



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 24, 2011

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, VanLaanen, Williams, Halron, Aubinger
Board Members Excused: none
Others Present: David Schmidt, Keith Lucius, Jill Rhude, Brian Nelsen, Brad Taylor, Andrew Bake, Mike Beno, Kurt Weyers, Kris Hucek, Michael Sheean, Pete Marto, Matt Anderson, Mark Sheedy

C. Declaration of quorum:

Quorum Present

D. Pledge of allegiance:

The pledge was recited

E. Adoption of Agenda:

Moved by VanLaanen, seconded by Aubinger 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:** Lori Knoll (2146 Hilltop Drive) addressed the board about student bullying/harassment in the district. She read to the board statistics reported in journals/newspapers regarding bullying in schools. Ms. Noll read a letter from a student homework assignment that referred to episodes of bullying in school. Ms. Noll feels that bullying is running rampant in the schools and that current policy is not worth anything if adults do not enforce it. She begged the board to make the adults in charge of our schools take action against bullying. Ms. Noll was thanked for presenting her concerns to the board.
2. **Student Presentation:**– Amy Kupsh, Michelle Loewenhagen and Sarah Scott presented on Valley View’s “FROG Program”. FROG is a Flexible Reading Groups Program used in 2nd grade classrooms at Valley View. They thanked the teachers at Valley View, the literacy group and Heritage School in DePere for all the support they receive in developing and running this program. Heritage School currently uses the FROG program and shared their materials and framework.
 - The FROG program helps with the delivery of guided reading at varied levels.
 - It allows for 100 minutes set aside for reading groups. The students are slit up and shared between the three 2nd teachers. The 100 minutes are divided up in the following way:
 - 20 minutes for a comprehension lesson. All three groups (teachers) teach the same lesson each day. This helps to build a common language.
 - 20 minutes of guided reading
 - 20 minutes of reading aloud
 - 20 minutes of reading to self
 - 20 minutes of listening/writing

- Parents were met with in September to learn about the Flexible Reading Groups.
- Students are trained and practice to help build their stamina to be successful. They are taught the Daily 5.
- Each child is continuously assessed using a running record. They are placed into one of 3 group levels (intervention, at level, above level). Students can move from group to group as they are assessed and advance. The running records are kept and shared with parents at conferences. Monthly newsletters go home so parents can help with the focus on reading.
- Students in the intervention group stay right in the groups. They work with the regular teacher and then with the reading teacher right in the classroom.

Board Discussion

- What other areas in the district are using this program? First grade at Pioneer. Valley View 1st grade classes are reviewing it for future use.
- How are students grouped? They are grouped by reading level and other aspects of comprehension. The grouping is meant to be very flexible.
- Is the comprehension lessons given to everyone or by group? The lesson is given to everyone at the same time. Children at different levels help push each other through the discussion portions. They found students to be more engaged when it is taught all together and learn from each other.
- Does each teacher take a level when grouping? Yes for this first year.
- How has scheduling been for this program? Scheduling seems to be easier with this program. There have been a few times that the master schedule had to be changed to accommodate all three classes having the same time available. Children needing interventions are not pulled from the FROG program for other classes.
- The board discussed a model used in Oklahoma with one to one reading with senior citizens.
- How is success measured? Currently it is measured through running records (Sept, Jan and May) as well as daily assessments to gauge a student's reading level.
- How does this change in the next grade? Students will still have guided reading and the Daily 5.
- The board discussed the model they learned about at the conference that had students using Garage Band to record their reading. This allowed them to hear their reading speed.

G. Consent Agenda:

Moved by VanLaanen, seconded by Laukka to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held on Monday, January 10, 2011.
2. Minutes of the executive session meeting held on Monday, January 10, 2011.
3. The schedule of checks written 1-1-11 to 1-18-11 (#80333 - 80508).
4. The schedule of manual checks written 1-1-11 to 1-18-11 (#1067-1068).
5. The schedule of high school athletic checks written 1-1-11 to 1-18-11 (#12905 - 12954).
6. Staffing:
 - a. **Retirement request of David Blecha** from his full time Grade 5 instructor position at Pioneer Elementary School per Article XXII of the AEA Master Agreement. This retirement is effective at the end of the 2010-11 school year. Dave has been employed by the District for 36 years. Dave will be awarded all retirement benefits as afforded to him per Article XXII.
 - b. **Resignation of Nathanael Sousek** from his 1.0 FTE Desktop Support Specialist position with the District, effective January 21, 2011. Position is compensated at an hourly rate. Posting is currently under way to fill this vacancy.
 - c. **Resignation of Stacey Van Lanen** from her Noon Duty Supervisor position at Cormier effective immediately.
7. Co-curricular contracts: There is 1 co-curricular contract being submitted for Board approval.

H. Superintendent's Report:

- **Plan & Explore:** Schmidt stated that the district has added an 8th and 10th grade assessment that is tied to the ACT. This week, 8th graders are taking the Explore assessment. This will help teachers assess students and see where their passion is. In March, 10th graders will take the Plan assessment. Schmidt stated that eventually there may be a request before the board to have all students take the ACT versus it being an elective. Having all students take the ACT will help the district plan and prepare students for the future (college, military or tech schools). It is felt that all students need to be pushed to higher levels to open up opportunities for them.
- **WASB Conference Review:** Schmidt, Laukka and Halron recently attended the WASB conference in Milwaukee.

Laukka shared the following topics:

- Finding their passion - As a district we not only need to have all students college and career ready but we must help them find their talent and passion. The presenter stated that it has shown that success is often driven through a person's passion.
- Getting to 24 (ACT score) – Discussed helping a student achieve a 24 or higher on the ACT is done throughout their schooling from Pre-K and beyond.
- Equity – All students should be prepared for post secondary success regardless of their current circumstances.

Halron shared the following topics:

- Finland scores high – Finland has a broad curriculum to try to catch every child coming through their educational system. As a result, their students tend to score higher.
- Senior portfolio – Students are connected with a mentor upon entering into high school. They discuss with their mentor their future dreams and plans. The student starts a portfolio in 8th grade to be used during a future exit interview. Upon leaving high school, the student is interviewed by local business people. The business person goes through the portfolio with them.

Schmidt shared the following:

- We heard a lot about how to assess students. Currently we structured a lot of our work around numbers. We need to change the structure to also look at the student's passion and move them in this direction.
- Schmidt stated that much of the information presented and learned at the conference was very usable information.

- **Superintendent Search:** Schmidt stated that the search for a new superintendent is on track. Community and staff groups met to determine attributes, first interviews will be held with the board on February 3rd and 10th. Community and staff will participate in interviews with the final candidates. The board will conduct a final interview. By mid March a successful candidate should be determined. New superintendent will begin on July 1st.
- **One to One Initiative:** At the last meeting, the board approved a One to One Initiative at the high school. The new netbooks will be rolled out February 1st through the 4th. We will be watching this initiative carefully seeking the input from students and teachers to assess the future direction of the initiative.
- **DI:** Schmidt stated that the district's DI program allows student from elementary level through high school to participate. This program is thought provoking and builds leadership skills. The district has 13 elementary teams, 6 middle school teams and 7 high school teams. A number of these teams will go to regionals in March. Schmidt recognized Lissa Marth, team coaches and students for all their time and efforts in this program.

I. Discussion/Presentation Items:

1. **Project Lead the Way Update:** Project Lead the Way is currently offered at the high school and will be introduced at the middle school. Phil Layden, Matt Kiel, and Dave Stroud discussed

the history of the program since its adoption in 2009 to the district. Project Lead the Way is a national curriculum that currently has about 3000 students in the US participating. The program has students look at problems and solve them through real world applications. Students work through drawings, nonfiction writing, communication with groups, and virtual team projects in other schools. The district consists of 6 different 9 weeks courses. In the fall, 3 new courses will be implemented.

