

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

September 3, 2013

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, September 3, 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 Jean Maurice Boyer, Betsy Ellenberger, Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, John Lehman, Michelle Swardenski, Scott Thompson, student representatives Luke Nelessen and Brianda Hickey, 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; Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services; Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements & Business Services Support; Timothy Gantz, Director of Pupil Services; and Jim Strick, Communications Manager. The absences of Kirk Leeser and Jeff Spoehr were excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk.

OPEN FORUM

Tom Hanby, 706 E. Forest Avenue, Neenah, commented on a clip he saw recently on CNN stating that thousands of school districts nation-wide are abandoning the national hot lunch program due to the fact that students are turning their noses up at the food and making the program ineffective.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 6:04 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

President Thompson stated that the Board had a discussion in the previous NEOLA meeting at which the Wellness Policy was discussed. President Thompson stated that a handful of districts in the state have done that, also, and this is something the Board will be watching. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the hot lunch program is a benefit to our low socio-economic status students and some of these students wouldn't be able to bring meals if there were no hot lunch program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2013 regular meeting. Jean Maurice Boyer questioned whether the issue of the Neenah Park and Recreation liaison was resolved. President Thompson shared that since Christopher Kunz attends these meetings as a Neenah alderperson, it was agreed that he would be the NJSD Board of Education liaison rather than Jeff Spoehr. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

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

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Luke Nelessen and Brianda Hickey...

- stated that it is good to be back and shared that there was a lot of excitement at Neenah High School today.
- shared that there was an extracurricular fair for freshmen students today.
- provided an update to recent sporting events.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

District Administrator Pfeiffer...

- welcomed new junior student representative Brianda Hickey to the Board and congratulated Luke Nelessen on his senior status.
- thanked the Board members who were able to attend the all-staff convocation last Tuesday and stated that the students who helped with the convocation, Jennifer and Jessica Parker and Zoe Travis, did a remarkable job.
- shared that the staff did an exceptional job in getting ready for the beginning of the school year.
- complimented Mrs. Holt, her staff, and the administrative team for their work in the hiring of new staff.

OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Jean Maurice Boyer and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes a request for employment of faculty (Patricia Donaldson, Literacy at Horace Mann; Amie Fischer, Kindergarten at Taft; Jason Barber, Wellness (0.4 FTE) at Lakeview; Stephanie Breitzman, Biology at Neenah High; Kristin Churchman, Spanish at Neenah High; Gregg Goers, English at Neenah High; and Sarah Pagel, School Counselor (0.5 FTE) at Neenah High); a request for employment of support staff (Linda Buckli, Special Education – Educational Assistant at Clayton; and Lynne Lambrecht, Undifferentiated – Educational Assistant (0.5 FTE) at Roosevelt); a request for employment of an administrator/Activities Director (Nathan Werner, Activities Director/Associate Principal at Neenah High); a request for a leave of absence from a faculty member (Jennifer Cormier, English at Neenah High from November 25, 2013 – January 16, 2014); a request for a resignation of faculty (Eileen Hare, Wellness Education, Neenah High); and a request for an additional 1.0 FTE for kindergarten (Exhibit 9-A-13). John Lehman questioned whether the additional 1.0 FTE for kindergarten was within budget allocations. Dr. Pfeiffer clarified that it was likely within budget allocations dollar-wise but was previously not in the staffing numbers. Board members thanked Eileen Hare for her service to the District. Dr. Pfeiffer introduced Nate Werner, the new Activities Director/Associate Principal at Neenah High School. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Timothy Gantz, Director of Pupil Services, reviewed the recommendation for nursing services for the 2013-14 school year (Exhibit 9-B-13) and answered questions of Board members. Motion was made by Scott Thompson to approve the recommendation for nursing services for the 2013-14 school year as presented. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the Board would be receiving an email in the near future regarding a follow-up meeting to the July 30 Board/administrative retreat to be held within the next few weeks.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No new items.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Peter Kaul to adjourn. The motion was seconded by John Lehman and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Diane Haug
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk