

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

**Organizational and Regular Meetings of January 5, 2010**

The Board of Education of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, Cuyahoga County, held its Organizational meeting in the public meeting room of the Board Building at 2155 Miramar Boulevard, University Heights, Ohio, on January 5, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Kal Zucker, President, called the Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Present at Roll Call:** Mr. Eric Coble  
Ms. Karen Jones  
Ms. Nancy Pepler  
Mr. Ron Register  
Mr. Kal Zucker

**Also Present:** Mr. Douglas Heuer, Superintendent  
Mr. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer  
Members of the Central Office Staff  
Patrons of the School District  
Representatives of the News Media

**OATH OF OFFICE – NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer, administered the oath of office to new Board member, Karen Jones, and to newly re-elected Board members, Ron Register and Kal Zucker.

**ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT**

Mr. Kal Zucker, Board Member, accepted nominations for Board President for 2010.

Mr. Zucker nominated Nancy Pepler, Board Member, for President of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education for 2010.

Mr. Zucker requested other nominations for President. Hearing no further nominations, the nominations for President were closed.

**No. 10-01-001**

Mr. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer, requested that each Board Member state the name of the nominee of their choice as their vote.

Vote on the nomination for Board President was as follows:

Mr. Coble	Ms. Pepler
Ms. Jones	Ms. Pepler
Ms. Pepler	Ms. Pepler
Mr. Register	Ms. Pepler
Mr. Zucker	Ms. Pepler

Ms. Nancy Pepler was declared President of the Board of Education for the year 2010.

**ELECTION OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT**

Ms. Nancy Pepler, Board President, accepted nominations for Board Vice President for 2010.

Karen Jones, Board Member, nominated Kal Zucker for Vice President of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education for 2010.

Ms. Pepler, President, requested other nominations for Vice President. Hearing no further nominations, the nominations for Vice President were closed.

**No. 10-01-002**

Mr. Gainer, Chief Financial Officer, requested that each Board Member state the name of the nominee of their choice as their vote.

Vote on the nomination for Board Vice President was as follows:

Ms. Jones	Mr. Zucker
Ms. Pepler	Mr. Zucker
Mr. Register	Mr. Zucker
Mr. Zucker	Mr. Zucker
Mr. Coble	Mr. Zucker

Mr. Kal Zucker was declared Vice President of the Board of Education for the year 2010.

**APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER PRO TEM**

Ms. Nancy Pepler, Board President, recommended Eric Coble, Board Member, serve as Treasurer Pro Tempore, in the absence of Mr. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer.

**No. 10-01-003**

Mr. Gainer, Chief Financial Officer, requested that each Board Member state the name of the nominee of their choice as their vote.

Vote on the recommendation for Treasurer Pro Tem was as follows:

Ms. Pepler	Mr. Coble
Mr. Register	Mr. Coble
Mr. Zucker	Mr. Coble
Mr. Coble	Mr. Coble
Ms. Jones	Mr. Coble

Mr. Eric Coble was appointed Treasurer Pro Tem of the Board of Education for the year 2010.

### **DATES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS**

It was recommended that the first Tuesday in each month, 7:00 p.m., be designated as the regular meeting of the Board of Education, with the exception of December, which will be held the second Tuesday of the month. Dates and times are subject to change as mutually agreed. The meetings will be held in the board meeting room at 2155 Miramar Boulevard, University Heights, Ohio.

### **BOARD MEMBERS' REMUNERATION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District Board of Education that members of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education shall be compensated at the maximum rate permitted by law and attendance as set by Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.12, including attendance at Board-approved training programs.

### **SERVICE FUND**

In accordance with Section 3315.15 of the Ohio Revised Code and as part of the appropriations, it is recommended that the sum of \$14,000.00 be set aside as a Service Fund, function 2300, to be used only in paying expenses of Board Members or their official representatives in the performance of their duties when sent out of the school district for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the schools under their charge.

### **MOTOR VEHICLE AND GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

It is recommended that the Board authorize the furnishing of general liability insurance under a group contract to be purchased in accordance with Section 3313.203 of the Ohio Revised Code. It is also recommended that the Board authorize the furnishing of motor vehicle insurance covering officers, employees and pupils of the School District against liability on account of damage or injury to persons or property, such insurance to be purchased in accordance with Section 3313.201 of the Ohio Revised Code. For 2010, general liability insurance will have a

limit of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$7,000,000 total aggregate. Motor vehicle insurance will have a combined single limit of \$7,000,000.