Action Learning Teams have been working to implement PLTW in the middle school, obtain national certification for the high school, develop new course descriptions, spent some time at New London's middle school reviewing their program and worked with Jill Rhude, Dirk Ribbens and Kris Hucek to finalize all the information to continue the program. Teachers will begin to register for summer courses at MSOE in March.

- What's coming in the future? Certification in the spring, formation of an engineering advisory board, PLTW summer academy, MSOE credit – students can earn 9 credits to MSOE, and the evaluation of bio-tech and bio-med engineering courses in the future.
- Where will middle school classes be placed? In the tech ed department 7th and 8th grade mixed classes.
- Are middle school PLTW courses going to be a pre-requisite for high school courses? No they will not.
- What are you doing to get girls interested? PLTW has goals to draw more girls into the program. We are hoping to bring some of these ideas to the elementary curriculum. We are currently very close to 50% girls.

2. **Update on Curricular Timeline:** Rhude stated that with the changes in State standards and common core, the curriculum is always in a state of change. The world language and art programs are currently being modified and revised. Rhude discussed the next subjects to be reviewed.

Is there going to be any new sciences classes added? PLTW may be adding the bio-med and bio-tech courses. The biggest change in science will be in technology.

Rhude stated that curriculum and cycles are driven by what we could afford. She stated that something that is approved today may get revised next year or the following. Rhude stated that the district needs to look at the use of textbooks in the future. There will be changes in what we bring into the district. It has been discussed not purchasing hardcover/paper textbooks in the future. We will see changes to textbooks but currently the book companies are behind with these types of books.

It was recommended using e-books for materials that change frequently like history or geography texts.

J. Action Items:

1. **Bond Refinancing** – *Resolution Title: Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$3,115,000 general obligation refunding bonds.*

Lucius showed the board the revised resolution. He stated that rates came in lower than last time (2.59%; saving \$413,892 in interest savings). The district bond rating was reaffirmed at AA1. We save with this level of bond rating.

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by VanLaanen to approve the Bond Refinancing *Resolution Title: Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$3,115,000 general obligations refunding bonds* as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

2. **5 Year Building Maintenance Plan:** Mike Beno updated the board on the 5 year plan for Building Maintenance. Beno stated that the plan is very fluid as they tried to look out to the

future when planning and build everything into the budget. He provided examples of how the projects can change if the district is able to gain additional years on materials (i.e. locker replacement). Beno reviewed the projects coming up in the next year. He asked for approval of the plan as it exists to build into the budget.

What is top priority from this project list? Parkview roof sections 2&3 in 2010-11; Parkview roof section 1 in 2011-12; one roof section at the high school in 2012-13. Beno stated that we get approximately 20 years out of each section. A 10 year warranty is required when we bid out.

Moved by VanLaanen, seconded by Aubinger to approve the 5 Year Building Maintenance Plan as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

3. **Roof Bids:** Beno stated that bid opening were held for Parkview roof sections 2&3. The district received 8 bids. The project has a budget of \$225,000. The project manual is very specific to what needs to be done. Crafts, Inc. came in with the lowest bid of \$187,568. Beno stated he confirmed with Craft that they are ok with their bid. Craft has done work in the past and the district is very confident with their work. RDS works with us as we move along in the project. Their cost of \$8,000 is part of the budget (not the bid number). RDS ensures that we are getting what we asked as the project moves along.

Moved by VanLaanen, seconded by Halron to approve the Craft, Inc. bid of \$187,568 to complete sections 2&3 of Parkview's roof as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

K. Board & Superintendent Communications:

- Laukka thank the AHS jazz band and choir and their directors for the performance at St. Norbert dental care fundraising event.

L. Future Board Meetings & Topics:

- The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is Monday, February 14, 2011 at 6:30 pm.
- Future topic for board meeting: Bullying and how the district approaches it.

M. Adjournment:

Moved by VanLaanen, seconded by Laukka to adjourn at 7:49 pm. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay VanLaanen, Clerk