



Minutes for Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

**To Be Held in the District Board Room
1055 Griffiths Lane
Ashwaubenon WI 54304
(Phone: 920.492.2900)**

Monday, January 25, 2010

6:30 p.m.

* * * * *

A. Call to order:

President Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the district office.

B. Roll call:

Board Members Present: Laukka, Van Laanen, Williams, Crowley, Aubinger.
Board Members Excused: None
Others Present: David Schmidt, Brian Nelsen, Jill Rhude, Keith Lucius, Brad Taylor, Michael Sheean, Kris Hucek, Vicki Santacrose, Kurt Weyers, Mark Sheedy, Jennifer Kozak, Maria Arena, Pete Marto

C. Declaration of quorum:

Quorum Present

D. Pledge of allegiance:

The pledge was recited

E. Adoption of Agenda:

Moved by Crowley seconded by VanLaanen to adopt the agenda as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0.
Motion carried 5:0

F. Citizens and/or delegations:

1. Public Forum – Any citizen and/or delegations:
2. Student Presentations – Bright Lights: Ashwaubenon High School’s LINK Program.
LINK is a freshmen transition program designed to have junior and senior students help freshmen students make a positive transition into high school. A program overview was provided by advisors Amy Bunkleman, Kate Wollersheim and Ann Bock and Senior mentors Noah and Kelsey.
 - Phase 1 (preparation) – Staff recommends upper classmen as mentors, mentor applications accepted and reviewed, and mentors are chosen and mentor parents are notified. A development day is held in May to help prepare mentors for their roles. Summer training dates are selected.
 - Phase 2 (orientation) – Leaders participate in 2 days of training (5 hours per day)
 - Phase 3 (connections) – Freshmen orientation day – small and large group activities and building tours.
 - Academic follow-ups – Students attend monthly homerooms. Mentors discuss topics like goal setting, study strategies, time management, making choices, etc. Mentors are evaluated by teachers.
 - Social follow-ups – Cocoa and Cram was an opportunity for all students to receive help preparing for exams. Help was provided by LINK leaders and teachers.
 - Program successes include orientation day, Cocoa and Cram studying event and homerooms.

- Program challenges include overall school culture of “babying” freshmen, low participation in some activities, and finding times for leaders to meet with each other and groups. It was felt that these areas will improve as classes turnover with each year.
- Freshmen feedback on program – feel welcome, are encouraged to set goals, less overall fear on the first day.
- LINK Leaders feedback (Noah and Kelsey) – freshmen seemed to be more confident than prior classes, senior and freshmen students formed connections and were able to discuss culture issues on a peer to peer level, mentors use leadership experiences as an educational tool, and mentors now have a better understanding of the role their teachers have in communicating with students.
- Future plans for the program – incorporate more activities and opportunities to connect and learn from challenges faced this year.
- Mentors desiring to continue on in the role in future years must re-apply every year.

The board stated that the program has been a learning experience for them as they respond to questions from the community. They asked if there are opportunities throughout the day for mentors and their groups to connect in a less formal setting. Amy stated that these types of connections are being reviewed for the program next year. They inquired what the overall goal of the program is. Sheedy explained that it is meant to make the overall transition into high school better. The question was asked about how academics are being addressed/discussed in the groups. The topic of goal setting is frequently discussed as well as encouraging students to focus on a class as a whole versus achieving a particular grade. The groups will be addressing “achieving excellence” at a future meeting. It was felt that the scheduling changes taking place at Parkview in 7th and 8th grade will help students continue to prepare for the freshmen transition.

The LINK program teachers and advisors were recognized for bringing forward both the challenges and successes of the program and having the courage to take risks when it comes to blazing the trails for freshmen, mentors and advisors. Amy stated that as the program continues in future years, the goal is for it to only become better.

G. Consent Agenda:

Moved by Laukka, seconded by VanLaanen to approve Consent Agenda items 1,2,4,5,6,7,8. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

Moved by Crowley, seconded by Laukka to approve item 3 of the Consent Agenda as follows: Aye 4, Nay 0, Abstain 1 (Aubinger). Motion carried 4:0:1.