### **INVESTMENT OF FUNDS**

It was recommended that the Board direct the Chief Financial Officer to invest all funds he deems available in the most productive instruments authorized by Board policy and by the Ohio Revised Code.

### **TAX ADVANCE**

**WHEREAS**, Section 321.32 of the Ohio Revised Code provides that any money in the County Treasury to the account of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education and lawfully applicable to the purpose of the current fiscal year may be drawn upon request;

**IT IS RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, County of Cuyahoga, State of Ohio that:

*Section 1.* The Auditor of Cuyahoga County be and is hereby requested to draw his warrants and the Chief Financial Officer of said County be and is hereby requested to pay to the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education any money in the County Treasury to the account of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education and lawfully applicable to the purpose of the current fiscal year; and

*Section 2.* The Chief Financial Officer be and hereby is authorized to sign and deliver the appropriate documents to secure such advances, as well as the secondary documents to secure the semiannual settlement with the County Chief Financial Officer during the calendar year 2010.

*Section 3.* Such authorization shall extend to all advances requested during the calendar year 2010.

*Section 4.* The Chief Financial Officer of the Board be and hereby is authorized and directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor and the County Chief Financial Officer and make such other certifications, requests and reports to the County Auditor and the County Chief Financial Officer as may be necessary to make this Resolution effective.

### **APPROVAL OF SCHOOL CASHIERS**

It was recommended that the following list of School Cashiers be approved:

Boulevard Elementary  
Bellefaire

Shirley Gallagher  
Nancy Arpin

Canterbury Elementary	Brenda Gadowski
Fairfax Elementary	Laverne Jones
Gearity Elementary	Deltha Gray
Noble Elementary	Marlo Herrmann
Oxford Elementary	Barbara Pletnewski
Roxboro Elementary	Linda Steffancin
Monticello Middle School	Loretta Moore
Roxboro Middle School	Pamelia Tyree
Wiley Middle School	Deborah McCollum
Cleveland Heights High School	Sheryl Querry

**PETTY CASH/CHANGE FUND**

It was recommended that the Board hereby authorize the continuance of the Petty Cash and Change Fund moneys to be used for the payment of inexpensive, miscellaneous and emergency expenditures according to Section 3313.31, Ohio Revised Code, as follows:

*Petty Cash:*

**001 - General Fund**

Finance Office	
Paul Gnatowski, Petty Cashier	\$500.00

**001 - General Fund**

High School	
Sheryl Querry, Petty Cashier	\$200.00

**013 - Early Childhood Program**

Beth Holbein, Petty Cashier	<u>\$800.00</u>
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<b>TOTAL PETTY CASH</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
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*Change Fund:*

**006 - Lunchroom Fund**

Lunchrooms at the High School, Bellefaire, and Monticello, Roxboro, and Wiley Middle Schools. Change fund liquidated by June 30<sup>th</sup> every year and reactivated September each year.

Allison Hager, Petty Cashier	
High School	\$674.00
Bellefaire	\$ 52.00
Monticello Middle School	\$175.00
Roxboro Middle School	\$175.00
Wiley Middle School	<u>\$175.00</u>



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

Nays: None

### **MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

It was moved that the Board move into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(3) to meet with Board legal counsel to discuss disputes involving the Board and/or the School District that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.

**No. 10-01-005** It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the Board move into Executive Session.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

The Board moved into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. with the following members present:

**Present:** Ms. Nancy Pepler, President  
Mr. Kal Zucker, Vice President  
Mr. Eric Coble, Board Member  
Ms. Karen Jones, Board Member  
Mr. Ron Register, Board Member

**Also Present:** Mr. Douglas Heuer, Superintendent  
Mr. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. John Britton, Board Legal Counsel

The Executive Session ended at 7:50 p.m. Board members reconvened in regular session.

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

**Regular Meeting of January 5, 2010**

The Board of Education of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, Cuyahoga County, held its Regular meeting in the public meeting room of the Board Building at 2155 Miramar Boulevard, University Heights, Ohio, on January 5, 2010, immediately following the Organizational Meeting.

Ms. Nancy Pepler, President, called the Regular meeting to order at 7:52 p.m.

**Present at Roll Call:** Ms. Nancy Pepler, President  
Mr. Kal Zucker, Vice President  
Mr. Eric Coble, Board Member  
Ms. Karen Jones, Board Member  
Mr. Ron Register, Board Member

**Also Present:** Mr. Douglas Heuer, Superintendent  
Mr. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer  
Members of the Central Office Staff  
Patrons of the School District  
Representatives of the News Media

**PUBLIC ADDRESS**

The following citizens addressed the Board of Education:

**Statements From the Audience**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Tom Schmida	Elementary Instructional Day
Vicky Knight	Millikin Property
Tim Lanese	Millikin Property
Allyson Robichaud	Millikin Property
Sam Richmond	Millikin Property

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Recommendation that the Board of Education Appoint as Their Representatives to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee the Following Personnel: Joseph Micheller, Ed.D. and Jeffrey Johnston, Ed.D.

