

# Community Unit School District #4

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
Unity High School Library  
December 16, 2015 at 6:00 pm

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## AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
  2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**
  3. **APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES**
    1. November 18, 2015
    2. December 5, 2015
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**CLOSED SESSION\*** *The Board will re-enter open session upon concluding closed session discussions or at 6:30 p.m., whichever is earlier.*

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### **PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX LEVY at 6:30 P.M.**

1. Opening of Hearing
  2. Presentation of Proposed Levy
  3. Public Comment
  4. Board Member Comment
  5. Adjournment
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### **4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - visitors and comments**

1. Special Recognition
2. Visitors
3. Correspondence

### **5. FINANCIAL REPORT**

1. Approval of Bills and Activity Fund Reports
2. Interfund Loans
3. Fund Status
4. Presentation of Audit
5. Approval Risk Management Plan
6. Approval of 2015 Certificate of Tax Levy

### **6. ACTION ITEMS**

1. Student Time Off Policy
2. Recognition Policy
3. Interest Free Student Loan Account Reallocation
4. Set Special Meeting for Board Retreat
5. Personnel

### **7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Principal Reports
2. Superintendent Report

### **8. ADJOURNMENT**

#### **Next Meeting:**

Regular meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, January 19th at 6:00 p.m. in the UHS Library.

*\*A closed session may be held pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act.*

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the  
Community Unit School District #4 Board of Education  
Adams and Hancock Counties, Illinois  
Held on December 16, 2015**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District #4 met in special session on Wednesday, December 16, 2015, in the Unity High School Library. The meeting was called to order by President Arnsman at 6:00 p.m. Members present were: Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. Principals Dorethy and Ellerman were present. Superintendent Kurz was present. Twenty-eight visitors were present.

<b>MOTION:</b> Farmer “to approve agenda items as presented.” <b>SECOND:</b> Duesterhaus <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. <b>Motion carried.</b>	<b>Agenda Items</b>
<b>MOTION:</b> Farmer “to approve minutes of November 18, 2015 regular meeting and minutes of December 5, 2015 special meeting as read.” <b>SECOND:</b> Duesterhaus <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. <b>Motion carried.</b>	<b>November 18, 2015 and December 5, 2015 Minutes</b>
<b>MOTION:</b> Connoyer “to move to closed session.” <b>SECOND:</b> Duke <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. <b>Motion carried.</b>	<b>Closed Session</b>
<b>MOTION:</b> Duke “to return to open session.” <b>SECOND:</b> Farmer <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. <b>Motion carried.</b>	<b>Open Session</b>
<b>MOTION:</b> Farmer “to approve minutes of the December 16, 2015 closed session.” <b>SECOND:</b> Connoyer <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. <b>Motion carried.</b>	<b>Closed Session Minutes</b>
<b>Public Tax Levy Hearing</b>	
<b>MOTION:</b> Farmer “to approve bills and activity fund reports as presented.” <b>SECOND:</b> Connoyer <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. <b>Motion carried.</b>	<b>Bills and Activity Fund Reports</b>
<b>MOTION:</b> Duesterhaus “to approve FY15 Audit Report.” <b>SECOND:</b> Duke <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. <b>Motion carried.</b>	<b>FY15 Audit Report</b>
<b>MOTION:</b> Connoyer “to approve 2015 Risk Management Plan.” <b>SECOND:</b> Fler <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fler. <b>Motion carried.</b>	<b>2015 Risk Management Plan</b>
<b>MOTION:</b> Farmer “to approve tax levy option 4 with a total levy of 2,975,000.” <b>SECOND:</b> Fler <b>ACTION:</b> Roll Call Vote: Aye – Arnsman, Farmer, and Fler. Nay – Connoyer, Duesterhaus, and Duke. <b>Motion defeated.</b>	<b>Tax Levy Option 4</b>

<p><b>MOTION:</b> Connoyer “to approve tax levy option 6 with a total levy of 3,175,000.”  <b>SECOND:</b> Duesterhaus  <b>ACTION:</b> <b>Roll Call Vote:</b> Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke. Nay – Farmer and Fleer. <b>Motion carried.</b></p>	<p><b>Tax Levy Option 6</b></p>
<p><b>MOTION:</b> Farmer “to approve student time off policy.”  <b>SECOND:</b> Arnsman  <b>ACTION:</b> <b>Roll Call Vote:</b> Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fleer. <b>Motion carried.</b></p>	<p><b>Student Time Off Policy</b></p>
<p><b>MOTION:</b> Duesterhaus “to approve plaque recognition policy.”  <b>SECOND:</b> Duke  <b>ACTION:</b> <b>Roll Call Vote:</b> Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fleer. <b>Motion carried.</b></p>	<p><b>Plaque Recognition Policy</b></p>
<p><b>MOTION:</b> Duesterhaus “to adjourn to Regular Board Meeting, Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Unity High School Library.”  <b>SECOND:</b> Farmer  <b>ACTION:</b> <b>Roll Call Vote:</b> Aye – Arnsman, Connoyer, Duesterhaus, Duke, Farmer, and Fleer. <b>Motion carried.</b></p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p>
<p><b>President</b> _____ <b>January 20, 2016</b>  <b>Secretary</b> _____</p>	

# **Community Unit School District #4**

## **Board of Education Report**

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**December 16, 2015 – 6:00 p.m. – Unity High School Library**

**Visitors Present – 27**

### **Financial Items**

- Approved paying of bills and activity funds.
- Kathy Shupe from Arnold, Behrens, Nesbit, Gray, P.C. presented the FY15 audit to the Board of Education. There were no material findings. The audit did provide information that due to the FY15 deficit and reduced fund balances, the district financial status was determined to be “warning”. The Board accepted the audit as presented.
- The board discussed the current financial situation at length. Taking into account potential tax caps, pension cost shift, and low fund balances, the Board considered pros and cons of several options. In the end, the Board of Education passed a tax levy of \$3,175,000. The approved levy will result in a 20% increase in the educational tax rate, which is lower than the increase recommended by Superintendent Kurz.

### **Action Items**

- Approved “Time Off Policy” for Unit 4 students. It designates the week of July 4th and the week of Adams County Fair as days that no student activities can take place. It also designates no Sunday student activities beginning Sunday, February 28, 2016. There may be a few rare exceptions made to the overall policy, but only based on administrative approval. (For example, if the IESA baseball season has started during the fair week, they may begin practices. If the December calendar is full, Christmas concerts may be held on Sunday afternoon.)
- No action was taken on potentially reallocating some funds set aside for interest free student loans. Additional information will be gathered.

### **Information Items**

- Set Saturday, January 30, 2015 at 7:00 a.m. as the annual Board of Education retreat.

### **Next Meeting**

- Next regular scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, January 20, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Unity High School Library.