

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education

March 18, 2014

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, March 18, 2014.

President Scott Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 Leaser, John Lehman, Jeff Spoehr, Michelle Swardenski, Scott Thompson, student representative Brianda Hickey, and the following administrators were present: Mary Pfeiffer, District Administrator; Victoria Holt, Assistant District Administrator of Human Resources & Instructional Support Services; Steve Dreger, Assistant District Administrator of Learning & Leadership; Kathleen Davis, Assistant District Administrator of Business Services; Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services; Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements & Business Services Support; Chad Behnke, Director of Instructional Technology; Andrew Thorson, Director of Facilities/Engineer; and Jim Strick, Communications Manager. The absence of student representative Luke Nelessen was excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk.

#### OPEN FORUM

Steve Schoen, 1417 Meadow Breeze Circle, Neenah, shared questions and concerns regarding summer maintenance projects in the Neenah Joint School District.

Jim Perras, 644 Hunters Point Road, Neenah, stated that he is representing the Future Neenah Board and shared some of the great things Future Neenah and the NJSD are doing together.

Tom Hanby, 706 East Forest Avenue, Neenah, shared his thoughts regarding the 2014-15 District budget, the Digital Learning Plan, and the roofing situation.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 6:13 p.m.

#### DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the last time Mr. Schoen spoke, she didn't hear any questions and that is why he didn't receive a response. Dr. Pfeiffer asked Mr. Schoen to schedule a meeting with Mr. Thorson who would be happy to answer his questions. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that related to Mr. Hanby's question about roofing, the District has looked at lower cost, better product and Mr. Thorson has done a significant amount of work and would be happy to share any details Mr. Hanby would like. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that Mr. Thorson has done a great job from the bidding process, to the install, and his continued work in supporting our facilities.

Dr. Pfeiffer thanked Mr. Perras for sharing information about Future Neenah and stated that the NJSD looks forward to continuing our relationship with Future Neenah.

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the standard approach to the budget has been to “tax to the max” in the initial stages and then look at reducing in the final stages of the budget. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that Mr. Hanby’s other questions would be addressed in the discussions during the meeting.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Betsy Ellenberger and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2014 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Brianda Hickey...

- provided an update to recent and upcoming sports events.
- shared that spring break is coming up next week.
- stated that the NHS Chess Team will be going to state to defend their title.
- shared that there is a wind symphony concert tonight at 7:30 in Pickard Auditorium.
- reported that there will be an international night at NHS on April 4 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. sponsored by the AFS and SEA clubs.
- stated that National Honor Society is holding a blood drive on April 9.

#### DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

District Administrator Pfeiffer...

- recognized the Finance Bowl Teams and Advisor Kris Labbus and shared that one team will be advancing to state.
- recognized Chris Jones, science and velocity teacher at Shattuck, who will receive a Kohl Fellowship award, and Neenah High School senior Sophia Szymonski, who will receive an Excellence and Initiative Scholarship from the Foundation.
- congratulated the girls and boys basketball teams for their outstanding seasons this year.
- introduced Mary Renning, principal at Lakeview School, and Jackie Muñoz-Ellmann, principal at Clayton School, who introduced staff from Lakeview and Clayton and shared information related to their math and literacy school goals and progress (Exhibit 3-G-14 and Exhibit 3-H-14).

#### OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Peter Kaul and seconded by Jeff Spoehr to approve the item under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Presentation of Accounts (Schedule of Vouchers No. 8 dated February 28, 2014 reflecting revenues of \$9,434,753.62 and expenditures of \$5,574,702.82) (Exhibit 3-I-14). The motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### ROCKET STADIUM UPGRADES

Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements & Business Services Support, and Andrew Thorson, Director of Facilities/Engineer, presented information regarding proposed upgrades to Rocket Stadium (Exhibit 3-J-14), and answered questions of Board members. President Thompson and Board members requested there be common elements to Rocket Stadium and Rocket Memorial Soccer Stadium in order to keep the stadiums consistent in appearance. Motion was made by Scott Thompson to graciously accept the donations for Rocket Stadium

upgrades as presented. The motion was seconded by Michelle Swardenski and carried by unanimous vote.

#### ROCKET MEMORIAL SOCCER STADIUM UPGRADES

Andrew Thorson briefly reviewed the plan for the Rocket Memorial Soccer Stadium Upgrades (Exhibit 3-K-14) and introduced Jim Perras, with Consolidated Construction, who presented the Neenah Soccer Booster Club proposal for improvements to the Rocket Memorial Soccer Stadium and answered questions of Board members. Motion was made by Peter Kaul to approve the recommendation for improvements to the Rocket Memorial Soccer Stadium as presented and to proceed with fundraising. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote.

#### 2014-15 BUDGET FRAMEWORK PREVIEW

Dr. Pfeiffer shared that the 2014-15 Budget Framework Preview (Exhibit 3-L-14) is very similar to what we have used in the past. She stated that the administration is seeking the Board's support to advance their work as they prepare for the summer. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the Board has seen all of the pieces of the framework with the exception of the proposal to switch from Alio to Skyward Finance/Human Resources system. Kathleen Davis, Assistant District Administrator of Business Services, presented the 2014-15 Budget Framework and answered questions of Board members. Kirk Leeser left the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Although official action was not taken, the Board of Education supported (with one exception) the administration's recommendation to advance the plan including the purchase of equipment and materials in preparation for the 2014-15 school year.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Spoehr shared that he was at the 5K Rocket Blast-Off and the event was well attended.

Jean Maurice Boyer stated that he and John Lehman had the pleasure of attending STEM day at Hoover recently and that the partnership with the high school students, MSOE, and Bemis was wonderful to see. John Lehman agreed and stated that the kids seemed to be very engaged.

Jean Maurice Boyer stated that the middle school musical was very impressive.

Betsy Ellenberger thanked Dr. Pfeiffer for coordinating the sale of tickets for Board members to the boys' state basketball games and Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the credit goes to Nate Werner for his assistance with this.

President Thompson shared the excitement and pride in the community which the boys' trip to the state basketball tournament generated.

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

President Thompson reviewed the list of future agenda items which includes NEOLA Board Policy Review, Staffing Report on April 8, Common Core Overview, and asked for a date for the Digital Learning Plan. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that this would be added to the future agenda items with a date on the next agenda.

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

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)(f) for the purpose of approval of minutes of the March 4, 2014 regular closed session meeting and discipline of specific students. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 9:06 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the March 4, 2014 regular closed session meeting and discipline of specific students.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn closed session was made by Peter Kaul, seconded by Betsy Ellenberger, and carried by unanimous vote. The closed session adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Diane Haug  
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk

Jeff Spoehr  
Board Clerk