

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

October 16, 2012

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, October 16, 2012.

President Scott Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:10 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, Jeff Spoehr, Scott Thompson, student representative Luke Nelessen, 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; Susan Nennig, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment; and Andrew Thorson, Director of Facilities/Engineer (arrived at 6:47). The absences of Kirk Leeser, Steve Lenz, and student representative Jessica Werhand were excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk.

OPEN FORUM

Mindy Weichmann, 100 Old Orchard Lane, Neenah, retired NJSD teacher, shared her disappointment with the communications to retirees regarding the FICA issue and stated that she still has not received a corrected W-2.

Anna Mae Prem, 828 Higgins Avenue, Neenah, retired NJSD teacher, requested the formal communication that the District received from the IRS regarding the additional FICA tax and stated that this has been a financial burden.

Tina Haffeman, 907 Washington, Oshkosh, retired NJSD teacher, expressed her extreme disappointment with the Board of Education and administrators who were involved in the FICA tax issue related to retirees.

Ann Cattau, 1135 Manor Drive, Neenah, retired NJSD teacher, encouraged the Board to have more transparency regarding the budget and shared her concerns with the FICA tax issue related to retirees.

Tom Hanby, 706 E. Forest Avenue, Neenah, stated that related to the budget, the District should look at getting some of the spending out of Fund 80 and back into the regular budget.

Su Senso, 1414 Whittier Drive, Neenah, retired NJSD teacher, stated that there is still confusion over the lack of information related to the FICA tax issue and that the contact person at the IRS does not get back to her.

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

Beth Spencer, 1509 S. Outagamie Street, Appleton, retired NJSD teacher, expressed her concerns with the FICA tax issue related to retirees.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 6:32 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Dr. Pfeiffer apologized to the NJSD retirees for not having received their updated W-2s and explained the FICA situation related to the IRS and the NJSD retirees. Mr. Lehman explained the situation from his perspective and experience on the Board. It was decided that the District will send out a packet of information specific to each retiree within the next two weeks.

President Thompson stated that the budget related issues will be covered during the budget portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2012 special meeting. The motion carried by a vote of six yes (Grunwald, Kaul, Kunz, Lehman, Spoehr, Thompson) and one abstention (Ellenberger).

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2012 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Jeff Spoehr and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2012 special meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Luke Nelessen...

- invited everyone in attendance to the NHS musical *Hello, Dolly!* which continues this weekend.
- provided an update to recent sporting events.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

District Administrator Pfeiffer...

- stated that there are three more performances of *Hello, Dolly!* this weekend and reported that over 300 senior citizens attended the Senior Citizen Dinner Theater last week at Neenah High School.
- recognized NHS students and staff involved in the Business Academy, along with Alex Kissel and Chase Schneider who won first place in the Jr. Achievement Business Challenge.

OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Christine Grunwald to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Employment of Personnel which includes a recommendation to approve a retirement from a NESPA employee (Archie Polar, Operations and Maintenance, Horace Mann) and a request for employment of a new exempt staff member (Nora Langolf, Accounting Supervisor, Administration) (Exhibit 10-H-12),
2. Presentation of Accounts (Schedule of Vouchers No. 03

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

dated September 30, 2012 reflecting revenues of \$4,600,255.10 and expenditures of \$5,112,818.83) (Exhibit 10-I-12), and 3. Investment Report (Exhibit 10-J-12). The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote.

NEENAH ROCKET STADIUM PROPOSAL

Andrew Thorson, Director of Facilities/Engineer, presented a recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee regarding a plan to update and renovate Rocket Stadium (Exhibit 10-K-12) and answered questions of Board members. Motion was made by Peter Kaul to approve the recommendation to give the Quarterback Booster Club permission to begin fundraising for renovations to Rocket Stadium as per the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Scott Thompson and carried by unanimous vote.

2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET

Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services, answered Board members' questions regarding the preliminary 2012-2013 budget as presented at the public hearing. Motion was made by John Lehman to adopt the preliminary 2012-2013 School Budget as presented at the public hearing (previously entered as Exhibit 10-G-12). The motion was seconded by Christopher Kunz and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christine Grunwald stated that she met with Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Learning & Leadership, and Sue Nennig, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, regarding the Curriculum Committee's willingness to participate in a focus group and book study centered on student assessment and standard-based grading policies. Mrs. Grunwald stated that the focus group will be co-chaired by Colleen Doyle, Brian Wunderlich, and Chad Buboltz.

Peter Kaul stated that he attended the NHS musical last weekend and encouraged anyone who has not yet seen it to attend.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Christine Grunwald suggested adding standard-based grading to the future agenda items at some point. Christopher Kunz suggested the Board receive an update to the FICA situation which is affecting certain District retirees.

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 John Lehman 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 October 2, 2012 closed session meeting and negotiations update. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 7:33 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the October 2, 2012 closed session meeting and negotiations update.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn closed session and reconvene in open session was made by John Lehman, seconded by Scott Thompson, and carried by unanimous vote. The closed session adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

President Thompson called the open session to order at 7:39 p.m. Board members Betsy Ellenberger, Christine Grunwald, Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, John Lehman, Jeff Spoehr, Scott Thompson and the following administrators were present: Mary Pfeiffer, District Administrator, and Victoria Holt, Assistant District Administrator of Human Resources & Central Services. The absences of Kirk Leaser and Steve Lenz were excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk.

NEA CONTRACT VOTE

Motion was made by Betsy Ellenberger to ratify the Tentative Agreement with the Neenah Education Association and the Board of Education which provides a one-time stipend, reflecting a 2% pool of dollars in accordance with the base wage laws, to be distributed during the 2012-13 school year which would provide a pay increase of up to \$1,125 per employee (Exhibit 10-L-12). The motion was seconded by Jeff Spoehr and carried by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Spoehr, seconded by Betsy Ellenberger, and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Diane Haug
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk

Jeff Spoehr
Board Clerk