It was recommended that the Board of Education appoint Joseph Micheller, Ed.D. and Jeffrey Johnston, Ed.D. as their representatives to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee.

**No. 10-01-006** It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Ms. Jones, that the Board approve the above item.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

Recommendation to Approve the Cleveland Heights High School Instrumental Music Department's 2010 Spring Tour Field Trip to Cincinnati, OH and Louisville, KY

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the Cleveland Heights High School Instrumental Music Department's 2010 Spring Tour Field Trip to Cincinnati, OH and Louisville, KY scheduled for March 30 – April 1, 2010.

Recommendation to Approve the Cleveland Heights High School French Students' Field Trip to Paris, France

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the Cleveland Heights High School French Students' Field Trip to Paris, France scheduled for June 11-25, 2010.

**No. 10-01-007** It was moved by Mr. Register, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the above field trips be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

*Great News Around the District!*

Superintendent Heuer reported that Hanover Research, an independent research firm, was asked by a school district in Ohio to identify or define what the federal government meant by 21<sup>st</sup> century education and also to identify school districts in the state of Ohio that would be considered exemplary for exhibiting 21<sup>st</sup> century educational initiatives. Hanover conducted its research and identified Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District as one of the five school districts profiled as being exemplary in the state of Ohio for implementing 21<sup>st</sup> century education learning.

**PERSONNEL**

**Approval of Resignation**

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

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
<b><u>Administrative Staff:</u></b>		
Gulko, Joel	Coord. Advanced Studies & Student Activities	2/19/2010
<b><u>Classified Staff:</u></b>		
Coats, Janell	Special Ed Parapro	11/17/2009
Philpot, Brian	Cleaner	12/11/2009

**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**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
<b><u>Supplemental Assignments-Advisors</u></b>		
<b><u>Heights High</u></b>		
Humbert, Deborah	Key Club (eff. 12/9/09)	589
McGaughey, Craig	HS Musical Stage Director	1,896
Miller, Ian	Department Liaison-Spec. Ed. (eff.10/6/09)	2,728
<b><u>Roxboro Middle</u></b>		
Bradley, Ann	Yearbook	948
<b><u>Noble</u></b>		
Eisenberg, Nancy	Student Council	1,264
Russell, Jeannetta	School Crossing Guard	1,264

**Teacher/Administrator Partnership (TAP) - \$500/Year**

**Noble**  
Barancotto, Deb  
Campbell, Darren  
Eisenberg, Nancy  
Garrett, Leslie

**Approval of Leave of Absence**

Marx, Mary                      Disability Retirement

**Amendment – Personnel**

**Approval of Resignation**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
<b><u>Administrative Staff</u></b>		
Gulko, Joel	Coord. Advanced Studies & Student Activities	2/16/2010

**No. 10-01-008**

It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Zucker, that the Personnel items be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

## **BUSINESS**

### **Acceptance of Donations**

It was recommended that the Board of Education accept the following donation:

- \$25.00 to the Jason West Scholarship fund, in honor of Lita Gonzalez' work tutoring parents in the schools through PATH, from Susanne Katz, 24117 Edgehill Drive, Beachwood, Ohio 44122.

### **No. 10-01-009**

It was moved by Ms. Jones, seconded by Mr. Coble, that the above Business item be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

## **FINANCE**

### **Approval of Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2011**

It was recommended that the Board approve the County Alternative Tax Budget for the period of fiscal year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 (see official minutes).

### **No. 10-01-010**

It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Mr. Zucker, that the above Finance item be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

Chief Financial Officer Scott Gainer explained that the County Alternative Tax Budget allows us to collect the proceeds of any property tax we are authorized to receive through tax levies.

## **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Board President Nancy Pepler thanked her colleagues for their support in electing her as 2010 Board President. Ms. Pepler welcomed new Board member, Karen Jones.

