

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education

September 6, 2011

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, September 6, 2011.

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, Kirk Leeser, John Lehman, Larry Lewis, Scott Thompson, 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. The absence of Jeff Spoehr was excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk.

OPEN FORUM

Sheila Brucks, 238 Butte Des Morts Drive, Menasha, expressed her appreciation for Coach Dave McCarthy and the work he has done with the NJSD wrestling program.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 7:02 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

No comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2011 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Jessica Werhand...

- provided an update to recent fall sporting events.

Alissa Rashid...

- reported that the Launch leaders and freshmen had a successful first day of school.
- shared that NHS students and staff are adjusting to the new semester schedule.
- provided an update on recent student council news.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pfeiffer...

- thanked the Board members who attended the all staff convocation on August 29 and expressed her disappointment in the picture and related article that was published in the Post-Crescent on August 30.
- reported that the first day of school was a lot of fun and thanked the Board members who took the time to attend the freshmen cookout at NHS.
- thanked the staff and families for their cooperation on Friday, September 2, with the early releases due to the power outages.
- acknowledged NHS senior powerlifter, Charles McDonald, who set two world records and earned the designation of World Champion in the 163.4 lb. weight class.
- recognized Dave McCarthy, who was recently inducted into the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

### OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes a recommendation for employment of new teachers for Emma Bobholz, grade 2 at Spring Road, Debra Elmer, chemistry at Neenah High School, Peter Keys, social studies at Neenah High School, Nicole Lecker, English at Neenah High School, Brenda Rahmlow, music at Horace Mann and Wilson, Allison Sherman, grade 2 at Coolidge, and Gary Lemieux, music at Horace Mann and Shattuck; employment of an administrator for Andrew Thorson, Facilities Engineer for the NJSD; and an increase in a teacher contract for Jilaine Jarvis, music at the middle schools (Exhibit 9-C-11); and 2. Presentation of Accounts (Schedule of Vouchers No. 1 dated July 31, 2011 reflecting revenues of \$13,381.07 and expenditures of \$1,695,641.98) (Exhibit 9-D-11). The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote.

Victoria Holt, Assistant District Administrator of Human Resources and Central Services, presented background information regarding a recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee to establish an employer contribution to the District's proposed HSA plan (Exhibit 9-E-11) and introduced Ann Pabst, consultant with Associated Financial, who answered questions of Board members. It was decided to table the HSA plan and to bring it back to the September 20, 2011 Board of Education meeting with a full District perspective.

### CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Christine Grunwald stated that the next meeting of the Curriculum and Program Development Committee would be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. and that the committee would be planning their yearly calendar.

### FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Betsy Ellenberger to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2011 Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Christopher Kunz and carried by unanimous committee vote.

Chair John Lehman stated that the next scheduled meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee would take place on Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peter Kaul stated that he spoke to a kindergarten teacher recently who stated that she is very happy the District decided to reduce kindergarten classes to 20 students and that class management has improved greatly.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Christopher Kunz stated that he would like additional statistical information regarding students' graduation rates, etc. and suggested another Board/Administrative retreat.

Christine Grunwald requested follow-up information regarding Freshman Seminar.

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 Peter Kaul to adjourn and that the Board reconvene in closed session according to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of approval of minutes of the August 16, 2011 closed session meeting and potential litigation update. The motion was seconded by Christine Grunwald and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 7:56 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the August 16, 2011 closed session meeting and potential litigation update.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn closed session was made by Peter Kaul, seconded by Scott Thompson, and carried by unanimous vote. The closed session adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Diane Haug  
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk