

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education

May 18, 2010

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, May 18, 2010.

President Scott Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, Larry Lewis, Jeff Spoehr, and Scott Thompson, and the following administrators were present: Mary Pfeiffer, Superintendent; Victoria Holt, Director of Secondary Education and Human Resources; Steve Dreger, Director of Curriculum and Instructional Technology; and Anne Lang, Director of Pupil Services. The absences of John Lehman and Colleen Zuro-White and student representatives Jon Lang and Noah White were excused. Paul Hauffe, Supervisor of Accounting and Transportation, was also present. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary.

OPEN FORUM

Fran Armstrong, 201 Stevens Street, Neenah, expressed her concerns regarding the Advanced U.S. History course at Neenah High School and requested the Board look into the concerns and respond with an action plan.

Nick Bezier, 1530 Whitetail Drive, Neenah, 11<sup>th</sup> grade student at Neenah High School, questioned whether upgrading all three lecture pits at Neenah High School is a wise decision at this time and shared his views of the Advanced U.S. History course at Neenah High School.

Tom Hanby, 706 E. Forest Avenue, Neenah, shared his views regarding technology in the Neenah Joint School District.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 7:19 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Superintendent Pfeiffer stated that she and Mr. Dreger would review the Advanced U.S. History textbook and that she would meet with Neenah High School staff and administration regarding Mrs. Armstrong's concerns with extensive homework and would then follow up with Mrs. Armstrong.

Dr. Pfeiffer explained that part of the reason the District is looking into upgrading all three of the lecture pits at Neenah High School is due to restricted ARRA funding.

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that any internet-based programs used in the NJSD should be accessible at the Neenah Public Library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Betsy Ellenberger and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2010 special meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

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

Motion was made by Peter Kaul and seconded by Christine Grunwald to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2010 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Due to the absence of our student representatives, there was no report.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pfeiffer...

- invited everyone present to the Employee of the Year reception to be held tomorrow, Wednesday, May 19, 2010 from 3:45 to 5:00 p.m. in the Shattuck cafeteria.
- introduced Ryan Walter, Neenah High School math teacher, who shared information about a project in which his Advanced Geometry students recently participated and introduced NHS freshman Emilie Braun whose design won in the Sustainable Neenah Committee logo project.
- introduced Valerie Cleveland, NJSD gifted and talented teacher, who introduced students Alex Thounsavath, Clara Lambrecht, Kirk Lancaster, Zachary Mau, Kyle Armstrong, and Nick Bezier, who presented a draft of a Sustainability Policy (Exhibit 5-D-10) for the Board's consideration. Board members thanked Ms. Cleveland and the students for the presentation and the work they have done on the policy.

#### OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Peter Kaul to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Presentation of Accounts (Schedule of Vouchers No. 10 dated April 30, 2010 reflecting revenues of \$768,069.77 and expenditures of \$5,824,692.24 Exhibit 5-E-10), 2. Investment Report (Exhibit 5-F-10), and 3. Employment of Personnel (Exhibit 5-G-10) which includes requests for resignations from Kelly Zdroik, Family and Consumer Education teacher at Neenah High School, and Molly Robinson, middle school Orchestra teacher. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote.

Superintendent Pfeiffer reviewed the recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee to enhance the NHS soccer complex by adding restroom facilities (Exhibit 5-H-10). Discussion ensued regarding whether the addition of the restrooms would cost the District any additional money. President Thompson requested that future proposals outline any additional costs to the District. Motion was made by Jeff Spoehr to approve the recommendation to enhance the NHS soccer complex by adding restroom facilities. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote.

Paul Hauffe reviewed the recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee to add a vendor to the authorized list of Fund 73 investment options (Exhibit 5-I-10). Motion was made by Scott Thompson to approve the recommendation to add the Wisconsin OPEB Trust as an additional vendor for the District's Fund 73 deposits. The motion was seconded by Larry Lewis and carried by unanimous vote.

Dr. Pfeiffer reviewed a recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee to authorize Baker Tilly to prepare a comprehensive review of the Neenah Joint School District (Exhibit 5-J-10). President Thompson confirmed that the District would recover any upfront costs and that this review will work in conjunction with the budget process. Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of contracting with Baker Tilly. Motion was made by Scott Thompson to approve the recommendation to authorize Baker Tilly to prepare a comprehensive review of the Neenah Joint School District. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote.

Dr. Pfeiffer reviewed the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee to remodel rooms 128, 148, and 424 at Neenah High School (Exhibit 5-K-10). Motion was made by Larry Lewis to approve the recommendation to remodel rooms 128, 148, and 424 at Neenah High School. The motion was seconded by Christine Grunwald and carried by unanimous vote.

#### FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Betsy Ellenberger to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2010 Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Christopher Kunz and carried by a committee vote of two yes (Ellenberger, Kunz) and one abstention (Kaul).

Vice Chair Peter Kaul stated that the next meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

#### CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Christine Grunwald reminded Board members of the Curriculum and Program Development Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. Steve Dreger shared that agenda items for this meeting will include the high school schedule and proposed credit reduction, a review of middle school restructuring, and the 2010-11 calendar update.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Thompson stated that on June 1, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. the Board will meet in closed session prior to the regular Board meeting to receive information from Dr. Pfeiffer related to her performance review and that the Board alone will meet in closed session after the open meeting to discuss the Superintendent's performance review and a recommendation regarding an administrative/exempt pool of dollars for next year. President Thompson stated that these items would be added to the June 15, 2010 open session Board meeting. President Thompson encouraged any Board members who hadn't filled out the Superintendent survey to do so as soon as possible.

#### 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 4, 2010 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and NESPA negotiations. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 8:49 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the May 4, 2010 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and NESPA negotiations.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn was made by Peter Kaul, seconded by Betsy Ellenberger, and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Diane Haug, Board Secretary