

WESTERN DUBUQUE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Minutes
Workshop Session
January 09, 2012 – 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order:

Board President Bob McCabe called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. in the Board Room – District Administration Office, Farley, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present were Bob McCabe, Jeanne Coppola, Mark Knuth, Gary McAndrew, Chad Vaske and Superintendent Jeff Corkery.

Review and Discuss:

Recommendations of the Board Facility Committee on a voted Physical Plant and Equipment Levy and Bond Issue.

Superintendent Corkery outlined various options and estimated costs for a voted PPEL levy and Bond Issue that have been discussed by the District's Facility Committee. Following are the significant points of the two proposals under consideration.

PPEL Levy:

1. A 10 year levy of up to \$1.34 to pay for repairs, improvements, security, equipment and vehicles.
2. A tentative list of over \$7.5 million identified costs was presented that would be paid for from the levy. The largest item was for the annual payment of five school buses for 10 years at cost of \$4,000,000. Mr. Corkery noted that these are now paid for from the Districts Instructional Support Program (ISP) and to his knowledge no other school in Iowa uses its ISP for this use. Other items on the list included roof repairs, boiler replacements, energy lighting upgrades, security, computer wiring and networking upgrades, GPS bus radio system, vehicles and grounds improvements.

Bond Issue:

1. A ballot issue referendum to pay for projects estimated to be in excess \$16 million. The projects would be paid for from a combination of sales tax and property tax revenues. Initial estimates would indicate little or no increase in property tax rates due the proposal. It was noted, however, that property tax rates in the General Fund and Management Fund could increase due to increases in enrollment and property/liability insurance of which the District has little control.
2. Major projects included in the listing were as follows:
 - Cascade HS – gymnasium, locker rooms, band/vocal music rooms and office renovation.
 - Western Dubuque HS – auditorium, band/vocal music rooms, office renovation
 - District-Wide infrastructure technology upgrades

Additional discussions with community members and staff are planned to gather input on the proposals. An April 3, 2012 referendum date would be considered if planning and approval move forward at a favorable pace.

Adjournment:

Motion by Vaske, second by McAndrew to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 5:55pm on January 9, 2012.

David A. Wegmann
Board Secretary

Robert McCabe
President, Board of Education