

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education

April 9, 2013

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, April 9, 2013.

President Scott Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:02 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, 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; Timothy Gantz, Director of Pupil Services; Andrew Thorson, Director of Facilities/Engineer; Diane Doersch, Director of Instructional Technology; 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

Andy Teska, 3159 Sundew Way, Neenah, asked whether a school bus could make an exception and go down a cul-de-sac for a special needs student. President Thompson stated that this would be looked into.

Nancy Lewandowski, 113 Lime Kiln Drive, Neenah, thanked Christine Grunwald for her service on the Board of Education and congratulated Jean Maurice Boyer for his election to the Board, suggested the grievance policy be reviewed for consistency in wording and noted that the employee has five days to respond to a grievance while the District is given ten days to respond, and shared that she is very impressed with school security in Neenah.

Robert Malinoski, 741 Fieldcrest Drive, Neenah, shared his concerns with the proposed elimination of the keyboarding position at the elementary schools and his observations with the changes in staffing over the past several years.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 6:08 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

President Thompson stated that the grievance policy recommendation and the keyboarding position will be discussed during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Betsy Ellenberger and seconded by Jeff Spoehr to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2013 regular meeting. The motion carried by a vote of seven yes (Ellenberger, Kaul, Kunz, Leaser, Lehman, Spoehr, Thompson) and one abstention (Grunwald).

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

### STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Jessica Werhand and Luke Nelessen ...

- provided an update to recent sporting events.
- stated Rocket City Jazz Fest is being held tonight in the Shattuck Auditorium.
- congratulated Special Olympians Ben Johnson for placing first and Trey Swinford for placing sixth in basketball.
- shared that Neenah High School is holding a blood drive tomorrow.
- reported that a dance marathon will be held this Saturday at Players Choice to benefit the Children's Miracle Network.
- invited everyone present to The Government Inspector, the NHS spring comedy to be held April 18-20 in Pickard Auditorium.

### DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

President Thompson presented a gift to Christine Grunwald and Board members thanked her for her nine years of service to the Board of Education. Mrs. Grunwald shared some thoughts regarding her years of teaching and her time on the Board of Education. Dr. Pfeiffer shared her appreciation to Mrs. Grunwald for her service to the Neenah Joint School District.

District Administrator Pfeiffer...

- welcomed back everyone in attendance from spring break.
- shared that the NHS Chess Club won first place at state and will be recognized at a future Board meeting.
- recognized Mary Steel, NHS Business Education teacher, who won a Red Apple Award given to outstanding marketing educators in the state of Wisconsin in March at a career development conference in Lake Geneva.
- shared that several Neenah High School musicians have been selected to participate in the high school state honors music project of the Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA) and will be performing in the summer and in October for the State Music Teacher's Convention.
- stated that she had the honor of attending a presentation at Shattuck Middle School today in which the Neenah-Menasha Kiwanis Club presented an iPad to one of our students with autism as a result of teacher Teri Bowman's application.
- introduced Michaela Neitzel, Principal of Spring Road Elementary School, who, along with staff from Spring Road School, presented information related to their school goals and progress.

### OFFICIAL ACTION

President Thompson stated that he would pull Item 3, Faculty Negotiations, from the Consent Agenda due to the fact that more information was received today. Motion was made by Christopher Kunz to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes a request for retirements including requests for Other Post Employment Benefits from support staff members (William Koehnke, Robert Nelson, and Thomas Weyenberg, Operations/Maintenance at Neenah High School, and Peggy Olson, Educational Assistant at Clayton Elementary), a request for resignations from a support staff member (Doreen Johnson, Special Education Educational Assistant at Horace Mann), a

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request for resignations from faculty (Lisa Harder, Gifted/Talented (Magnet) teacher at Lakeview Elementary), and a request for resignations from administrators (Colleen Doyle, Principal at Neenah High School, and Le Ann Metzger, Principal at Coolidge Elementary) (Exhibit 4-A-13) and 2. Policy Manual Clarification (Exhibit 4-B-13). The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote. Dr. Pfeiffer commended Ms. Doyle for her service to the Neenah Joint School District.

Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Learning and Leadership, presented some minor changes to the Middle School Charter Proposal (Exhibit 4-C-13). Board members expressed concern regarding the demographics of the proposed charter middle school and stated that they would like to see needs based, socio-economic, and special education students be allowed to attend the charter school. President Thompson requested additional information regarding any additional costs to the District beyond the five-year plan. Motion was made by Scott Thompson to approve the recommendation for the middle school planning grant application. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote.

Victoria Holt, Assistant District Administrator of Human Resources and Central Services, presented the updated information regarding the 2013-2014 staffing proposal (Exhibit 4-D-13). Discussion ensued regarding a concern for placing too much on our elementary teachers with the additional keyboarding expectation and how the additional administrative position will help with the Effectiveness Project. Motion was made by Christopher Kunz to approve the 2013-2014 staffing recommendation with federal funds being used for the Special Education Program Support position and Fund 80 for the Communications Manager position. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote.

#### FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Andrew Thorson, Director of Facilities/Engineer, introduced members of the District Emergency Operations (DEOP) team and presented the District Emergency Operations Plan, Emergency Folder, and executive summary (Exhibit 4-E-13). Discussion ensued regarding potential hazards around the District, the need for expending more resources in order to keep our students in a safe environment, and the need to be proactive rather than reactive. President Thompson requested that Mr. Thorson bring forward a plan for physical improvements to the District as a future agenda item. The DEOP will be brought back to the April 23, 2013 Board of Education meeting for approval.

The next meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee is to be determined.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Spoehr, Board Clerk, reviewed the spring election results as verified by the Board of Canvassers on April 9, 2013 (Exhibit 4-F-13).

Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements and Business Services Support, reminded Peter Kaul and Christine Grunwald of the meeting of the scholarship committee on Thursday and stated that with Mrs. Grunwald's resignation from the Board, there will be an opening for a Board member on the scholarship committee.

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FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No new items.

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 Peter Kaul to adjourn and that the Board reconvene in closed session according to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(c)(f)(g) for the purpose of approval of minutes of the March 19, 2013 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, discussion of specific personnel, discussion of preliminary notice of nonrenewals, and potential litigation. The motion was seconded by Jeff Spoehr and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 8:05 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the March 19, 2013 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, discussion of specific personnel, discussion of preliminary notice of nonrenewals, and potential litigation.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn closed session was made by Peter Kaul, seconded by Betsy Ellenberger, and carried by unanimous vote. The closed session adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Diane Haug  
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk

Jeff Spoehr  
Board Clerk