Ms. Pepler,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Coble

Nays: None

Resolution to Approve the Agreement between the Board of Education and the following Bargaining Units effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011.

It was recommended that the Board adopt the Agreement between the Board of Education and the following bargaining units, effective July 1, 2008:

Educational Administrative Professional Staff Council (EAPSC)
OAPSE Local 100

No. 08-06-084

It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Mr. Register, that the above Resolution be approved.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Register, Mr. Coble, Ms. Pepler,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero

Nays: None

Board President Michael Cicero and Superintendent Deborah Delisle expressed appreciation for the leadership of Joan Hill and Cornelia Black, officers of the above-mentioned bargaining units. On behalf of the administrative team, Superintendent Delisle thanked the bargaining unit officers for their willingness to reach a resolution so as not to interfere with the remainder of the summer nor the beginning of the school year.

WORK SESSION

Taylor

Superintendent Delisle asked Steve Shergalis-Director of Business Services and Joe Micheller-Director of Educational Services to review the current use of Taylor Academy and to discuss potential future use of the facility.

Steve Shergalis distributed a document detailing the current facility usage of the Taylor building (see official minutes). Based on his findings, Taylor is approximately 80% occupied. The only program at Taylor that we receive any money from is the Credit Union, \$25 per month for rent. Discussion ensued regarding the Taylor facility utilization.

Superintendent Delisle recommended embarking on a study to determine which programs possibly can be moved from or can be consolidated at the Taylor facility. The study would establish if the Taylor facility is the best location for the programs it currently houses.

Coventry

Mr. William Wendling of Wendling Communications was retained to facilitate the work of a study committee formed to determine the best possible use for the Coventry facility. Mr. Wendling presented the findings of the Coventry School Study Committee (see official minutes). The Coventry Study Committee, established in January 2008, consisted of 23 members representing a cross-section from Cleveland Heights and University Heights, as well as District staff members. The Study Committee was charged with researching, studying and analyzing building use options for Coventry Elementary School, which was vacated by the District at the end of the 2007 school year.

As the facilitator, Mr. Wendling commented that he was enormously pleased with the level of commitment, engagement and insight that Committee members brought to the study. The Committee benefited from very active engagement of its members and from the technical assistance provided by District personnel, including Joe Micheller, Steve Shergalis and Michael Dougherty, who provided ongoing support to the Committee. Superintendent Deborah Delisle and Chief Financial Officer Scott Gainer conducted expert presentations on various issues related to the building.

During the course of the study, the Committee received a number of suggestions for the potential use of the Coventry building. These suggestions included:

- Converting the space into a center for arts and non-profit organizations
- Making the building into a “community center”
- Converting the facility to business/commercial use, including live/work housing and studios, child daycare, adult daycare, offices, research facility, business incubator, etc.
- Daycare/preschool
- Educational facility, including a regional magnet school program, adult literacy and other schools-related organizations, storage, maintenance facility, etc.
- Conversion to residential use

The Committee recognized that the District cannot afford to staff, operate and maintain the Coventry building as is. With that knowledge, the Committee recommended the Board of Education initiate a public process for eliciting proposals for the reuse of Coventry in a way that supports the neighborhood and community. Prospective users would be required to submit a Letter of Interest to the Board, which would demonstrate ability to conduct a solid and viable business and provide for the sustained operations of the facility. The expressed deadline for submission of completed Letters of Interest is October 1, 2008. The District’s Lay Finance Committee will review submitted proposals to determine the potential impact on the five-year financial forecast. Finally, the Board will engage in appropriate negotiations with the submitting entities it has chosen to pursue. The Board is urged by the Committee to reach an Agreement in Principle by December 31, 2008.

Mr. Stephen Shergalis, Director of Business Services, reported on the operational costs of the Coventry building in comparison to the operational costs of the facility at the time of the elementary reorganization.

The floor was opened for questions, and responses and discussion followed.

Kal Zucker, Board Vice President, thanked Mr. Wendling and the Committee for all their hard work and good faith effort. Mr. Zucker commented that his role on the Committee was two-fold: 1) to provide any information he could to the Committee, and 2) to listen to what the Committee reported. He feels that the Committee’s report is very accurate and its’ timeline aggressive.

Board Member Eric Coble questioned how the option of razing the Coventry building connected to the Committee’s suggested timeline. Bill Wendling responded that should no viable options surface, at some point the District needs to concentrate all of its resources on educating its students. The December 31, 2008 deadline could be extended if circumstances warrant doing so. Razing the building would be a last resort.

Superintendent Delisle explained the District's choice to utilize a Letter of Interest rather than a Request for Proposal for submission by parties interested in the Coventry facility.

Board President Michael Cicero expressed his preference to have the District assume absolutely no responsibility for anything on the Coventry property, i.e. no roof repair, no grounds maintenance, no insurance premiums, et al. Mr. Cicero asked whether the Committee considered the option of selling the building as opposed to leasing. Bill Wendling responded that given the current market environment, the Coventry Study Committee voiced possible difficulty in selling the building.

Mr. Cicero said he thinks it would be reasonable to open the window of interest to purchasers and tenants simultaneously within the context of the Committee's timeline and suggested usage of the facility.

Mr. Zucker recommended the Board set up objective criteria for deciding between competing proposals. Mr. Cicero disagreed with establishing objective criteria. Mr. Coble suggested first waiting to see what we receive in terms of proposals.

It was recommended that the Board approve and accept the Report of the Coventry School Study Committee as prepared by Mr. William Wendling with a revision to accept Letters of Interest from prospective tenant organizations or purchasers of the Coventry facility.

It was recommended that the Board amend the Motion to Approve and Accept the Report of the Coventry School Study Committee in order to properly acknowledge the Study Committee.

No. 08-06-085

It was moved by Mr. Register, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the Motion to approve and accept the Coventry School Study Committee Report be AMENDED to acknowledge and thank the members of the Committee.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

Ayes: Ms. Pepler, Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero,
Mr. Register, Mr. Coble

Nays: None

No. 08-06-086

It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Zucker, that the Coventry School Study Committee Report be approved and accepted as amended.

Vote on the Motion was as follows:

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

Mr. Cicero, Mr. Register

Nays: None

MOTION TO ADJOURN

It was recommended that the meeting be adjourned.

No. 08-06-087

It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Ms. Peppler, that the meeting be adjourned.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Register, Mr. Coble, Ms. Peppler,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Cicero

Nays: None

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Michael Cicero, President

Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer