

**ASHWAUBENON BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
**Held on Monday, April 13, 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

**C. DECLARATION OF QUORUM:**

Quorum present.

**D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The pledge was recited.

**E. ADOPT AGENDA:**

President Williams asked that Item #F (the executive session) be removed from the agenda this evening.

Moved by Van Laanen, seconded by Crowley to adopt the agenda as revised. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

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

1. Public Forum: No one appeared.

**G. CONSENT AGENDA:**

Moved by Crowley, seconded by Aubinger to adopt the consent agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held on Monday, March 23, 2009,
2. Schedule of checks written 03/16/09 – 04/03/09,
3. High school athletic checks written 03/16/09 – 04/03/09,
4. Manual checks written 03/16/09 – 04/03/09,
5. Appointment of John Fischer to the K-12 Program Leader 0.33 FTE Science position,
6. Appointment of Nadine Mathu to the K-12 Program Leader 0.33 FTE English Language Arts position,
7. Resignation of Sadie Brice from her 1.0 FTE Language Arts Instructor position at the High School,
8. Approval of co-curricular contracts as recommended.

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

**H. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION:**

**1. Action Learning Teams and Beyond:**

David Schmidt gave some background on the “Action Learning Team” process implemented this year which affected staff development opportunities and student learning. He said that Action Learning Teams will definitely be the model the district will be using for at least 3-5 years.

Wendy Catalano, Director of Learning, explained that the Action Learning Teams is only one layer/component of the professional staff development process in the District. She explained that 42 different teams were created to work on topics that have relevance in their classroom. The

teams were grouped under 6-7 large topics with more specific focus areas under those main topics. The underlying efforts focused on how we can make an impact at the classroom level and on student learning. She briefly updated the Board on two specific teams that based their goals on similar data (state, classroom data, truancy data, etc.) – a high school/middle school transition team, and a middle school team. Wendy gave an overview of what they did during the past school year as an action learning team and what they came up with as far as outcomes of their study, research and how it may be implemented in our District. Although both teams used similar data to begin their process they pursued different avenues to outcomes as to why students weren't being successful.

Wendy stated that the Action Learning Teams will be an on-going model for the district and will help in moving other processes and initiatives forward in our District. She invited the Board to attend the “Showcase of Learning” on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 3:00 in the AHS field house to see the topics that were discussed this year.

Ginny Laukka had a question about pursuing large group activities/initiatives in the District if we stay with this model. Wendy explained how we are still going to be able to do this in the future by “tweaking” the model that we used this past year. This is a piece of staff development that we still need to use – large group training.

Mike Aubinger had a question about how we are assessing students. Wendy explained the different ways we assess students but said the Action Learning Team was looking more at the differentiation piece and how it affects student learning. David Schmidt also talked about this area and creating common assessments for certain grades and subjects beginning next year to measure outcomes for students and classrooms.

Wendy Catalano shared another piece of information with the board to review. This is a listing of the many opportunities that are going to be offered this summer for supporting curriculum, instruction and assessment. This is another “layer” of the staff development process. While teachers are not required to attend these summer opportunities, there are expectations for program leaders to attend and traditionally we have had a very high participation rate in these types of opportunities. As an example, we are setting up training this summer for “Words Their Way” of the 75 teachers who could take part in this training 62 teachers have already signed up.

Mark Williams asked about the staff development days during the school year. He continually gets questions from parents about the need for the time off during the school year. Wendy Catalano explained how this is necessary during the school year to keep current and how it all ties together as a process for professional staff development in the district. There are a number of pieces to the “puzzle” of staff development.

## **I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

David Schmidt had several things to report.

- Last week on Wednesday and Thursday a group of 10 people interviewed six candidates for the Director of Learning position. They have proposed two names he will be interviewing this week. He is also doing some background checks and hopes to have a name for the Board to approve at their Board meeting. Ginny Laukka said she served on the interview committee and said it was a very positive experience. David Schmidt thanked Brian Nelsen who headed committee.
- The High School band is in Hawaii right now and having no doubt having a wonderful time.
- He reminded the Board that they approved the purchase of a new phone system that is being implemented right now. The plan is that the new system will be fully operational when school

opens up next Monday. So far it seems like a much more dynamic phone system than what we recently had.

**J. ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. Extended Contract Requests for 2009-2010 School Year**

David Schmidt explained a list of these days was included in the Board packet for the High School – a combination of trade days and paid days. The number of days is similar to what was done in the past.

Mark Sheedy explained that these are basically the “must have” days to get the building through the summer months and ready to start school in the fall.

Ginny Laukka had a question about the days requested for the LMC. Mark Sheedy explained why these days are necessary.

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Van Laanen to approve the extended contract days as requested. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

**2. Board of Canvassers Report**

Moved by Crowley, seconded by Laukka to accept the Board of Canvassers Report for the Spring Election as presented. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

**K. BOARD & SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS:**

Nothing to report

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

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Monday, April 27, 2009, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**M. ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Laukka to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Van Laanen, Clerk