

News Release
Mulberry Grove Community Unit School District #1
Special Board of Education Meeting @ 6:45 p.m.
Truth in Taxation Hearing and Regular December 2009 Meeting

The Mulberry Grove Community Unit School District #1 Board of Education met on December 15th, 2009 @ 6:45 p.m. for a Truth in Taxation Hearing and then at 7:00 p.m. for their regular monthly Board Meeting.

During the special meeting Superintendent Gauch provided the levy information agreed upon in the previous meeting and discussed how the increase in the levy will effect the tax money extended to the district. The 7% estimated increase in Assessed Value could provide the district approximately a 69,000 increase in tax dollars. Mr. Gauch stated that a 7% increase was very optimistic and actual numbers may not achieve that increase.

During the regular meeting monthly bills, minutes from the previous month & treasurer's report were approved for the Regular September BOE meeting. Present were members Mark Blankenship, Bill Johnson, Teresa Tompkins, Bob Ketchum, Jim Quick and Tonya Jett. Also present were Superintendent, Mike Gauch; Guests: Teacher, Virginia Schoene, Justin Joiner, Tom Dooly of WGEL, Bruce Combs and Harvey Horton of Johnson Controls and Bill Walker, Greenville Advocate *All votes 7-0 unless noted otherwise.

During Old Business the Board discussed asbestos removal project over the Holiday Break, Board Policy updates, Tax Levy approval and pricing on the building project from Johnson Controls.

During New Business Mr. Gauch discussed the problems the district faces due to the state not sending the funds that have been appropriated to the district. Currently the state owes the district over 95,000 dollars dating back into September and that number will double by the end of the month. Also discussed were issues the district could face with increased fees from sending our students to OKAW vocational center due to their shortfall of state funding, approval of the Jr/Sr High School Improvement plan to meet state requirements. Finally Mr. Gauch reported to the board that he has informed the MGEA that he would like to postpone discussions of a new contract until the district has a better idea as to the direction the state is moving with funding.

The Board went to closed session @ 8:19 p.m. to discuss personnel, District finance & negotiations. The Board returned from closed session @ 9:46 p.m. Board action included the following:

1. The Board approved the bid of Talbert ICS of St. Louis, Mo. working in conjunction with the district asbestos consultant APSI to complete the removal and disposal of asbestos materials in room 13 of the High School.
2. Board approved the School Improvement Plan for the Jr./Sr. High School to submit to the state for revisions
3. The Board approved policy changes from Press Plus Policy updates as presented.
4. The Board approved the motion to hire Karen Clark as Head Jr. High Girls Volleyball Coach for the 2009-2010 season.
5. The Board approved a motion to hire Teresa Tompkins as Asst. Jr. High Girls Volleyball Coach for the 2009-2010 season (5 yes, 1 abstain)
6. The Board approved the tax levy with an estimated increase of 7% in EAV for the district
7. Board approved contract with Johnson controls for building upgrades pending approval of final scope and cost, qualification of work as HLS by the state board, sale of QZAB bonds, and review by district legal counsel.
8. The Board approved a motion for maternity leave for of Mrs. Tammy Siebert.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52P.M.

Next meeting: The Regular October Meeting for the Mulberry Grove Board of Education will be Tuesday, January, 19 2010. The regular meeting will be held in the District Library @ 7:00 p.m.