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held Monday, January 11, 2010.
2. The schedule of checks written 01-01-10 to 01-15-10 (#76504 - #76728)
3. The schedule of check written 01-01-10 to 01-15-10 (#76729)
4. The schedule of checks written 01-01-10 to 01-15-10 (#76730 - #76880)
5. The schedule of manual checks written 01-01-10 to 01-15-10 (#127 and #971 - #972)
6. The schedule of High School Athletic check written 01-01-10 to 01-15-10 (#12461 - #12484)
7. Co-curricular contracts: There are 4 co-curricular contracts being submitted for Board approval.
8. Staffing:
 - a. Resignation of Sue LeSage from the Breakfast Supervisor position at Parkview effective 1/13/10.

- b. Hire of Tracy Depner to the Breakfast Supervisor position at Parkview effective January 18. This position is available due to the resignation of Susan Le Sage. Tracy is also a Noon Duty Supervisor at the High School. She will be compensated \$9.75/hour.
- c. Retirement of Elizabeth Livingston

H. Superintendent's Report:

- **WASB Conference Report:** Schmidt, Lucius, Rhude, and Laukka recently attended the WASB conference in Milwaukee. Schmidt and Laukka reported on the sessions they attended. Laukka stated that when making decisions about technology, we need to look beyond our own experiences. We need to look at the fact that we are making decisions for students who are more tech savvy than we are. When educating 21st century learners, we need to think about if we are just providing the information and a tool or way to reason and analyze. We need to ask how are these tools intended to be used.

Schmidt attended sessions that discussed what motivates people and the importance of community engagement in school issues. He discussed the three level RTI triangle model on addressing the needs of the less able. He discussed Lodi School District's presentation on international education and the importance of expanding student knowledge and exposure to the world around them. He recognized Keith Lucius as WASB president and his role in the conference.

- **Stimulus Funding Expenditures:** The district has received stimulus money for special education and Title 1. This money is targeted for lower income students. Currently, stimulus money has been used for the wireless system, a literacy coach for Valley View, professional development in special education, technology for special education classrooms, and challenge program space remodeling. We are looking at placing hanging projectors in classrooms.

I. Discussion/Presentation Items:

1. **Community Engagement - Pool and Auditorium:** Schmidt provided a handout that explained the history of the pool and auditorium projects and the timeline for engaging the community in these projects. The following is the plan for communicating this project:
 - February: Plan Community Engagement Activities (Superintendent, HS Principal, Directors, Advocates)
 - March: Present information to the Village Board (Superintendent, HS Principal, Directors, Advocates)
 - March: Communicate dates, times and format of Community Listening Sessions (multiple media)
 - March/April: Hold Community Listening Sessions (Multiple sessions over a three week period).
 - May: Board of Education and administration review written and other feedback from Community Listening Sessions
 - May: Board of Education determines a course of action (if any)

A predetermined model will be used in running the Community Listening Sessions. They will be 45 minutes in length, small group format with a question and answer period. The sessions will be a presentation of facts. The facts presented will allow people to make up their own minds. The challenge will be to get the community to attend and participate in the meetings. Written data on the feedback received from the community will be collected, written down and used by the board in their decision making. It was suggested that some of these sessions are aimed at senior citizen groups. The Community Listening Sessions will be used to obtain the community's interest in a referendum. If the community is in support of a referendum, it must be structured in a way that it will succeed. The referendum would be planned for the fall of 2011.

Williams inquired if everyone received the cds Bernie Rocheleau created. If not, a cd can be obtained from Lucius.

J. Action Items:

1. **Internet Safety and Acceptable Use of Technology Policy:** This policy has been brought to the board for a second reading and approval. In order for the district to continue to receive funding, the current policy needed to be changed to include cyber bullying and approved by the state. Brad Taylor and Vicki Santacroce presented the changes to the policy.

At the start of the school year, all students in grade 3-12 will receive training on internet safety. Brad and Vicki reviewed the graph of what is trained and who will conduct the training. Classroom teachers will attend the training with students. Students absent during this training will participate in the training at a later date. After the initial training in 2010-11, internet safety training will be given every year as a reminder to students of the policy and to address any changes in technology since the previous year's training

Brad and Vicki addressed the concern that K-2 students will not receive this training and that they often arrive with a stronger technical knowledge than in the past. It was felt the cyber bullying was not as big of an issue in these grade levels.

The responsibility/liability of the district was read from the policy. There is a concern that under this policy it appears that the district is assuming total responsibility for student actions. It was stated that the district is not liable for a student's actions. It is liable only if it is not monitoring the students.

Moved by Crowley, seconded by VanLaanen to approve the Internet Safety and Acceptable Use of Technology Policy as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

2. **4K Location Change:** It was proposed to move the 4K classroom located at the Just for Kids location back to Cormier. To make room for this class, the Head Start program currently located at Cormier would be relocated to Pioneer. Relocating the 4K back to Cormier would reduce busing resulting in a new savings of \$13,000. Lucius was asked how relocating this class to Cormier would affect the community partnership grant we received for locating this program at the center. Lucius stated this grant ends at the end of the current school year. He stated the 4K program located at the co-op will continue as is. It was asked if the students attending 4K at the Just for Kids location do so because of other day care options or because they were assigned that center. There are 6 students that participate in wrap around daycare at the center. Lucius stated that if the program were to be relocated to Cormier, busing is still an option to and from the daycare.

It was asked if Head Start is on its way out with the increase in 4K schooling. No it is not. Head Start provides the additional support to 3 and 4 year olds with higher needs. There are currently about 40 children that participate in Head Start. There was a concern addressed about relocating it to Pioneer and whether the environment was age appropriate. Maria stated that the program was self contained with limited interaction and provides its own busing. The start and ending times for the Head Start program are different from Pioneer's times. Head Start leaders have toured Pioneer and are excited about the potential move. At this time, there are no adjustments needed to the building. The only change would be a shuffling of rooms that are currently available. It was asked if there are more children in Head Start from Pioneer or Valley View and should the program be relocated to the school with the higher volume of Head Start children. Valley View currently does not have the classroom

space without clearing out a lot of space. Also, placing this program in Pioneer may qualify Pioneer for Title 1 money.

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Laukka to approve the 4K location change as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

3. **Instructional Technology Coordinator - Revamp of Instructional Technology work:**

Schmidt presented the current technology structure and compared it to the proposed structure that includes the hiring of an Instructional Technology Coordinator. It is being proposed that we add the role of Information Technology Coordinator as the lead person in the technology area. Adding this role would result in reducing the current technology resource teachers from two to one. It would require shifting our resources from one position into this one. The costs would be similar. This would be a non-teaching position that would supervise technical staff and work with directors to get the work done. It was asked how this position would relate to the position held by Kris Cumbers. This person would supervise Kris. This person would look at all the technology in the district and work at moving it forward. They would be aware of the plan and be responsible for implementing it. They would be responsible for professional development. A concern was brought up that when the 5 year budget projections were presented at the last meeting, it was stated that the district may need to reduce its expenditures by \$500,000 resulting in a reduction of 2 FTE. With a possible reduction in FTE, it was questioned how essential this non-teaching position would be if the time came to cut FTE. It was stated that we are investing a large amount of money in technical tools and we need to use it wisely. The rearranging of positions in the resource area and not in teaching.

Moved by Laukka, seconded by VanLaanen to approve the Instructional Technology Coordinator as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

4. **Middle School Course Descriptions:** Kris Hucek and Michael Sheean presented for board approval courses for the current 7th graders that would help expand their opportunities as 8th graders. They explained that the current year's course offerings have proven to be successful and engage students more. They have also shown the amount of discipline referrals from related arts course have drastically fallen from 44% last year to 9% this year. The courses being proposed are on a two year rotation. The board addressed their concerns over the World Language program and how the two courses offered have very different course descriptions/focuses (culture versus fluency). Schmidt stated that this topic is currently being reviewed by Jill Rhude and will be addressed at a future board meeting

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Laukka to approve the Middle School Course Descriptions as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

K. Board & Superintendent Communications:

Williams shared his conversations with a parent regarding the Skinny Model for course scheduling. Sheedy provided an update about how the Skinny Model is currently working. He stated it was listed in the course booklet as a model the school is looking to adopt. Future Skinny courses will be determined on what students are selecting now. Skinny course offerings will be determined by early to mid March. It was asked if Skinny courses will be offered in all grade levels. There is a potential for bands and music Skinny courses to be offered to all grade levels.

L. Future Board Meetings & Topics:

- The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is Monday, February 8, 2010.

M. Adjournment:

Moved by VanLaanen, seconded by Aubinger to adjourn meeting at 8:10 pm. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jay Van Laanen".

Jay Van Laanen, Clerk