

ASHWAUBENON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session
Held on Monday, December 22, 2008

A. CALL TO ORDER:

President Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the District Offices.

B. ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present: Aubinger, Crowley, Laukka, William, Van Laanen (Arrived at the meeting at 6:35 p.m.)
Board Members Excused: None
Others Present: Dave Schmidt, Keith Lucius, Wendy Catalano, Brian Nelsen, Linda Noel, Mark Sheedy, Kris Hucek, Michael Sheean

C. DECLARATION OF QUORUM:

Quorum present.

D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The pledge was recited.

E. ADOPT AGENDA:

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Laukka to adopt the agenda as written. Aye 4, nay 0. Motion carried 4:0.

F. CITIZENS AND/OR DELEGATIONS:

1. Public Forum: No one appeared.
2. Bright Lights: Brian Nelsen reported that Bright Lights will be a monthly Board presentation and this evening's program is from Pioneer Elementary School. Dave Blecha, Director of the Pioneer Musical, said this year's winter musical was called "Santa Goes Green" and a brief performance will be given by the students this evening.

G. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Crowley to approve the following consent agenda items:

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held on Monday, December 8, 2008,
2. Minutes of the executive session held on Monday, December 8, 2008,
3. Schedule of manual checks written 12/3/08 – 12/15/08,
4. Schedule of High School athletic checks written 12/01/08 – 12/14/08,
5. Schedule of checks written #72534 - #72962,
6. Schedule of checks written #72804 - #72832,
7. Accepted the resignation of Jennifer Mulloy from her Educational Associate I Special Education Position effective immediately, and
8. Approved the co-curricular contract recommended for approval.

Aye 4, nay 0. Motion carried 4:0.

Moved by Laukka, seconded by Williams to approve the schedule of check #72833 written to the Ashwaubenon Howard Suamico Press. Aye 3, nay 0, abstain 1 (Aubinger). Motion carried 3:0:1.

H. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ITEMS:

1. WASB Resolutions:

David Schmidt reported that at the last meeting Board Members were given a set of the materials for the WASB Delegate Assembly at the January convention. Keith Lucius prepared a review of these proposals and some information on how they would or would not affect the District.

Mark Williams said he would not support any resolutions that would have a negative impact on the District.

Jay Van Laanen arrived at the meeting.

Board Members reviewed the proposed resolutions. They will let Linda Noel know what resolutions they do or do not support and she will tabulate the results for Ginny Laukka.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- School Board election update: Two people have filed so far, deadline for submitting paperwork is Tuesday, January 6th by 5:00 p.m.
- Dave gave a brief update on the test that was conducted last week on the AlertNow system and the positive response from parents as a result of the test.

J. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Science and English Curriculum Changes at the High School:

Mark Sheedy continued the presentation of this issue that was first discussed at the last Board meeting. He reviewed the proposed changes to the English and Science programs and answered questions from the Board. Basically the changes are as follows:

- The English curriculum will now offer 13 courses and students will now be required to take American Literature as one of their four required English credits.
- In the Science area, there will now be 14 proposed courses with focus being on having more students enrolled in Chemistry.

Both proposals are meant to encourage students to move upward through the curriculum and be better prepared for the ACT and post-secondary education.

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Van Laanen to approve the curriculum changes/alignment recommended for the High School in the areas of Science and English and that these changes be included in the course description booklet being prepared and used for the 2009-2010 school year. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

2. Middle School Elective Course Changes – Choices Expanded:

Dave Schmidt read a brief statement to frame discussion of this issue this evening, especially in the area of World Language.

Kris Hucek and Michael Sheean reviewed some of the data that was requested at the last meeting when they first reviewed this issue with the Board. Kris reviewed the choices data – 25% of students are enrolled in RWTC, 65% in a World Language (Spanish = 40%, German = 25%), and with the remaining students (71 students) who are in either a study skills class, a reading class, an ELL class, or they have a modified schedule. She explained that in doing research on the RWTC class it appears that it began as a class for struggling and/or new students but over time it has evolved to students and parents having the choice to opt out of world language and RWTC if they felt it was an area their child would not succeed in. She said this has been in place before she started at Parkview.

Kris then reviewed the scheduling options with the Board that were changed since the last meeting, and the number of days of instruction using the current trimester system. She also reviewed the different classes and current classes that would be changed under the proposed structure.

Mark Williams had a question on having the same classes in 7th Grade and 8th Grade – are you forcing a student to take something else or would the coursework be modified to have different instruction at different grade levels?

Kris explained how they would address this issue – probably by scheduling options.

Mark asked how we would make sure that students really do look at and try different options so they get a feel for something they might not immediately choose but would still learn from it. Kris explained how the basic choices would address this issue, and also said they are looking to schedule a parent scheduling/course explanation evening to talk to parents and students about encouraging students to try different things in different years.

Mike Aubinger had a question about how many students are taking foreign language at Parkview right now (443 students in World Language, 166 students in RWTC, and 71 in neither program) and said he does not have a problem with this, the choice option, but has concerns about having a program start one way, get shifted, and then getting bent to change again from what was originally approved.

Bob Crowley said he had some concerns about world language at the last meeting and from what he is hearing tonight he feels that choice is the way to go for our students. He doesn't have any problems with what is being proposed, recognizing that this is a year one program and that changes will probably be made for future years as they come up for year 2, year 3, etc.

Jay Van Laanen said he likes the option of allowing students to change from either German to Spanish or Spanish to German in Grade 6.

Kris explained there will be some limiting factors that we will have to work around to meet the requests of students in as many situations as possible.

Moved by Laukka, seconded by Van Laanen to approve the middle school elective course proposal as presented. Aye 5, nay 0. Motion carried 5:0.

K. BOARD & SUPERINTENDENT COMMUNICATIONS:

Ginny Laukka thanked Grace Fleming and staff members who provided assistance to District families for Holiday giving and assistance.

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

- Five year budget plan

M. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Aubinger, seconded by Van Laanen to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Aye 5, nay 0.
Motion carried 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Van Laanen, Clerk