

**ASHWAUBENON BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session**  
**Held on Monday, March 9, 2009**

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

President Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the District Offices.

**B. ROLL CALL:**

Board Members Present: Crowley, Laukka, Van Laanen, Williams, Aubinger

Board Members Excused: None

Others Present: Dave Schmidt, Brian Nelsen, Wendy Catalano, Linda Noel, Brad Taylor, Kurt Weyers, Mark Sheedy, Jen Kozak,, Kris Hucek, Mike Beno, Kris Cumbers, Dave Steavpack

**C. DECLARATION OF QUORUM:**

Quorum present.

**D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The pledge was recited.

**E. ADOPT AGENDA:**

Moved by Crowley, seconded by Aubinger to adopt the agenda as written. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

**F. CITIZENS AND/OR DELEGATIONS:**

1. Public Forum: No one appeared.
2. Student Report: Claire Cuene, Miranda Adamczak, and Emily Enke (Grade 6 students at Parkview Middle School) updated the Board on the many activities taking place in District Schools.

**G. CONSENT AGENDA:**

Moved by Van Laanen, seconded by Crowley to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held on Monday, February 23, 2009,
2. Minutes of the executive session held on Monday, February 23, 2009,
3. Schedule of checks written 02/14/09 – 02/28/09,
4. Schedule of high school athletic checks written 02/14/09 – 02/28/09,
5. Schedule of manual checks 02/14/09 – 02/28/09,
6. Resignation of Christina Wegner from her Special Education 1.0 FTE position at Parkview Middle School. (Christina was on a leave of absence for the 2008-09 school year). This is an unpaid leave of absence.
7. Resignation of Lois Schenk from her Noon Duty Supervisor position at Parkview Middle School effective 02/25/2009.
8. Voluntary leave of absence request of Kristi Majumbar from her 1.0 FTE ELL Instructor position with the District. Kristi is currently on a leave of absence for the 2008-09 school year.

9. Voluntary leave of absence request of Kimberly Demeny from her 1.0 FTE Guidance position at the High School. This leave is effective for the 2009-2010 school year, and is an unpaid leave of absence.
10. Appointment of David Destache to the 1.0 FTE Physical Education, Limited Term position at the High School
11. Appointment of Amanda Froelich to the Educational Associate I – 9 month ELL Aide position at Parkview effective March 9, 2009. This position is available due to the resignation of Juli Dickman and Amelia will be compensated \$12.49/hour.
12. Approval of Craig Hoiska to fill the Ashwaubenon High School Boys Basketball JV Coach at the rate of \$2657.59.

Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

## **H. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION:**

### **1. Co-Op Girls Hockey Program:**

David Schmidt explained this item is on the agenda for discussion purposes only this evening and depending on what the Board decides may be on the next agenda as an action item. He said that currently there are five other schools who along with us would be soliciting WIAA for the start of a co-op girls' hockey team. He then asked Dave Steavpack, High School Athletic Director, to give some additional data/background on this issue.

Dave explained that eight schools (four from Green Bay) approached Ashwaubenon to join in this co-op team, and per WIAA guidelines the Board needs to approve this in order to allow Ashwaubenon to join the co-op team. As with the boys' hockey program, there are a number of issues that each district must also consider/address. As far as cost, all schools involved in the issue have agreed that no cost for the girls' hockey program would be paid by the co-op districts. There also is the issue of the number of potential student/athletes to form a team. He explained there are enough students to do this if Ashwaubenon would be included – 17-18 students for the next school year.

Dave reviewed the projected number of students from Ashwaubenon who would be interested in joining the girls' and the six key issues involved with establishing this co-op team. He said that Green Bay has consented to be the host school district for the program.

Bob Crowley asked if this goes through – would Ashwaubenon be bound to any changes that other districts would do; i.e., funding. Dave said this co-op situation is different and that according to discussions that are taking place, all of the school districts by unanimous vote would have to agree to increase any funding for the program.

Ginny Laukka had questions about the head coach – who would be responsible. Dave said that the host school (Green Bay) would be responsible for the coach.

Mike Aubinger said he is beginning to feel like we are back again with the boys' hockey program and revisiting that issue too – that program started out with no cost to the district other than the sanction fee but they come back every year asking for more funding. At the time the boys' team was created we said we probably could never afford additional funding for them and they were fine with that at that time. He asked how confident are you that the girls program doesn't want more funding. Mike said he would love to give funding to all of them if the funds were there – the main focus of the school district has to be on academics. He is a little nervous approving

this and then having them come back like the boys' program and asking for more funding in the future. He also had a question about what if we end up with no students interested.

Dave said he cannot guarantee that a request for additional funding will not happen in the future. The parents involved understand that participants in the boys' program are charged \$950 and that the girls will be almost double that cost. There will be more travel involved with a girls' hockey program as opposed to the boys' hockey program, and the parents are aware of that. The thought is that if they are going to go with this program the parents understand but the underlying situation is still that if these school districts form this co-op the Ashwaubenon Girls would not have a place to compete against are already playing somewhere else and they would be left out in opportunities for competitive play in the future. He is aware of the situation with the boys' hockey program funding from the district and the parents and other school districts know that.

Ginny Laukka asked about Title IX and if it applies to this situation. Dave Steavpack said no – because we don't have enough kids in the district. Mark Williams said but we need to offer an "equity program".

Bob Crowley said what do you want to happen tonight?

Dave Schmidt said this issue is not up for action tonight because it came up quickly. We would look for action at the next meeting. Get any questions you want answered tonight or ask for additional information prior to the next meeting.

Mike Aubinger said he has no problem if we handle this the same as the boys' hockey program – only paying the WIAA sanction fee.

Jay Van Laanen asked if it would be a possibility for Ashwaubenon to form its own girls' hockey team. Dave Steavpack said it wouldn't appear that there are the numbers of girls to do this now and in the near future.

Craig Brunette said as a general rule the number of participants in a program tend to increase once a program is out there and visible. Both boys' and girls' hockey programs would probably continue to grow because of the information/publicity out there.

Mark Williams asked about the possibility of having a JV team and a varsity team in this coop. Dave Steavpack said not at this time with the number of girls who are interested in participating.

Mark Williams asked about a conference. Dave Steavpack said not at this time, but like Craig said things/interest will grow. The long-term plan is to form your own school team. Mark asked why Pulaski wasn't included. Dave said they have chosen not to participate. It will be a Green Bay Metro Co-op at this time. The interest and intent is to stay with the schools that we have now.

Mike Aubinger asked that there be a formal agreement/guideline for the Board to see so they know exactly what they are committing to at this time. Dave will work on this.

David Schmidt said that agreement probably will not be ready in two weeks but we will expect that it be available in the future and that they will bring it back to the Board when it is drafted. Board Members asked that Dave Steavpack write down their concerns and his in some format for the Board to have before the next meeting.

David Schmidt reminded the Board that at any time the District can withdraw from the co-op, and every two years it has to go back to WIAA for their approval. Bob Crowley was comfortable with this situation.

Ginny Laukka said that while we are not obligated under Title IX it does become an equity issue so when we take on additional costs for the boys' program we should also consider that same additional funding for the girls' program.

**I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

David Schmidt – no report this evening.

**J. ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. K-5 Science Adoption**

Wendy Catalano introduced Andy Bake, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade teacher at Valley View, who has been involved in this process this past year. Andy is here this evening to share some of the information about this recommendation with the Board.

Andy Bake explained why the committee is recommending the Scott Foresman materials for the K-5 science program this evening. He said that over the past two years the committee has been reviewing a lot of different criteria and targets and staff members were surveyed on the use of the Einstein kits. The committee also looked at progression for students in the future to make for a consistent K-5 science program with continuity from Kindergarten through Grade 5.

Teachers reviewed the different materials for consideration and were surveyed on several key areas as follows:

- Alignment with District targets,
- Continuity between grade levels,
- Integration with other subjects,
- Provisions for differentiations,
- Gender/cultural sensitivity,
- Assessment options,
- Appropriateness of reading levels,
- Remediation and re-teaching activities,
- Extension activities, and
- Overall structure for student friendliness and usability.

After the choices for materials were narrowed to two publishing companies, the committee had a presentation detailing specifics about each set of materials and the final decision was made by the review team and the Director of Learning to purchase materials from Scott Foresman for the K-5 science adoption. Andy said that there is one additional reason they are recommending this program is the guided reading component of the program which will be a positive for our students. The committee is very confident in recommending this adoption for many reasons.

Mark Williams had a question about the middle school science adoption and asked if it pays to stay with one publisher? Wendy answered his question and said that as a district we have identified standards and targets articulated for our students and then we use those standards to make sure that materials are meeting our needs – addressing our targets rather than using one particular publisher. Also the different publishing companies are beginning to blend better together so the flow will be the

same from one textbook company to another which is why articulation is so important in the process of selecting textbooks.

Jay VanLaanen asked about ordering enough copies for students. Wendy Catalano explained how the books/materials are ordered and paid for.

Mark Williams asked about the science budget this year? Wendy Catalano said it is about average – the high school will be coming in the end of the year and it will be paid for partly out of this year’s budget and some out of next year’s budget. She said it is difficult to say specifically how much it will cost for a large program like science but we purchase things when we are ready to do them. We are not exceeding this year’s budget as of this point in time.

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Laukka to approve the K-5 science program as recommended. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

**2. 2009-2010 School Year Calendar**

Brian Nelsen said the proposed calendar has not changed significant from last year except where some of the conference exchange time was placed – placing them more cleanly with vacation time and with some parent input it would be more convenient if we clustered off days together.

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Van Laanen to approve the 2009-2010 school year calendar as presented. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

**3. Five-Year Maintenance Plan**

Mike Beno, Director of Buildings and Grounds, said every year at this time we bring this plan to the Board for their review and approval. He reminded Board Members that once again, this is a continuous re-evaluation of needs throughout the district based on discussions from school administration, students, teachers, and staff – all having input into the plan. He explained that the plan changes every year because there are always some items that move up the list in terms of priority and some things move down. We don’t do projects just because they are on the five-year plan – we only do projects when they are needed and sometimes put off a particular project until the future – as we work and dialogue with staff things change every year – it is a flexible plan. There are two key points we are always looking at; safety and security, and energy consumption efficiency. He explained that this evening we are asking for approval of the five year plan but we are not asking for specific monies/projects for implementation. There is always a cut-off point where we can be funded according to the final budget.

Mike Aubinger said he noticed that there are a lot of needs for Parkview Middle School and wondered if it wouldn’t be helpful to do the Parkview replacements (getting it up to speed rather than waiting for up to five years) and use some of the monies the District would receive from the TIF payout. He explained that Parkview is the only building that we haven’t had a mass change/update as a result of a referendum. He said that by doing the Parkview projects using TIF funds, it would reduce future five-year maintenance budgets by getting them done at one time. Also the issues that deal with energy savings would be a priority which would save us money over time.

Mark Williams said he has talked to David Schmidt and we are planning to put that very issue on a future agenda for more formal Board discussion and decision on how to allocate/spend the TIF monies. The Board will have a more firm recommendation and then administration will follow through on that recommendation.

Jay VanLaanen said he would caution moving forward with projects that aren't totally necessary. He asked Mike Beno to put together a list for Parkview Projects/needs and priorities for the Board to look at and discuss at the next meeting.

Ginny Laukka asked that we also look forward and see if there would be any future curriculum changes (i.e., Project Lead the Way) that would affect remodeling and classroom needs that the Board should also be aware of.

Moved by Laukka, seconded by Van Laanen to approve the five-year plan as presented. Aye 4, nay 1 (Aubinger). Motion carried 4:1.

Mike Aubinger said he felt uncomfortable approving this plan this evening but would prefer to wait to the next meeting when more information about Parkview Middle School would be known.

#### **4. Five Year Technology Plan**

Kris Cumbers reviewed the five year plan with the Board. She explained that major change is moving to the VISTA program over what was in the plan last year. David Schmidt said the computer rotation is also affected/modified to get more years out of a computer before it is rotated out. Kris answered questions from the Board on the five year technology plan as revised and presented.

Moved by Van Laanen, seconded by Aubinger to accept the five year technology plan as presented. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

#### **K. BOARD & SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS:**

- AP Classes at the High School:

Dave Schmidt explained that this issue has arisen while we re beginning to staff the High School classes next year especially as far as AP Classes and the low enrollment for those classes. The problem is how to offset the costs with only 6-9 students in a particular class with the staffing that we have set up for next year. He said Administration will continue to work on this issue and hopefully come up with some solutions, especially since students have planned on taking these courses as part of their high school educational experience.

Mark Sheedy explained why the numbers are low in selecting these classes and what courses we are experiencing with low numbers of students signing up for those classes. David Schmidt talked about the need to set up some type of mentor/resource person to assist students who are taking on-line courses.

Mike Aubinger talked about the frustration to parents and students who have been told a class will be there for them to take and to then have it change. He felt we need to accommodate students on both ends of the academic spectrum and find some way to meet these student needs.

Mark Williams asked if it would be a good item to place on the next agenda for further and more in-depth discussion. David Schmidt agreed and said we need to find some solutions for this issue as we will be facing this issue again and again in the future.

This item will be placed on the next agenda for more discussion.

**L. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS & TOPICS:**

- Approve/deny open enrollment requests
- Voluntary Leave of Absence Requests
- Youth Option Requests
- TIF Discussion – Parkview needs
- High School AP Classes
- Youth Options

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 23, 2009, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**M. ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Van Laanen to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Van Laanen, Clerk