She outlined four priorities she intends to focus on during her presidency:

- 1) the Board must remain focused on student achievement for all students in the District,
- 2) the Board must continue to address budget issues in these tough economic times,
- 3) the Board must move forward to resolve the Coventry and Millikin properties this year, and
- 4) the Board must develop a comprehensive plan to work with existing community support groups, the cities, and residents to promote the great things happening in the CH-UH schools.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Resolution Declaring the Millikin Elementary School Property Owned by the Board of Education is No Longer Needed for any School Purpose and Authorizing the Sale of the Real Property by Public Auction

### **No. 10-01-011**

It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Ms. Jones, that the above Millikin Property Resolution be REMOVED FROM THE TABLE.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: Mr. Register

Ron Register, Board Member, questioned whether any environmental assessment was conducted on the Millikin property that defines the property as wetlands. Stephen Shergalis, Director of Business Services, said the District had not conducted an assessment, and he is not aware of the property's designation as a wetland.

Eric Coble, Board Member, agreed the District needs to come to some resolution regarding this property; however, he feels residents should have an opportunity to voice their concerns. Board Member Karen Jones also expressed personal concern about disposing of this property. She is interested in the District exploring other options for the use of the property.

Stephen Shergalis reported that in September of 2009, the District issued requests for letters of interest to lease the Millikin building and no responses were received to the offer to lease. He explained that the resolution being considered is simply an authorization for the administration to hold a public auction. Once the public auction is held and bids are received, a recommendation is brought to the Board at another public meeting and

the Board can then consider the bids before deciding what happens to the property. Unlike some public auctions, we would not be required to accept the highest bid. The District could accept a bid based on the highest and best use of the property. The District would be under no obligation to accept any of the bids.

Mr. Shergalis addressed the issue that led to the motion to table this discussion at the previous regular Board meeting. A concern was raised about the Board authorizing the sale of the property under a different statute in 2007. Former Board member Michael Cicero questioned whether the previous Board action needed to be rescinded before passing the current resolution. Legal counsel informed Mr. Shergalis that rescinding the prior resolution was unnecessary.

Board Vice President Kal Zucker indicated that the community has previously come before the Board regarding the Millikin property, not only noting a concern about preserving wetlands, but also commenting on the drain to the community that a vacant property poses. Mr. Zucker stated his support to authorize the administration the ability to put this property up for auction. Understanding the flexibility we have at auction, he sees no need to delay approving this resolution. Any decision the Board makes is always in the best interest of the children of our District.

**No. 10-01-012** It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Ms. Peppler, that the above Millikin Property Resolution be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Zucker, Ms. Peppler

Nays: Mr. Coble, Ms. Jones, Mr. Register

This motion failed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Presentation of the Ohio Initiative Concerning the Federal Race to the Top Funding**

The state of Ohio has contacted school districts in Ohio giving them an opportunity to participate in the state initiative, "Race to the Top." In order for a school district to be eligible to receive these federal funds through the state, an initial letter of participation must be sent to the Ohio Department of Education by Friday, January 8, 2010. Superintendent Heuer asked Dr. Joseph Micheller, Interim Assistant Superintendent, to present an overview to the Board on this competitive grant. If the District chooses to participate in this initiative, a memorandum of understanding must be signed by the Board President, the Superintendent, and the President of the Teachers' Union.

Dr. Micheller provided the Board with an overview of Race to the Top, which focuses on achieving reform in four areas to significantly improve student achievement.

1. Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the work place and to compete in the global economy.
2. Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and informing teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction.
3. Recruiting, developing, rewarding and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most.
4. Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

Ohio's share in the Race to the Top could be up to \$400 million. Ohio is considered a competitive state because its reform agenda is already aligned to Race to the Top. If all 600+ school districts in Ohio participate, CH-UH could receive an estimated minimum of \$1,000,000.

Dr. Micheller stated the District has had formal discussions with the teachers' union president to obtain his signature on the initial memorandum of understanding. It was understood that further bargaining will be needed as work on the final scope is developed. However, this first step is critical and is our only step to be eligible for participation. Districts forfeit the opportunity to participate after the January 8, 2010 deadline.

Superintendent Heuer said this is a definite opportunity to support the students of our district as well as the students of the state of Ohio.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Board President Nancy Pepler indicated that formal committee appointments for 2010 will be available at the next Board meeting.

Kal Zucker, Board Vice President, clarified that no action needed to be taken on the South Euclid TIF. We received a letter from the City of South Euclid extending the time period for approval of a TIF agreement to December 31, 2010.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Tuesday, January 12, 2010 – Special Board Meeting – 5133 – Student Rights & Responsibilities/Extension of the Elementary Day

Tuesday, January 19, 2010 – Special Board Meeting – Adoption of Board Policy 5000 Series

### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

It was recommended that the meeting be adjourned.

**No. 10-01-013**

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

Vote on the motion was as follows:

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

Nays: None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Nancy Pepler, President

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Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer