

Avon CUSD #176
FY11 Amended Budget Hearing
Regular Board of Education Meeting
June 15, 2011

The Avon Community Unit School District #176 Board of Education met June 15, 2011 to conduct an amended budget hearing for the FY11 budget and its regular slate of business. Members in attendance were: Frank Craver, Brian Friedrich, Barbara Serven, JC Staggs, April Tatham, and Diane Thompson. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dan Oakley, principals Alice King and Tina Stier, and technology director Adam Powell.

During the amended budget hearing, the board heard from Superintendent Oakley regarding the state of finances for the district. Of particular concern is the expected negative net balance for the year in the Education Fund, which will probably be around \$575,000. Around \$500,000 of that deficit is due to the permanent loss of Hold Harmless funds from the state of Illinois. While the Education Fund started the FY11 school year with over \$1.4 million, losses in this range will quickly deplete the fund, and the district is expected to incur similar losses on the FY12 budget. The Operations and Maintenance Fund is also expected to have a negative balance for the year in the range of \$150,000. The Board discussed the financial concerns before adjourning the budget hearing.

In regular session, the Board heard from Adam Powell regarding purchases for the upcoming school year. A minimum technology budget for the district is around \$20,000, as compared to around \$30,000 for a regular replacement cycle. Mr. Powell explained the fixed costs in place, and why certain costs were necessary to continue normal operation next school year. A decision on which budget will be appropriated will occur over the next month or two.

The Board approved the monthly consent agenda, which includes meeting minutes from May 2011, current bills to be paid, and the treasurer's report, as well as the destruction of legally allowable closed session audio recording tapes.

In Board action, the Board: adopted the FY11 amended budget; approved the Avon Middle/High School Handbook for FY12; approved the FY12 Avon staff guidelines with an amendment; approved the list of student fees for FY12; rejected a prevailing wage resolution 3-2 with one member abstaining, then approved the resolution on a second calling of the vote 5-1; approved Markel Insurance as the district's optional student insurance carrier for FY12; directed the superintendent to place bid specifications for commodities for FY12; approved end-of-year activity reports for fundraising groups; recognized Michelle Dunbar, Martin Pio, and Sarah Shamblin as achieving tenure status; and approved salaries for FY12 for personnel not under the AEA contract.

The Board also acted on three reorganization questions, all to the affirmative: 1) the Board affirmed its desire to continue the reorganization process with the Abingdon and Bushnell-Prairie City Boards of Education with the development of a consolidation petition as proposed by the Committee of 10; 2) the Board directed the superintendent to work with the district attorney and necessary agencies to develop the consolidation petition; and 3) the Board approved expenditure of district funds for legal fees and other work required in developing the consolidation petition. All three motions passed 6-0.

In personnel action, the Board: took hold of Amanda Murdock's resignation as a teacher in the district; took hold of Dylan Dare's resignation as a summer worker; hired Meredith Gravina as a teacher in the district; hired Amelia Rakestraw as a full-time teacher in the district; and hired Zach Wells as a summer worker.

The Board also approved a request from Superintendent Oakley to defer five vacation days to the first week of August due to summer school coverage in June.

The board will meet in regular session Wednesday, July 13, 2011, at 7:30 pm in the Avon Board Room.