



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, April 26, 2010

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, VanLaanen, Williams, Aubinger, Halron
Board Members Excused: None
Others Present: David Schmidt, Brian Nelsen, Jill Rhude, Keith Lucius, Brad Taylor, Maria Arena, Michael Sheean, Kris Hucek, Kurt Weyers, Mike Beno, Pete Marto, Mark Sheedy, Melissa Gerrior, Jenny Livingston, and Mickey Kuchta

C. Declaration of quorum:

Quorum Present

D. Pledge of allegiance:

The pledge was recited

E. Swearing in of new Board members

Schmidt administered the oath of office to Ginny Laukka and Barbara Halron. Ginny Laukka was re-elected to her 3rd term and Barbara Halron was elected to her first term on the school board.

F. Election of Offices/Board Appointments, Committee Responsibilities and Assignments

Election of Office: Schmidt began the process of electing officers for the upcoming school year.

- President: Schmidt asked for nominations for the office of President. VanLaanen nominated Mark Williams. Aubinger seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0 to elect Mark Williams as Board President for the upcoming school year. Schmidt turned the meeting over to Williams who continued on with the election of offices.
- Vice President: Aubinger nominated Ginny Laukka. VanLaanen seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0 to elect Ginny Laukka as Board Vice President for the upcoming school year.
- Clerk: Aubinger nominated Jay VanLaanen. Laukka seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0 to elect Jay VanLaanen as Board Clerk for the upcoming school year.
- Treasurer: Aubinger nominated Barbara Halron. Van Laanen seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0 to elect Barbara Halron as Board Treasurer for the upcoming school year.
- Member At Large will be Mike Aubinger.

Board Appointments/responsibilities assigned as follows:

- High School graduation representatives on Sunday, June 6, 2010 (VanLaanen and Halron)
- WASB Convention – Board delegate & alternate – January 19-21, 2011 (Halron and Laukka)
- AEA negotiations (Williams requested to keep Robert Crowley in this role.)

- AESP negotiations (Aubinger)
- Exempt staff negotiations (VanLaanen)
- Reserve teacher negotiations (VanLaanen)
- Administrator negotiations (Halron and Laukka)
- Youth Options (Aubinger)
- CESA #7 Annual Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 2010 (Aubinger)

G. Establish Board Meeting Time and Place

School board meetings will be held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month for the months of September - November and January - May. During the months of December, June, July and August, one board meeting will be held with the understanding that an additional meeting will be scheduled if necessary. The board meeting will be held during these times at 6:30 pm in the district office. The exception to this time is the July Annual Meeting is scheduled for the 4th Monday in July beginning at 6:00 pm at the District Office. The July meeting will be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing on Monday, July 26, 2010.

Moved by Aubinger seconded by Laukka to adopt the board meeting time and place as noted above. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

H. Adoption of Agenda:

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

I. Citizens and/or delegations:

1. Public Forum – Any citizen and/or delegations: no issues presented
2. Parkview Bright Lights: Students shared what electives has done for their schooling
 - a. Melissa Gerrior with Art students: Ntxhee Yee Thao & Quinn Jaworski presented on the positive results art students have experienced with the offering of “specials” as electives. The additional time received in having art as an elective shows in the quality of student work. Ntxhee and Quinn spoke about their experiences in having choice, attending class with student from other grades, and the hands on activities. They shared an example of their art work and showed a video about what students are working on in the art classes.
 - b. Jenny Livingston and Mickey Kuchta with Guitar, Band and Chorus students: Nick Bartel, Alex Hansen, Nathan Wojkiewicz, and Anna Zoellner spoke about the guitar program. They each introduced themselves and spoke about their experience playing guitar, other instruments and time spent in choir. Anna played a piece for the group. The group played and sang a piece about having guitar as an elective. Laukka inquired if guitar is taught through reading music or tabulator. Students are taught to read music when learning how to play guitar. Schmidt stated that this form of scheduling/offering will continue next year.

J. Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held Monday, April 12, 2010.
2. Minutes of the executive session held on Monday, April 12 and 14, 2010.
3. The schedule of checks written 04-02-10 to 04-19-10 (44341, 77653-77764).
4. The schedule of manual checks written 04-02-10 to 04-19-10 (130, 993-1000)
5. The schedule of High School Athletic check written 04-02-10 to 04-16-10 (12560-12586)
6. Staffing:
 - Resignation of Kristi Majumdar who is in her second year of a Voluntary Leave of Absence. Kristi held the position of a 1.0 FTE ELL Instructor with the District before going out on her leave.
 - Hire of Vicki Santacroce to the full-time Instructional Technology Coordinator position with the District effective July 1, 2010. This is a newly created Exempt Staff position. Vicki is currently the Librarian/Media Specialist at Parkview Middle School. She will be

compensated \$71,500.00 for the 2010-11 school year and follow normal negotiated Exempt Staff settlements for future years. Her initial contract will be a two year contract; 2010-11 and 2011-12.

- Hire of Elissa Tobin to the 1.0 EBD/LD Instructor position at Valley View. Elissa has been in this position since the 2008-09 school year, on a limited term contract. Elissa will be placed at 3A, with an initial license, salary of \$34,839.18. (08-09 salary schedule)

Item number 6 was pulled for discussion. Moved by VanLaanen seconded by Laukka to approve Consent Agenda items 1-5 as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

There was a concern brought forward that with Vicki Santacrocce moving on to Instructional Technology Coordinator and Lois Mauermann retiring, two library media specialist positions will be vacant. It was felt that it might be very difficult to fill these positions. Schmidt stated that interviews for these positions are being held on April 28th and 29th. He stated as administrators, if we are not able to find the candidate we are looking for, this position will be filled temporarily and the search will continue. It was felt that this view of hiring should be the policy for all new hires. Schmidt stated that policies and guidelines provide continuity. It was recommended that exist interviews should also be conducted.

Moved by VanLaanen seconded by Aubinger to approve Consent Agenda item 6 (resignation of Kristi Majumdar and hiring of Vicki Santacrocce and Elissa Tobin). Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

K. Superintendent's Report:

- Schmidt spoke about the district DI teams and the teams that made it to the state level. Four DI teams will go onto globals in Knoxville, Tennessee. Fundraising to help sponsor this trip is currently taking place.
- Schmidt read a letter from Kelley Botteia, a parent of a Junior Achievement Biz for Kids student. Kelley shared her pride the 12 Ashwaubenon students that made up the teams that took first, second and third place.
- Schmidt stated that 4 students from Ashwaubenon will complete in the DECA nationals.
- Schmidt stated that the district is producing 100 press releases this year about the great things going on in the schools.
- Ashwaubenon Education Foundation is working to raise \$500,000. The first grant cycle should start next year! Williams recognized the start and progress of the foundation.

L. Discussion/Presentation Items:

M. Action Items:

1. **World Language Changes:** Schmidt reminded the group that time allocations in World Language were approved at the last meeting. The board is being asked to approve world language choice in 1st – 5th grades. Schmidt stated that in the 2007 survey sent to parents, they expressed a desire to have choice. He shared the survey results. If the board approves choice, the following would happen:
 - Parents would be assured that a choice would be offered. This may mean grouping multiple ages/grade.
 - Scheduling may be a little messy at first as the issues are worked through.
 - Parents would receive a letter asking them to designate a world language choice. They could only make this choice once in elementary school and would not be able to switch.
 - Choice would start during the 2010-11 school year.

The board asked if a 4th grader wanted a language that was different than their current language, could they switch. Every child would be offered a choice. If a parent did not make the choice, they child would be placed in the smaller of the two classes. It was cautioned to watch

the wording of the letter so parents do not misunderstand what is being asked (i.e. If it states “no preference”, they can interpret it to mean “I am happy where I am”).

The board was concerned that stating that they would “assure” a choice was potentially making a promise that may not be kept if the numbers are not there. There was a concern that offering a choice will eventually lead the district to offering only one language at the elementary/middle school level and choice at the high school level. They discussed various way of offering experimental time in lower grades and choice at higher elementary grades.

The goal is for the student to have a high quality language program. It needs to be clear that the student is learning a language regardless of what the language is. We need to provide realistic expectations to parents about how fluent the child will be in the language.

Clarification was sought about how choice works at Parkview this year. Melanie and Kris shared the number of students that changed languages or opted out of world language. Kris explained a student can opt out if they are taking a guided study course.

The board asked for continuity in curriculum between the languages when scheduling.

Schmidt spoke about how children who already know a language will be staged into the program.

Lasee stated that creating choice in 4th and 5th grade would result in a third level class in 6th grade.

The board asked about sending out a more recent survey to parents. Should we be asking again before offering choice? It was reminded that regardless of what the language is, it is to the benefit of the child to learn another language. It was felt that regardless of the outcome at the elementary level, we would still have choice at the 6th and 9th grade levels.

