

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education

February 19, 2013

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, February 19, 2013.

President Scott Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 Betsy Ellenberger, Christine Grunwald, Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, Kirk Leaser, John Lehman, Steve Lenz, Jeff Spoehr, Scott Thompson, student representatives Jessica Werhand and Luke Nelessen, and the following administrators were present: Mary Pfeiffer, District Administrator; Victoria Holt, Assistant District Administrator of Human Resources & Central Services; Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Learning & Leadership; Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services; and Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements & Business Services Support. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk.

OPEN FORUM

Mike Cotter, 2662 Fairview Road, Neenah, asked what happens to the money the Hockey Booster Club collects and requested the District work with the club to refund their \$700.

Tom Hanby, 706 E. Forest Avenue, Neenah, shared his thoughts regarding the resolution to detach property from the Winneconne School District to the Neenah School District and the world language report.

Nancy Lewandowski, 113 Lime Kiln Drive, Neenah, stated that she is quite pleased with the world language report.

Dale Dorschner, 1347 Maple Street, Neenah, stated that he has concerns with a principal and his son.

Faith Edwards, 2662 Fairview Road, Neenah, requested the Board add their concerns regarding the Hockey Booster Club to the Board agenda in the near future.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 6:14 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the Hockey Booster Club issue is very simple, the District works very closely with the booster clubs and appreciates everything they do for the students, and made it clear that the money the booster clubs collect is not money from taxpayers.

Mr. Thompson stated that the Board will talk about the resolution to detach property from the Winneconne School District to the Neenah Joint School District when the item comes up on the agenda.

**Board minutes are available on the district's web site: [www.neenah.k12.wi.us](http://www.neenah.k12.wi.us)**

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that she would be happy to review any new information Mr. Dorschner has and get back to him.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2013 special meeting. The motion carried by a vote of eight yes (Ellenberger, Grunwald, Kaul, Kunz, Lehman, Lenz, Spoehr, Thompson) and one abstention (Leeser).

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2013 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Jessica Werhand and Luke Nelessen ...

- provided an update to recent sporting events.
- reported that approximately \$750 was raised in a Miracle Minute for Special Olympics at last week's Winterfest Assembly.
- stated that the NHS Chess Team took the Northeast Wisconsin Association title for the fourth consecutive year.
- informed everyone present of the choir concert taking place tonight at 7:00 p.m. in Pickard Auditorium.
- stated that there will be early dismissals tomorrow and next Thursday.
- reminded Board members and administrators of the all-school literacy day at Neenah High School next Thursday, February 28.

#### DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

District Administrator Pfeiffer...

- recognized the staff and students at Neenah High School for raising \$750 for Special Olympics in two minutes during their Miracle Minute at last week's assembly and stated that the total amount raised for Special Olympics was \$2,800. She recognized Ms. Doyle, Mr. Fleming, and DECA students for participating in the Polar Plunge.
- welcomed school bus drivers who were in attendance and asked Jeff Spoehr, Board Clerk, to read a proclamation from Governor Scott Walker recognizing February 11-15, 2013 as Wisconsin School Bus Driver Recognition Week.
- recognized Lori Uvaas, vocational educational assistant at Neenah High School, for receiving the WISCareers Top-User Award for her continued commitment and use of WISCareers.
- recognized Phil Johnson, Principal of Roosevelt/Alliance Charter Elementary Schools, and staff for receiving Wisconsin Title I-High Achieving and High-Progress School Awards.
- shared information about Governor Walker's proposed budget and how it may affect the Neenah Joint School District.
- introduced Brian Wunderlich, Principal of Horace Mann Middle School, who, along with staff from Horace Mann, presented information related to their school goals and progress.

### OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes a request for a resignation from a teacher (Mary Steel, business teacher at Neenah High School) (Exhibit 2-F-13), 2. Presentation of Accounts (Schedule of Vouchers No. 07 dated January 31, 2013 reflecting revenues of \$14,811,461.21 and expenditures of \$6,696,552.78) (Exhibit 2-G-13), and 3. Resolution to the Notice of Claim (Notice of Claim from Mr. Bruce Moriarty and Mr. Robert Townsend filed on their behalf as well other representatives of Neenah faculty related to the change in Other Post Employment Benefits for faculty as approved by the Board of Education in October 2012) (Exhibit 2-H-13). The motion was seconded by Scott Thompson and carried by unanimous vote.

Dr. Pfeiffer provided information regarding the Petition to Alter School District Boundaries (Exhibit 2-I-13) and answered questions of Board members.

Motion was made by John Lehman to accept the Petition to Alter School District Boundaries from the Winneconne School District to the Neenah Joint School District for the 1.797 acre parcel. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion was made by John Lehman to accept the Petition to Alter School District Boundaries from the Winneconne School District to the Neenah Joint School District for the 19.254 acre parcel. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

### WORLD LANGUAGE REVIEW

Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Learning and Leadership, presented the World Language proposal (Exhibit 2-J-13) and answered questions of Board members. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding which classes students give up in 6<sup>th</sup> grade in order to take a foreign language, what percentage of students use their knowledge of a foreign language when they are in the work world, whether to offer one or two foreign language choices in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, whether to eliminate French and add a more practical world language, the possibility of adding a world language credit to NHS graduation requirements, whether to offer a nontraditional world language such as Mandarin Chinese, and how students use their knowledge of foreign languages. Board members directed the administrators to focus on Spanish in 6<sup>th</sup> grade for next year and suggested the foreign language element be added to the staffing for next year. In the end, the Board agreed to offering Spanish to 6<sup>th</sup> grade students for one semester, every other day.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Lehman stated that he went to the Manufacturing and Engineering open house at Neenah High School last week and that the event was very well attended.

Jeff Spoehr mentioned the recent \$7,500 VEX Robotics grant from Bemis Company.

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FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Christopher Kunz questioned whether a discussion regarding booster clubs should be added as a future agenda item. Dr. Pfeiffer indicated that this was more of a hockey issue and a recommendation would be brought forward at a later date concerning fees.

ADJOURNMENT

President Thompson announced that it would be necessary to adjourn the regular meeting and to subsequently reconvene in closed session. Motion was made by Jeff Spoehr to adjourn and that the Board reconvene in closed session according to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c)(f) for the purpose of approval of minutes of the February 5, 2013 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and discussion of specific personnel. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 8:35 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the February 5, 2013 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and discussion of specific personnel.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn closed session was made by Jeff Spoehr, seconded by Peter Kaul, and carried by unanimous vote. The closed session adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Diane Haug  
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk

Jeff Spoehr  
Board Clerk