



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, October 12, 2009

6:30 p.m.

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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, and Crowley. Aubinger arrived after the consent agenda.

Board Members Excused: None

Others Present: David Schmidt, Brian Nelsen, Jill Rhude, Keith Lucius, Brad Taylor, Pete Marto, Kris Hucek, Mark Sheedy, Maria Arena, Vicki Santacroce, Lori Gehring, Teresa Schroepfer

C. Declaration of quorum:

Quorum Present

D. Pledge of allegiance:

The pledge was recited

E. Adoption of Agenda:

Williams requested the agenda be amended to allow item J.1. - Vocal Music Trip/Washington D.C. to move before item H.1. - Superintendent's Report. Williams also requested delaying item I.4. - Mill Rate Stabilization until Aubinger is present.

Moved by Laukka, seconded by VanLaanen to adopt the agenda as amended. Aye 4, Nay 0. Motion carried 4:0.

F. Citizens and/or delegations:

1. Public Forum – Any citizen and/or delegations: family members of students presenting from Parkview.
 - a. must be limited to items not on the agenda
 - b. must state name and address
 - c. limited to five minutes per item
 - d. Board's role is to listen and not discuss the item
 - e. Personnel issues cannot be discussed (nor individuals named)
 - f. Board is not able to take action at this meeting
2. Student Presentations: Parkview (Miranda Adamczak, Clare Cuene, Dhurva Murali & Evan Wied)

Schmidt introduced Hucek who welcomed students, Gehring and Santacroce. She recognized all involved for the work they did on the presentation.

Using the Smartboard, the students updated the board about events taking place at Parkview. The students provided an update about:

- Volley Ball and Cross Country teams and thanked the coaches for both teams.
- 250 children attended the dance that included a DJ and food
- The recent food drive held at the school collected over 1425 cans of food. The next food drive at Parkview will be in February.
- The district Spare a Pair campaign collected 760 donations. Parkview collected about half of the district's total donations.
- Parkview students worked with the German students to compare/contrast the two countries
- The drama club is working on a mystery and murder production for March 18th. They have over 100 children involved.
- The 7th and 8th grade students are scheduled for a field trip on October 16th. They will be viewing a play.
- The botanical garden is having a Pumpkin Palooza on October 27th. The students shared photos from last year's entries.

The students ended their presentation by stating they are "leaving an imprint for the future" and thanked the board and meeting attendees for their time.

G. Consent Agenda:

Moved by Crowley, seconded by VanLaanen to approve the consent agenda as follows: Aye 4, Nay 0. Motion carried 4:0.

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held Monday, September 28, 2009.
2. Minutes of the executive session held on Monday, September 28, 2009.
3. The schedule of checks written 09/19/09 – 10/02/09 (#75747 - #75894).
4. The schedule of manual checks written 09/19/09 – 10/02/09 (#945 - #948).
5. The schedule of High School Athletic check written 09/19/09 – 10/02/09 (#12330 - #12368).
6. Co-curricular contracts: There are 4 co-curricular contracts being submitted for Board approval.

H. Superintendent's Report:

1. High School Absences - Schmidt stated that there are a high number of students absent today from the high school. The absentee rate was 20% at the beginning of the day and ended the day at 30%. The district is working with the Brown County Health Department to monitor the absentee rates. The Alert Now system will be used to update people as needed. More decisions will be made on Tuesday if the rates continue to increase.
2. Parkview Fitness Area - Schmidt stated that a previous decision was made regarding creating a fitness area at Parkview. This fitness area has somewhat compromised the wrestling area. Hucek has met with all parties involved and came up with a plan. The fitness area will be moved for the months of January and February. This will provide for a safer and better area for the wrestlers. At the end of the year we will review this plan to see if any changes are needed.

I. Discussion/Presentation Items:

1. Summer School Program for Struggling Students
Schmidt updated the group about why this topic was brought before the board. He stated it is an update to a previous presentation. Sheedy provided an update about the types of summer school programs available for struggling students.
 - Students that did not pass all or part of a social studies course can participate in a proficiency based program during the summer. This program allows them to complete the course or portions of the course they did not originally pass. Laukka

asked if the grade they receive in the summer course replaces the grade they received in the regular course. Sheedy explained that the student's final grade is a combination of the two. The grade does have a cap. Sheedy stated this program was successful.

- The second program, NovaNet, provides students who only have 28 out of the 32 credits to graduate to make up the missing credits. 33 juniors and senior students were invited to attend this class. 24 attended and received partial or full credit.

Sheedy stated that the school would like to offer both programs next year and even expand the proficiency based course to include english, science and math.

Sheedy stated they are taking the information learned through these summer programs and looking at the 6-12 At-Risk programs. Brian and Dirk are heading the At-Risk services programs. Sheedy stated that if we see these children coming now. We can get them into programs where they are credit deficient. The goal is to get them in classes that are blocked back-to-back, keeping the classes small. If we work with them now, we can avoid the last minute struggles to get them through.

Aubinger stated he received calls from parents with children that went through the NovaNet program. They were very happy with the program and the results they saw in their children. One parent stated their child hated school and is not looking forward to going to college after participating in this program. Aubinger recognized the school for doing a good job with this program.

Sheedy stated they are looking at tying these types of programs into online learning. He added that online learning is very prevalent in all our lives. Schmidt stated that there is a review of K-6 not at risk students. The findings and changes/recommendations from this review will be presented to the board after the first of the year. It will require action to be taken by the board at that time.

