

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

July 20, 2010

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, July 20, 2010.

President Scott Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 Christine Grunwald, Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, John Lehman, Larry Lewis, Jeff Spoehr, Scott Thompson, and the following administrators were present: Mary Pfeiffer, District Administrator; Victoria Holt, Assistant District Administrator of Human Resources & Central Services; Mark Duerwaechter, Assistant District Administrator of Secondary Learning & Leadership; Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Elementary Learning & Leadership; Anne Lang, Director of Pupil Services; Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services; and Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements & Business Services Support. The absences of Betsy Ellenberger and Colleen Zuro-White were excused. Susan Freundl was present as Recording Secretary.

OPEN FORUM

Jae Cho, 2450 Woodland Terrace, Neenah, spoke in support of Sue Peterson and the gifted and talented program.

Board President Thompson explained that the Board will not hear any further comments regarding Sue Peterson/transfer to elementary from gifted/talented on the advice of Council.

Anna Mae Prem, 828 Higgins Avenue, Neenah, spoke in reference to the article in the Post-Crescent regarding the upcoming NESPA arbitration and spoke in support of NESPA personnel and of the value they are to the District. She also stated that the District should be applauded for their initiative for technology and the advantage of the cutting edge technology for our students.

Tom Hanby, 706 E. Forest Avenue, Neenah, requested an introduction to the reorganized administrators and their position titles.

Nicholas Bezier, 1530 Whitetail Drive, Neenah, 12th grade student at NHS, informed the Board that the Green Team will be touring a sustainability project at St. Elizabeth Hospital on July 27, 2010 and asked about the progress of the Board policy dealing with green initiatives.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 7:11 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Superintendent Pfeiffer stated that the Board has been completing work on revising the District's Board policies and is hopeful that the green initiatives will be included sometime during this school year.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2010 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pfeiffer ...

- explained that effective July 1, 2010 there is restructuring of administrators, new titles, and new administrators and also introduced administrators.
- updated the Board on the technology initiative. Training sessions are being offered to the teachers and all but 90 teachers have signed up for training.
- informed the Board that the New Teacher Orientation/Luncheon will be on August 19, 2010; location to be determined.
- spoke of the recent Board/Administrator Retreat and thanked Board members and administrators for their hard work.

OFFICIAL ACTION

Scott Thompson requested to remove the Employment of Personnel item of a request for a resignation and retirement benefits from a teacher from the Consent Agenda to discuss separately. Motion was made by Christine Grunwald to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes a recommendation for extracurricular contracts, a request for a reduction of a teacher's contract (Shelley Dorner, NHS science teacher, from full-time 1.0 to 0.4 FTE), a request for employment of new personnel (Brian Borchardt, NEAT teacher at NHS; Jilaine Jarvis, Suzuki/Orchestra at elementary/HM; Ryan Micale, biology teacher at NHS; Noelle Peterson, EBD teacher at Spring Road; and Meredith Pucci, kindergarten teacher at Alliance), and a request for a resignation from a teacher (Abby Rubens, Tullar kindergarten teacher) (Exhibit 7-A-10); 2. Investment Report (Exhibit 7-B-10); and 3. Request for a Waiver of Tuition (Exhibit 7-C-10). The motion was seconded by Christopher Kunz and carried by unanimous vote.

The request for resignation and retirement benefits from a teacher (Marilyn Pheil, middle schools reading teacher) was discussed. Mrs. Holt outlined the NEA contract language and noted that the request was made past the deadline outlined in the Agreement. Board members inquired whether it would be precedent setting if this request were approved, asked about the financial impact to the district, and stated that there is very clear contract language regarding resignation/retirement requests. Scott Thompson made a motion to deny the request by Marilyn Pheil for resignation and retirement benefits. The motion was seconded by John Lehman and carried by unanimous vote.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chair John Lehman reminded Board members of the next Finance and Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Christine Grunwald stated that the next Curriculum and Program Development Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 27, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No report.

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) for the purpose of approval of minutes of the June 15, 2010 closed session meeting and NESPA negotiations update. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 7:35 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the June 15, 2010 regular closed session meeting and NESPA negotiations update.

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 7:51 p.m.

Susan Freundl, Recording Secretary