Williams and Aubinger stated parents have contacted them and expressed their desire for choice. Aubinger stated that as a parent he would want information on both languages before making the decision. This information would include language benefits, district targets and goals, and student expectations throughout their schooling.

It was asked for an exploratory time in first grade with choice taking place in second grade. If this were to happen, the board asked to be able to review a more detailed plan.

Moved by VanLaanen seconded by Laukka to adopt the World Language Changes 1-5 grade level as presented with periodic updates brought back to the board. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

2. **2010 High School Extended Contracts:** Sheedy explained that the list of extended contracts being presented to the board has been shorten to the absolute minimum number of hours needed to get ready for next year. The extended hours are used for activities such as scheduling, transcripts, registration and work placement.

Moved by Aubinger seconded by VanLaanen to adopt the 2010 High School Extended Contracts as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

3. **CESA 7 Contract:** Schmidt explained that the district works with three CESAs (6, 7 and 8). The CESA 8 agreement was approved at a former meeting. Schmidt reviewed the items that are being renewed and not renewed for the upcoming school year. The overall costs in the contract have gone up. Staffing and the 4K program are the biggest costs. 4K costs are based on the

number of children in the program. The board asked questions and for further explanation on the different costs of individual expenses of the contract.

Moved by Aubinger seconded by Laukka to adopt the Cesa 7 Contract as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

4. **Explore/Plan:** Schmidt explained the ACT Explore/Plan packet parents and staff receive regarding the assessments available to students. Rhude explained the two tools and the value behind each. The assessment tools will show the students college readiness skills and the no child left behind standards will make sure all students are college ready. Rhude explained that students take a career inventory at the beginning of the assessment. This allows students to plan the courses they should take in high school that would prepare them for college. The assessment predicts your ACT score and informs the student what needs to be done to get it to the next level.

As a district the assessment gives rigor and relevance in our curriculum. We are able to analyze the reports and find the holes, strengths and weaknesses in our curriculum. The first part of the test would be taken in 8th grade; the second part would be taken in 9th or early 10th. Funding for the assessment comes from the curriculum budget. Sheedy and Hucek spoke about the potential grades the assessments would be taken.

Parents would need to be instructed how to read the results. The district is looking at different options for distributing assessment results to families/students. The results need to be communicated one-on-one, tied to the folder and used when scheduling the student's classes. It was asked about the percentage of students that take careers classes and if the results could be tied to this class. Only about 25% of students take careers. The district received data on how its students did on the assessment but it does not receive comparisons to other schools taking the assessment.

Moved by VanLaanen seconded by Laukka to adopt the Explore/Plan as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

5. **Parkview Remodeling Plans:** Lucius updated the board on the original TIF dollar amount approved by the board to be used to remodel the tech, art and family consumer areas at Parkview. He stated that the total changed and costs have come back at \$135,000. This project is scheduled to be complete this summer. The board is being asked to approve the final costs. The group discussed when and if the money would be negatively aided. They discussed using TIF dollars now for other project to avoid being negatively aided later. A list of possible projects will be developed keeping in mind that time and summer school will be an issue. It was suggested to safe guard a portion of the TIF money for the auditorium and pool projects as originally discussed.

Moved by VanLaanen seconded by Halron to adopt the Parkview Remodeling Plans as presented. Aye 5, Nay 0. Motion carried 5:0

N. Board & Superintendent Communications:

- Schmidt shared with the group the letter he received about Project Lead the Way and the district's progress. The letter recognized the district for the progress made.
- Schmidt shared the email he received from Good Year Service Manager Marc Hesper. Marc recognized Ashwaubenon students and advisors that participated at Road America. He commended them on their overall behavior while competing and the help they provided other team.
- Schmidt stated he received three letters regarding changes to the World Language program. The board received copies of the letters.

- Schmidt spoke about the Action Learning Teams and the work they presented on Monday. He recognized staff for the work and commitment in these projects and how this was brought into their classrooms.
- It was suggest that the district put together a team to look at what Neenah is doing with their GPA.
- It was suggested the district look at the various opportunities available for children to participate in during LZ Lambeau in May.

O. Future Board Meetings & Topics:

- The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is Monday, May 10, 2010

P. Adjournment:

Moved by Aubinger seconded by VanLaanen to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. Aye 5, Nay 0.
Motion carried 5:0

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Van Laanen, Clerk