

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

December 7, 2010

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, December 7, 2010.

Vice President John Lehman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and ascertained that the meeting had been properly noticed on the District's web site and at each of the school buildings. Board members Christine Grunwald, Betsy Ellenberger (arrived at 7:40 p.m.), Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, John Lehman, Larry Lewis, Jeff Spoehr, Colleen Zuro-White, student representatives Nick Bezier and Alissa Rashid, and the following administrators were present: Mary Pfeiffer, District Administrator; Victoria Holt, Assistant District Administrator of Human Resources & Central Services; Mark Duerwaechter, Assistant District Administrator of Secondary Learning & Leadership; Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Elementary Learning & Leadership; Anne Lang, Director of Pupil Services; Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services; and Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements & Business Services Support. The absence of Scott Thompson was excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary.

OPEN FORUM

Cari Lendrum, 1106 E. Forest Avenue, Neenah, shared her views regarding a recent series of articles in the Post-Crescent related to school lunch programs and regarding a grammar worksheet she recently assisted a 6th grade student with.

Jim Frailing, W6022 Zinnia Drive, Appleton, social studies teacher at Neenah High School, shared his concerns with the administrative recommendation to reduce AP Psychology to one semester.

Heather Shebesta, W1924 Coenen Road, Kaukauna, NJSD instrumental music teacher, invited everyone present to several upcoming opportunities to hear students playing holiday tunes while ringing the bell for the Salvation Army and entertaining in the Theda Clark hospital cafeteria. She also invited the Board of Education members and the administration to Joint Relations on December 13, 2010.

Larry Burton, 486 Sunrise Bay Road, Neenah, president of the Neenah Baseball Athletics, Inc., shared his concerns with the revised facility rental fees policy for nonprofit organizations.

Ann Cattau, 1135 Manor Drive, Neenah, encouraged the Board to keep in mind class size and how it affects student learning as decisions are made and also encouraged Board members to seek the expertise of staff members and consider how decisions that are made affect the staff.

Tom Hanby, 706 E. Forest Avenue, Neenah, shared information regarding a scholarship program through KFC Corporation and shared his views regarding music programs in the schools.

Board minutes are available on the district's web site: www.neenah.k12.wi.us

Vice President Lehman declared the open forum closed at 7:42 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that there has been considerable conversation and will continue to be about the types of food offered in the lunch program. Christine Grunwald stated that the worksheets Ms. Lendrum was referring to sounded like they were outdated.

Dr. Pfeiffer shared that a staff input session was held recently with representatives from all but one school and that the discussion included how administration and staff can collectively support each other. Christine Grunwald stated that she has continued to advocate for smaller class sizes and will advocate for retention of as many teachers at the middle school level as possible.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Colleen Zuro-White to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2010 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Nick Bezier and Alissa Rashid...

- provided a sports update which included a first place finish for Ben Johnson at the State Special Olympics Bowling Tournament.
- shared an update regarding Neenah High School's debate and math teams.
- provided an update on various projects NHS Student Council and National Honor Society is currently involved in.
- reported that the Madrigal Dinner was a success and that the Madrigal Singers also performed at the Community Christmas Event in downtown Neenah recently.
- invited everyone to the NHS choir concert to be held on December 21 at 7:30 p.m.
- introduced NHS diving coach Tim Foulks who introduced Greysen Hertting and shared information regarding the girls' swimming and diving results at sectionals and at the state meet, in particular with regard to Sophia White and Greysen Hertting.

Board members expressed appreciation to Coach Foulks, Greysen Hertting, and the girls swimming and diving team.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pfeiffer ...

- suggested the Board consider dispensing with the regular Board meeting on January 4, 2011 and instead hold a workshop beginning at 6:00 p.m. to discuss class size and the Baker Tilly recommendations, and move the regular Board meeting to January 11, 2011 to allow for anyone attending the State Education Convention to drive down to Milwaukee on January 18 for the beginning of the convention. It was decided to hold the special workshop to discuss class size and the Baker Tilly recommendations on Tuesday, January 4, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. and to hold the regular Board meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
- suggested the Board have one meeting on July 19, 2011, for the month of July. It was decided to hold one Board of Education meeting in July on July 19, 2011.

- congratulated Alissa Rashid and the Madrigal Singers for their performances at the Madrigal Dinner and at NHS Snacks with the Superintendent.
- introduced Mark Duerwaechter who shared a brief summary of the NJSD School Safety Plan in light of the recent incidents in Marinette and Onalaska and answered questions of Board members.
- invited Board members to a Joint Relations meeting on Monday, December 13, 2010, at 4:15 p.m. at the Brigade building to discuss freshman seminar.
- shared that Cheryl Bandstra's ticket was drawn last August at the all-staff convocation and was the winner of Snacks with the Superintendent which took place on Monday afternoon in the Armstrong library at NHS.

CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Christine Grunwald introduced Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Elementary Learning & Leadership, who recognized Gary Lemieux and the music department staff for their work with the NJSD Music Department Review Report. Mr. Dreger presented the report and answered questions of Board members. Mark Duerwaechter, Assistant District Administrator of Secondary Learning & Leadership, presented the Course Additions, Deletions, and Revisions (CADR) Report for the 2011-2012 school year (Exhibit 12-A-10) and answered questions of Board members. Mr. Duerwaechter thanked the middle and high school staff members for their work on the CADR report.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Victoria Holt, Assistant District Administrator of Human Resources & Central Services, shared background information and presented the revised 2010-11 Facility Rental Fee schedule (Exhibit 12-B-10). Board members suggested adding a phrase regarding the administrators having the latitude to change the fee schedule to the final recommendation which will come before the Board at the December 21, 2010 meeting.

Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services, reviewed the changes to the Food Service Contract for 2010-11 (Exhibit 12-C-10) and answered questions of Board members.

Chair Lehman reminded Board members of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Spoehr mentioned that he saw Neenah High School's Touch of Class on WLUK Fox-11.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No new items.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Lehman announced that it would be necessary to adjourn the regular meeting and to subsequently reconvene in closed session. Motion was made by Peter Kaul to adjourn and that the Board reconvene in closed session according to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(f)(g) for the purpose of approval of minutes of the November 2, 2010 closed session meeting, discipline of

specific students, and potential litigation. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 9:58 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the November 2, 2010 regular closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and potential litigation.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Spoehr, seconded by Peter Kaul, and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Diane Haug
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk

Jeff Spoehr
Board Clerk