2. Stimulus Spending

Lucius explained that we have two years to spend the title one money. There are only certain buildings and students that qualify for this money (Valley View and Cormier). He also stated that the Reading Coach costs will come out of this money (\$97,000 over the next two years). Ideas for spending this money include: remodeling of the alternative high school, choices lab at Parkview, curriculum and training for staff. Lucius stated that some staff will be moved into a grant (just over \$300,000). He stated that by moving current special education staff into a grant, we are able to free up some of the money in the general budget. Aubinger asked if this is a budget cutting exercise. Lucius stated it is not but that it is freeing up money in our operational budget.

Laukka asked where Lucius sees the greatest results in spending the money. Lucius stated the reading coach, alternative high school remodel, choices area to help engage students, and co-teaching to keep the students in the classroom.

Lucius stated we need to put together a plan and have it spend within the next two years or it will go back to the government. Lucius asked that it is addressed at the November 30th planning meeting.

3. Energy Ed Policy – first read

Lucius updated the board on what the Energy Education Policy is. He stated that interviews for this position will take place this week. It has been asked that the board develop a policy for this plan. Keith shared the policy he had and his recommended changes. Laukka had a concern over the word “every” in the second line. She wants to make sure we are not going to

be held to this statement. The board was reminded that if we do not save money, we will get reimbursed. Aubinger wanted a disclaimer that this is not a cost issue. Lucius stated that this policy has nothing to do with the contract. Williams asked if it is possible to send it to NEOLA. Schmidt stated that we can if we want. The policy will return as an action item at the next board meeting.

4. Mill Rate Stabilization (Keith Lucius)

Lucius explained that we have an unusual situation for the school district. With the TIF coming off line we have an opportunity to defease our debt. Lucius reminded the board that we will receive less in aid next year. He stated that our mill rate will be reduced significantly from the past mill rate of 8.88. He is suggesting a mill rate of 8.83 to pay off these bonds early. Paying now saves us significant dollars down the line.

Lucius presented an look of where we would be if we did nothing with a mill rate of 7.608 as well as two additional options with a mill rate of 8.88 and 8.83.

- Option 1: Keep the mill rate level with this year and pay off an equal amount of bonds over the next 12 years.
- Option 2: The same increase in mill rate now and pay off the longer term bonds first.

Aubinger asked if we do as Lucius proposes in one of the above options of mill rates of 8.88 or 8.83, we will keep tax rates consistent. Lucius stated the tax rate would stay consistent. The equalized value taxes are currently at 1,776. If we did nothing they would be at 1,521. With option 1 or 2, they would be at 1,766.

Aubinger stated that we need to behave like a business and act responsibly by saving the tax payers money in the future. VanLaanen agreed.

Lucius stated that the Wisconsin state budget is not great. We need to prepare for an increase in mill rates over the next few years.

Laukka stated that since the current home owners are taking the initial hit. Should we be giving them the savings earlier? She would be in favor of seeing bigger front end savings.

Williams asked if we are spending over the revenue limits. Lucius stated we are not spending over the limits. The only aid impact is on debt payment. We are taking our increase one year earlier and paying off debt with it.

Lucius stated this will come back to the board in the spring. The levy decision will be made at the next board meeting.

Laukka inquired if the money we collected will only go toward what it was meant for. Aubinger said the money helps the school to pay off the debt earlier and prepare for the reduction in aid caused by the TIF coming off line. Lucius stated that as a district, we are stating that the TIF coming off line will cause a reduction in future aid. It has not been implied there would be a savings to residents. Aubinger stated each individual home owner will see a reduction or a no change in their taxes with either option.

Lucius stated we need a general direction from the board to prepare for the next board meeting. Aubinger felt that either option 1 or 2 is needed. Laukka agreed. Schmidt stated we will plan on the 2.5 million and go from there at the next meeting.

J. Action Items:

1. Vocal Music Trip/Washington D.C.

Teresa Schroepfer requested board approval for the vocal music trip to Washington DC. Schroepfer explained the activities the students would participate in during the trip. The cost per student including round trip airfare is approximately \$1,050. Laukka asked how many students are planning to go on the trip. Schroepfer stated that 16 have signed up so far. They are planning for 70 students and 10 adults. Aubinger asked is the chorus is included in this trip. Schroepfer stated that 3 out of the 4 chorus groups are going.

Moved by VanLaanen, seconded by Crowley to approve the Vocal Music Trip. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

2. Youth Options Requests

Sheedy request board approval to send 4 students to the Youth Options Program at St. Norbert College.

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Crowley and VanLaanen to approve the Youth Options requests. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

3. Board Policies – approval

Schmidt stated that this is the second reading for the updated board policies. The changes to the policies are mainly rewording as a result of state and federal changes.

Aubinger inquired about the English Language Proficiency policy. Schmidt explained that it allows parents to opt out of testing.

Moved by VanLaanen, seconded by Crowley to approve policies 1400, 2260.01, 3120.01, 4120.01, 3122, 4122, 3430.01, 4430.01, 5350, 5517. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

K. Board & Superintendent Communications:

1. Schmidt read a letter from a former student of AHS. The student was requesting that the district consider remodeling/updating the AHS auditorium.
2. Attendees of the meeting and community members are invited to attend a meeting to discuss the overpass at Lombardi Ave. The meeting is going to be held on Thursday, October 22nd.

L. Future Board Meetings & Topics:

Upcoming Board Meetings

- The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is Monday, October 26, 2009.
- The November 23rd Board Meeting has been cancelled.
- A 2-hour study/planning session is scheduled for Monday, November 30, 2009.
- The Monday, December 28, 2009, Board Meeting has been cancelled.

M. Adjournment:

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by VanLaanen to adjourn at 7:38pm. Aye 5, Nye 0. Motion carried 5:0

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Van Laanen, Clerk