

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

November 5, 2013

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, November 5, 2013.

Vice President John Lehman called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 Jean Maurice Boyer, Betsy Ellenberger, Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, Kirk Leeser (arrived at 6:15 p.m.), John Lehman, Jeff Spoehr, Michelle Swardenski, student representative Luke Nelessen, and the following administrators were present: Mary Pfeiffer, District Administrator; Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Learning & Leadership; Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services; Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements & Business Services Support; and Jim Strick, Communications Manager. The absence of Scott Thompson was excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk.

OPEN FORUM

Tom Hanby, 706 E. Forest Avenue, Neenah, stated that there is an error in the title of the joint resolution between the City of Neenah and the Neenah Joint School District and questioned whether the number of staff resigning from the District during the current school year might have anything to do with the way the District has readjusted the stipends and whether the District should consider that the stipend would be earned at year's end and not paid throughout the year.

Vice President Lehman declared the open forum closed at 6:02 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Dr. Pfeiffer asked for clarification from Mr. Hanby regarding which stipend he was referring to. Mr. Hanby stated that he was referring to the post-employment benefits. Dr. Pfeiffer shared that there are two stipends given throughout the year and the one Mr. Hanby is referring to is related to OPEB. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the District changed the OPEB benefit and it now pays a \$1,000 stipend after June 30 and people who are currently leaving the District will not receive this but people coming into the District will receive a prorated amount. Dr. Pfeiffer explained that the other \$1,000 payment made twice a year is for employees' Health Savings Accounts which are insurance benefits. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that these amounts are paid in January and September and the people who are currently leaving the District are allowed to keep the \$1,000 they received in September in their HSA accounts. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that a common conversation beginning to happen state-wide is related to employees leaving their positions mid-year. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that some districts require employees to make a \$4,000 payment to get out of their contract and that it varies by district. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the District also looks at why employees are leaving and for the most part, the staff members that have left recently are pursuing other opportunities in other districts or states.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Peter Kaul and seconded by Christopher Kunz to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2013 regular meeting. The motion carried by a vote of six yes (Boyer, Kaul, Kunz, Lehman, Spoehr, Swardenski) and one abstention (Ellenberger).

Motion was made by Peter Kaul and seconded by Christopher Kunz to approve the minutes of the October 30, 2013 special meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Luke Nelessen...

- provided an update to recent sporting events.
- invited everyone present to an orchestra concert on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in Pickard Auditorium.
- shared that WKCE testing is taking place this week.
- invited everyone present to the NHS marching band concert on Thursday, November 14, at 7:30 p.m. in Pickard Auditorium.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

District Administrator Pfeiffer...

- introduced and welcomed Kathy Davis, who will be joining the administrative team on December 16 as the Assistant District Administrator of Business Services.
- congratulated the girls cross country team and the second and fourth place finishes at state of Jessica and Jennifer Parker.
- stated that she, Mr. Dreger, John Lehman, Peter Kaul, Jean Maurice Boyer, and Betsy Ellenberger attended the Neenah High School Academic Awards Banquet where 124 students, including Luke Nelessen, received awards for maintaining a 3.5 or higher grade point average.
- asked Board members and administrators to complete the forms at their places related to the State Education Convention and return the forms to Diane by November 19.

OFFICIAL ACTION

John Lehman stated that he would pull the Food Service Contract from the Consent Agenda to be discussed separately. Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Betsy Ellenberger to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes a request for resignations of faculty (Gwen Finley, school counselor, Coolidge and Taft – last date of employment is December 20, 2013; Jill Gordee, school counselor/SAP, Neenah High School – last date of employment is December 12, 2013; and Danae Deppiesse, CDB teacher, Neenah High School – last date of employment is December 2, 2013); and a request for employment of a support staff member (Tracy LeNoble, Educational Assistant (CDS) at Coolidge) (Exhibit 11-A-13) and 2. Bullying Awareness Day (Exhibit 11-B-13). (Kirk Leiser arrived at 6:15 p.m.) The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Discussion ensued regarding the Food Service Contract Amendment (Exhibit 11-C-13) with regard to monitoring the financial results, how things are going with the premium meals, more specific targets for improvement in nutritious meals, and where the excess dollars are being spent. Dr. Pfeiffer and Mr. Hauffe answered questions of Board members. Motion was made by

Christopher Kunz to approve the amendment to the contract with food service management company Chartwells for the 2013-14 school year as presented. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and approved by unanimous vote.

2013-2014 FINAL SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET ADOPTION AND TAX LEVY
CERTIFICATION

Dr. Pfeiffer commended Mr. Hauffe for his work with the 2013-14 budget. Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services, reviewed the final summary and statistical information pertaining to the 2013-14 School Budget, Draft #3, for final adoption (Exhibit 11-D-13) and answered questions of Board members. Motion was made by Peter Kaul to approve the resolution as presented to adopt the 2013-14 school budget for the Neenah Joint School District. The motion was seconded by Jeff Spoehr and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

CURRICULUM & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Michelle Swardenski and seconded by Jean Maurice Boyer to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2013 Curriculum and Program Development Committee meeting. The motion carried by a committee vote of three yes (Boyer, Spoehr, Swardenski) and one abstention (Leeser). Chair Spoehr stated that the next meeting of the Curriculum and Program Development Committee will take place on Monday, November 25, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Lehman reminded Board members of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, November 11, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jean Maurice Boyer requested information related to what the District is doing regarding student mental health and how the District screens children from birth to kindergarten age. Christopher Kunz requested information related to student behavior issues.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

John Lehman suggested the Board hold a public listening session early in the year and then take the information received and work it into the Board goals for the coming year. Dr. Pfeiffer shared that she and Mr. Strick discussed the possibility of holding a State of the District presentation in February and then allow questions of community members.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Peter Kaul to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Diane Haug
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk

Jeff Spoehr
Board Clerk