

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

May 17, 2011

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, May 17, 2011.

President Scott Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and ascertained that proper notice had been given to the local newspapers and that the meeting had been properly noticed at each of the school buildings. Board members Betsy Ellenberger, Christine Grunwald, Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, Kirk Leeser, John Lehman, Larry Lewis, Jeff Spoehr, Scott Thompson, student representatives Noah White and Nick Bezier, 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 Elementary Learning & Leadership; Mark Duerwaechter, Assistant District Administrator of Secondary Learning & Leadership; Anne Lang, Director of Pupil Services; 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.

President Thompson stated that due to a student needing to get to Neenah High School to participate in an orchestra concert, recognition of art students would take place before the open forum. Dr. Pfeiffer introduced Henry Van Damme, NHS art teacher, who introduced Angela Nelson, Heather Konietzki, Jeshanah Zolkowski, and Gavan Ertl, NHS art students who were recently awarded and honored at various art exhibits.

OPEN FORUM

Debbie Dreher, 56 Regal Terrace, Appleton, Horace Mann Middle School administrative assistant, expressed her concerns with the proposed addition of an associate principal at Neenah High School for the 2011-12 school year.

Peter Oldenburg, 2161 Shadow Bend Court, Neenah, requested the Board consider removing peanuts and peanut butter from the NJSD menu and stated that the Appleton, Kimberly, and Menasha School Districts have already taken this step due to students with peanut allergies.

Gary Kresal, 1943 Shady Springs Drive, Neenah, complimented the Neenah High School show choirs, shared concerns regarding the gifted and talented program and differentiation, and requested the Board keep in mind the needs of all students when making decisions.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 7:14 p.m.

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

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Dr. Pfeiffer and Mr. Duerwaechter explained the need for an additional associate principal during the 2011-12 school year due to the transition from the trimester to the semester.

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the NJSD is aware of the peanut allergy issues and is in the process of reviewing the use of peanuts and peanut butter on the menu.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2011 special meeting. The motion carried by a vote of eight yes (Ellenberger, Grunwald, Kaul, Kunz, Lehman, Lewis, Spoehr, Thompson) and one abstention (Leeser).

Motion was made by Betsy Ellenberger and seconded by Jeff Spoehr to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2011 regular meeting. The motion carried by a vote of eight yes (Ellenberger, Grunwald, Kaul, Kunz, Lehman, Lewis, Spoehr, Thompson) and one abstention (Leeser).

Motion was made by Christine Grunwald and seconded by Betsy Ellenberger to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2011 special meeting. The motion carried by a vote of seven yes (Ellenberger, Grunwald, Kaul, Kunz, Lehman, Spoehr, Thompson) and two abstentions (Leeser, Lewis).

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Noah White and Nick Bezier...

- shared that a choir concert is taking place tonight at NHS, an orchestra concert is scheduled for Thursday, May 19, and the gold tassel jazz concert will take place on Wednesday, May 25.
- reported that the seniors would be taking their annual trip to Great America on Friday, May 27.
- stated that Monday, May 30, is Memorial Day with no school and that the NHS marching band will be marching in the Memorial Day parade.
- reported that prom was held on Saturday, May 14, and was a huge success.
- reported that the NHS talent show was also a success.
- announced the student council board elections, provided an update to recent student council events, and shared that Alissa Rashid will be the Region 3 WASC president.

Noah White and Nick Bezier thanked Board members for the opportunity to serve as student representatives on the Board of Education.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pfeiffer...

- recognized Alissa Rashid for being elected president of Region 3 WASC.
- shared a note to Lakeview staff from UW-Oshkosh Field of Experience Office awarding Lakeview School with the "Cooperating School Award" given in recognition of their cooperative spirit with the next generation of teaching professionals.

President Thompson introduced and welcomed Kirk Leaser, who was appointed to fill a one-year vacancy on the Board of Education due to Dan Westphal rescinding his election to the Board in April.

President Thompson recognized Colleen Zuro-White for her service on the Board of Education and her passion for the Neenah Joint School District and presented her with a certificate from the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and a gift from the Board members.

Dr. Pfeiffer recognized Noah White and Nick Bezier for their service on the Board of Education, asked them to share their future plans, and presented each of them with a card.

Dr. Pfeiffer introduced Wilson School Principal Kerry Rutishauser who introduced Wilson staff members and gave a presentation regarding Wilson School's goals and progress this school year (Exhibit 5-E-11).

OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Peter Kaul to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes requests for resignations from Patricia Donaldson, English teacher at Shattuck Middle School, and Barbara Lobermeier, AIMS teacher at Shattuck Middle School, and a recommendation to add a one-year administrative position at Neenah High School for the 2011-12 school year (Exhibit 5-F-11); 2. Presentation of Accounts (Schedule of Vouchers No. 10 dated April 30, 2011 reflecting revenues of \$784,215.29 and expenditures of \$5,465,914.66) (Exhibit 5-G-11); and 3. Investment Report (Exhibit 5-H-11). The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by a vote of eight yes (Ellenberger, Grunwald, Kaul, Kunz, Lewis, Spoehr, Thompson) and one abstention (Leaser).

CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Christine Grunwald welcomed Kirk Leaser to the Curriculum and Program Development Committee and stated that the next scheduled meeting of the committee would be held on Tuesday, June 28, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chair John Lehman stated that the Finance and Personnel Committee met yesterday, May 16, 2011 and that the next scheduled meeting of the committee would be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Spoehr shared that he ran into Mr. Gilman who teaches the Runner's High course and that Mr. Gilman happened to have an open slot for the half marathon which he participated in and at which he saw an NHS graduate who had been in Runner's High and who was also participating in the half marathon.

Peter Kaul shared that he attended the show choir finale and commended the talented NHS students involved.

Board members thanked Noah White and Nick Bezier for their service on the Board of Education.

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 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 May 3, 2011 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and discussion of legislative issues related to bargaining. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 8:24 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the May 3, 2011 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and discussion of legislative issues related to bargaining.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn closed session was made by Jeff Spoehr, seconded by Christine Grunwald, and carried by unanimous vote. The closed session adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Diane Haug
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk

Jeff Spoehr
Board Clerk