

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

September 7, 2010

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, September 7, 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 Betsy Ellenberger, Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, John Lehman, Larry Lewis, Jeff Spoehr, Scott Thompson, Colleen Zuro-White, student representatives Noah White and Alissa Rashid, 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 absence of Christine Grunwald was excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary.

OPEN FORUM

Shirley Willis, 531 Haylett Street, Neenah, long time substitute teacher in the NJSD, shared her disappointment with the new substitute pay rates for 2010-11 which were adopted at the August 17, 2010 Board of Education meeting.

Mary Alice Browne, 1306 S. Park Avenue, Neenah, stated that she was representing the Neenah Music Parents and invited all present to the music programs and concerts in the upcoming school year.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 7:08 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Mrs. Holt provided background regarding the factors that went into the substitute teacher pay rates for 2010-11.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2010 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Noah White and Alissa Rashid...

- stated that Homecoming is scheduled for the week of October 4-8 with the dance being held on October 9 with the theme of "Tear Up the Terrors."
- shared that the first Student Council meeting was held today with a very good turn out.
- reported that a large number of Launch Leaders helped out at the all-staff convocation on August 24.

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

- stated that on the first day of school, the Launch Leaders helped the freshmen in the morning and that the sophomores, juniors, and seniors joined the freshmen at school in the afternoon.
- reported on Neenah High School's results in the Powerlifting National competition.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pfeiffer ...

- welcomed the student representatives back to the Board after summer break.
- thanked the Board members who attended the all-staff convocation on August 24 and recognized Amanda Recktenwald for her part as master of ceremonies, and expressed her appreciation for the Launch Leaders' enthusiasm that morning.
- stated that the NJSD experienced a significant loss with the sudden death of Bill Pokel, informed the Board that John Zwirchitz is currently filling in as principal at Wilson School until mid-October when we hope to have hired an interim principal for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year, and thanked Duke Behnke for writing the nice tribute to Bill in the Post-Crescent.
- shared that she had heard from a few parents expressing both support and concern regarding the fact that they will have to pay to get into sporting events this year.

OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz to approve the item under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes a request for extracurricular contracts, employment of new personnel (Andrew Garr, 1.0 FTE EBD teacher at Coolidge, Zachery Rowe, 1.0 FTE one year only Social Studies teacher at Shattuck, and Deanna Standorf, 1.0 FTE Kindergarten teacher at Alliance Charter), resignation of staff members (Kandi Martin, English teacher at NHS, and David Pinkert, Math teacher at NHS), and a request for an increase in contract from 0.8 to 1.0 FTE for Jennifer Cormier, English teacher at NHS (Exhibit 9-A-10). The motion was seconded by Scott Thompson and carried by unanimous vote.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chair John Lehman stated there is a Finance and Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Vice Chair Larry Lewis introduced Mark Duerwaechter, Assistant District Administrator of Secondary Learning & Leadership, who explained that the middle school review will not be voted on at this meeting but that information would be provided and that a recommendation would be brought back to the Board at the September 21, 2010 meeting. Jon Fleming, Shattuck Middle School Principal, presented the 2011-12 Shattuck Middle School schedule proposal (Exhibit 9-B-10). A discussion ensued regarding class sizes, whether there would still be the house structure at Shattuck, and the possibility of using a pass/fail grading system for elective courses. Brian Wunderlich, Horace Mann Middle School Principal, presented the proposed schedule for 2011-12 at Horace Mann (Exhibit 9-C-10). Discussion followed regarding whether teachers would receive training for the Readers' Workshop Model and the way to determine whether the new schedules are working. Mr. Wunderlich explained the goals of the Diagnostic

Online Reading Assessment (D.O.R.A.) and the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (W.K.C.E.). Board members thanked the administrators for their work.

Vice Chair Lewis stated that the next meeting of the Curriculum and Program Development Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Dreger stated that the music review would be slated for the first Board meeting in October.

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)(c)(f) for the purpose of approval of minutes of the August 17, 2010 closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and NESPA negotiations update. The motion was seconded by Jeff Spoehr and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 8:31 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the August 17, 2010 regular closed session meeting, discipline of specific students, and NESPA negotiations update.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn was made by John Lehman, seconded by Peter Kaul, and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Diane Haug, Board Secretary