

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Board of Education

March 4, 2014

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, March 4, 2014.

President Scott Thompson 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, Christopher Kunz, Kirk Leaser, John Lehman, Jeff Spoehr, Michelle Swardenski, Scott Thompson, student representative Luke Nelessen, 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; and Jim Strick, Communications Manager. The absence of student representative Brianda Hickey was excused. Diane Haug was present as Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk.

OPEN FORUM

Margaret Burton, 486 Sunrise Bay Road, Neenah, president of Neenah Music Parents, wished everyone a happy Music in Our Schools month and shared concerns of parents and students who were planning to participate in two music ensembles but due to the new requirement of a full year of World Language will not be able to and requested the Board take a second look at the World Language requirement.

Lisa Strandberg, 325 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Neenah, introduced her daughter, Rachel, who currently plays two instruments, and requested that the Board reconsider the World Language requirement for sixth grade students to help resolve the issue.

Maddie Hibbs-Magruder, 816 Grant Place, Neenah, shared that she hopes to be a student representative on the Board of Education next year and stated that she came to observe how things work.

Steve Schoen, 1417 Meadow Breeze Circle, Neenah, shared his concerns regarding roofing projects in the Neenah Joint School District.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 6:16 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that she feels the Neenah Joint School District is extremely supportive of music education but that she doesn't feel it is reasonable to target World Language and there may be other avenues to explore to potentially resolve this issue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Betsy Ellenberger and seconded by Christopher Kunz to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2014 regular meeting. The motion carried by a vote of seven yes (Boyer, Ellenberger, Kunz, Lehman, Spoehr, Swardenski, Thompson) and two abstentions (Kaul, Leeser).

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Luke Nelessen...

- reported that March is Music in Our Schools Month.
- provided an update to recent and upcoming sports events.
- shared that the math team finished their season in second place overall.
- stated that there are elementary choir concerts going on.
- invited everyone present to the next NHS band concert on March 18.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

District Administrator Pfeiffer...

- shared that the boys basketball game on Thursday night against Stevens Point at Menasha High School is sold out but that there will be tickets available at the door.
- congratulated Luke Nelessen for a great wrestling season.
- recognized students who were involved in the VEX Robotics competition recently.
- acknowledged students who are exhibiting their work at the Bergstrom-Mahler Museum of Glass.
- introduced Activities Director Nate Werner who recognized Draven Feustel for his swimming and diving accomplishments and as the 2014 Diver of the Year.
- introduced Phil Johnson, principal at Roosevelt and Alliance Schools, who introduced staff from Roosevelt/Alliance who shared information related to their math and literacy school goals and progress (Exhibit 3-A-14).

OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows: 1. Employment of Personnel which includes a request for employment of support staff (Susan Hickey and Jennifer Koeppen-Millerd, health assistants, elementary); and a request for resignation from support staff (Colleen Westphal, academic assistant, Neenah High School) (Exhibit 3-B-14); 2. Investment Report (Exhibit 3-C-14); 3. School Property Tax Report (Exhibit 3-D-14); and 4. Request for a Waiver of Tuition (Exhibit 3-E-14). Mrs. Holt clarified that the health assistant positions will be required to keep certain licenses current and that the positions include benefits. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT HALL OF FAME

Jim Strick, Communications Manager, introduced community members Marty Etteldorf and Dan Goggin, who presented a proposal for a Neenah Joint School District Hall of Fame (Exhibit 3-F-14), and answered questions of Board members. Motion was made by Scott Thompson to approve the administration's recommendation to establish a Neenah Joint School District Hall of Fame as presented. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote.

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President Thompson stated that we would move to the announcements portion of the agenda in order to allow time for Chad Behnke, Director of Instructional Technology, to set up for the Digital Learning Plan presentation.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peter Kaul shared that the boys bowling team finished ninth at state and Jordan Oppelt finished 15<sup>th</sup> individually.

Michelle Swardenski stated that she attended the Coffee House put on by the NHS student council and was amazed at the talent of our students.

John Lehman reminded Board members of the STEM day at Hoover this Friday.

Jean Maurice Boyer shared information about a Wisconsin College and Career Network training coming up on Tuesday, March 18, at UW-Fox Valley.

Betsy Ellenberger shared that there will be a School Board Candidate Forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters on Wednesday, March 12, at 6:00 p.m. in the Shattuck Room of the Neenah Public Library.

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Christopher Kunz requested continuing with the NEOLA Board Policies in the near future.

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that the next meeting will include the 2014-15 Budget Framework.

President Thompson requested an overview of the Common Core.

Board meetings for the month of April will be held on April 8 and April 22.

#### DIGITAL LEARNING PLAN

Chad Behnke, Director of Instructional Technology, introduced staff members who presented information about how they are using technology in the classroom. Mr. Behnke and technology staff presented information related to changes to the current digital learning plan (Exhibit 3-G-14) and answered questions of Board members. At 9:04 p.m., President Thompson announced that a short break would be taken. The Board reconvened at 9:10 p.m. at which time a lengthy discussion ensued regarding insurance pertaining to the 1 to 1 plan, how goals will be measured and how we will maximize utilization, how many families may not have WiFi at home, and making sure our teachers are properly trained in the use of technology in the classroom.

#### 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 February 18, 2014 regular closed session meeting and

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discipline of specific students. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 10:25 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the February 18, 2014 regular closed session meeting and discipline of specific students.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn closed session was made by Kirk Leaser, seconded by Betsy Ellenberger, and carried by unanimous vote. The closed session adjourned at 10:39 p.m.

Diane Haug  
Board Secretary/Deputy Clerk

Jeff Spoehr  
Board Clerk