

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

May 4, 2010

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, May 4, 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, John Lehman, Larry Lewis, Jeff Spoehr, Scott Thompson, Colleen Zuro-White, student representatives Jon Lang and Noah White, 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; Anne Lang, Director of Pupil Services; and Phil Johnson, Director of Elementary Education. Paul Hauffe, Supervisor of Accounting and Transportation, was also present. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary.

OPEN FORUM

As no one present wished to address the Board, President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 7:02 p.m.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Thompson announced that it would be necessary to elect Board of Education officers for the ensuing year per Board Policy 220 as follows: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Clerk, and Secretary/Deputy Clerk. President Thompson stated that the election of each officer, to be conducted in a public meeting, may be by secret ballot or by roll call vote. It was decided the elections would be held by secret ballot. President Thompson appointed Vicky Holt as vote teller and Paul Hauffe as vote certifier.

President Thompson announced that nominations were open for the office of President. Mrs. Holt announced the following nomination for President: Scott Thompson. Motion was made by John Lehman to close the nomination and unanimously approve Scott Thompson for the office of President. The motion was seconded by Larry Lewis and carried by unanimous vote of acclamation.

President Thompson announced that nominations were open for the office of Vice President. Mrs. Holt announced the following nomination for Vice President: John Lehman. Motion was made by Peter Kaul to close the nomination and unanimously approve John Lehman for the office of Vice President. The motion was seconded by Scott Thompson and carried by unanimous vote of acclamation.

President Thompson announced that nominations were open for the office of Clerk. Mrs. Holt announced the following nominations for Clerk: Christine Grunwald and Jeff Spoehr. Christine Grunwald requested that her name be removed from nomination. Motion was made by John

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Lehman to close the nomination and unanimously approve Jeff Spoehr for the office of Clerk. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote of acclamation.

President Thompson announced that nominations were open for the office of Treasurer. Mrs. Holt announced the following nominations for Treasurer: Betsy Ellenberger, Peter Kaul, and Christopher Kunz. The vote by secret ballot indicated the following vote for the office of Treasurer (Ellenberger - 1, Kaul - 4, and Kunz - 4). A tie-breaking vote was taken and the vote by secret ballot indicated a majority vote for Peter Kaul as Treasurer (Kaul - 5, Kunz - 4).

President Thompson announced that nominations were open for the office of Secretary/Deputy Clerk. Motion was made by Larry Lewis that Diane Haug, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, be declared Secretary/Deputy Clerk by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote.

President Thompson asked Board members if they would continue to serve on their current committees and in their current positions and it was decided that all Board members would continue to serve in their current capacities at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2010 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Jon Lang and Noah White...

- stated that the poppy sale organized by Andrew Mitchell through the National Honor Society at NHS went very well.

At 7:15 p.m. sirens were sounding and everyone present made their way down to the tornado shelter where we waited until 7:45 p.m. when the tornado watch was over and everyone went back upstairs to the Board room.

Jon Lang and Noah White continued with their report...

- shared that there would be a school issue forum next week sponsored by Student Council and run by Nick Bezier and Ms. Doyle.
- stated that forms for students interested in applying to represent Student Council on the Board of Education are due soon and that Dr. Pfeiffer would be making a decision by the end of the month and the students will be introduced at the June 1 meeting which will be Jon Lang's last meeting.
- announced that AP testing will be taking place this week and next week at NHS.
- reported on successful prom and post-prom events.
- provided an update regarding the lacrosse team at NHS.
- invited everyone present to the NHS talent show on May 14 at 7:00 p.m.
- stated that the Diversity Fair was held last Friday and that Mr. Duerwaechter was honored for his years of leadership at Neenah High School.

- invited everyone present to the Neenah High School band concert on Wednesday, May 12.
- introduced Mrs. Beth Plankey who shared information about the Forensics program and introduced students involved in the program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pfeiffer...

- acknowledged National Teacher Appreciation Week.
- stated that the Neenah Education Association banquet took place last Friday and was attended by Board members Christine Grunwald and Colleen Zuro-White and share that Margaret Burton was recognized as a Friend of Education.
- shared that she attended the Senior Music banquet on Sunday evening and that Jon Lang was honored at the banquet.
- stated that she will not have failure rates and graduation rates as a part of her Superintendent evaluation on June 1 but that Board will move forward with her evaluation at that time.
- stated that Joint Relations will be held on Monday, May 10, and that information will be shared about the technology plan at the meeting.

OFFICIAL ACTION

President Thompson asked if there were any items that Board members wanted to remove from the Consent Agenda to discuss separately. John Lehman requested the Fees item be removed from the Consent Agenda. Motion was made by Christine Grunwald to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. School Property Tax Report (Exhibit 5-A-10), and 2. Employment of Personnel (Exhibit 5-B-10), which includes a request from Alisa Jeske and Emily Wertanen for job sharing for the 2010-11 school year and a request for employment of Jim Strick as Activities Director effective July 1, 2010. The motion was seconded by Christopher Kunz and carried by unanimous vote. Superintendent Pfeiffer clarified that both of the teachers who will be job sharing will not receive benefits.

Mr. Lehman reviewed the request for personal appliance rental fees for 2010-11, facility rental fees for 2010-11, and Neenah High School parking lot fees for 2010-12 (Exhibit 5-C-10). Discussion ensued regarding the use of Pickard Auditorium and the fact that in-District use has greatly increased and out-of-District use has decreased partly due to other venues being built in the Fox Valley over the past several decades. Larry Lewis provided a brief history of Pickard Auditorium and the initial intent by the Shattuck and Pickard families for community use and cautioned the Board to keep the fees affordable in the future. Motion was made by Scott Thompson to approve the personal appliance rental fees for 2010-11, the facility rental fees for 2010-11, and the Neenah High School parking lot fees for 2010-12. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2010 Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous committee vote.

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Chair John Lehman reminded Board members of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Jeff Spoehr to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2010 Curriculum and Program Development Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Colleen Zuro-White and carried by unanimous committee vote.

Chair Grunwald stated that the committee calendar for the 2010-11 school year is being developed and asked Board members to let her or Mr. Dreger know of any additional items they would like to add. Chair Grunwald reminded Board members of the Curriculum and Program Development Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, at 4:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Thompson stated that the Employee of the Year reception would be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 from 3:45 to 5:00 p.m. in the Shattuck cafeteria and encouraged Board members to attend.

President Thompson announced that a tentative date has been set for a Board retreat on Thursday, July 15, 2010 beginning at 12:00 p.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

President Thompson shared that items for discussion at the Board retreat would include class sizes, course types (core vs. electives), budget prep discussion, committee work, and Board assessment. Any additional ideas should be forwarded to Superintendent Pfeiffer.

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 April 20, 2010 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, NESPA negotiations, and NEA personnel – layoffs, transfers, assignments for 2010-11. The motion was seconded by Colleen Zuro-White and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 8:24 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the April 20, 2010 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, NESPA negotiations, and NEA personnel – layoffs, transfers, assignments for 2010-11.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn was made by Peter Kaul, seconded by Jeff Spoehr, and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Diane Haug, Board Secretary

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