

NEENAH JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education

September 18, 2012

The meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Board room of the Administration Building on Tuesday, September 18, 2012.

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 Betsy Ellenberger, Christine Grunwald, Peter Kaul, Christopher Kunz, John Lehman, Steve Lenz, 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; Timothy Gantz, Director of Pupil Services; and Diane Doersch, Director of Instructional Technology. The absences of Kirk Leaser and student representative Jessica Werhand were excused.

OPEN FORUM

Jay Schroeder, 1295 N. Lake Street, Neenah, shared his concerns with the \$5 admission charge for sporting events in the Neenah Joint School District, suggested lowering the admission fees, shared his thoughts regarding the 2011-12 budget surplus, and suggested refunding some of the surplus to the taxpayers and using some for performance incentives for teachers.

President Thompson declared the open forum closed at 6:06 p.m.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPEN FORUM ISSUES

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that admission fees are assessed every year and are very comparable to other area school districts. President Thompson stated that the fees were developed two years ago with input from the community and that they are reviewed on an annual basis.

Dr. Pfeiffer stated that draft #2 of the 2012-13 budget provides a "give back" of almost \$2 million and that the NJSD tax rate is one of the lowest in the area. Dr. Pfeiffer stated that CESA 6 personnel are here to present information about the Effectiveness Project which will be focused on incentive pay for high performing teachers. President Thompson stated that there were more financial unknowns this year which made budgeting challenging but our hope is that this will improve moving forward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2012 special meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz and seconded by Peter Kaul to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2012 regular meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Luke Nelessen...

- provided an update to recent sporting events and activities.
- shared that the first Student Council meeting was held this morning and that planning for Homecoming was discussed.
- stated that he has heard a lot of good comments about hot lunches at NHS.
- reported that Shattuck has a new show choir this year.
- stated that Lakeview School is holding a parent/teacher social tomorrow, September 19, at Cherry on Top in downtown Neenah.
- reported that Spring Road School is holding a parent/teacher social tonight at Fox Valley Roller Rink.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

District Administrator Pfeiffer...

- stated that most people are aware of the recent ruling by a Dane County judge which struck down many of the bargaining laws of Acts 10 and 32 and shared that the NJSD is not planning to change the process of where we are moving until we have a chance to learn more about what this means.
- acknowledged Amy Westcott and the Neenah High School Chamber Choir who have been selected to perform at the Wisconsin State Education Convention in Milwaukee in January 2013.

Dr. Pfeiffer turned the meeting over to President Thompson who asked Jan Williams to come forward. President Thompson presented the Passion for Excellence Award to Mr. Williams and Board members thanked him for all he has done for the Neenah Joint School District.

OFFICIAL ACTION

Motion was made by Christopher Kunz to approve the items under Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Employment of Personnel which includes a recommendation for employment of new teachers (Caroleah Demski, speech at NHS, 0.5 FTE; Tina Janichek, speech and language at Tullar/Clayton, 0.5 FTE; and Frances Neilitz, speech and language at Clayton, 0.5 FTE) (Exhibit 9-F-12), 2. Alliance Charter Elementary Contract Renewal (Exhibit 9-G-12), 3. Presentation of Accounts (Schedule of Vouchers No. 02 dated August 31, 2012 reflecting revenues of \$30,995.23 and expenditures of \$2,191,422.12) (Exhibit 9-H-12), and 4. Investment Report (Exhibit 9-I-12). The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote.

CESA 6 EFFECTIVENESS PROJECT/SALARY SCHEDULE

Dr. Pfeiffer introduced Cheryl Malaha, Executive Director of Special Services, CESA 6, who introduced Keith Fuchs, Executive Director – Leadership Center, and staff from CESA 6 who presented information regarding the Effectiveness Project which focuses on improving student achievement by enhancing teacher and leader effectiveness.

DISTRICT AT-RISK PLAN FOR 2012-13

Timothy Gantz, Director of Pupil Services, presented an At-Risk Plan for the 2012-13 school year per state requirements (Exhibit 9-J-12) and answered questions of Board members.

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

ROCKETS BANKING

Jon Joch, Director of Revenue Enhancements and Business Services Support, provided an update to the Rockets Banking Program (Exhibit 9-K-12) and answered questions of Board members.

2012-13 SCHOOL BUDGET DRAFT #2

Paul Hauffe, Director of Business Services, reviewed the proposed 2012-13 budget for publication and presentation at the October 16, 2012 Budget Hearing (Exhibit 9-L-12). Motion was made by Scott Thompson to approve Draft #2 of the 2012-13 School Budget for publication. The motion was seconded by Peter Kaul and carried by unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No report.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

OPEB Recommendation (Oct. 2)

Assessment Report (Oct. 2)

Communications Report (Nov. 20)

CADR Process (including World Languages Report) (Dec.)

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) for the purpose of approval of minutes of the September 4, 2012 closed session meeting and discussion of specific personnel. The motion was seconded by Betsy Ellenberger and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board reconvened in closed session at 8:26 p.m. for the purpose of approval of minutes of the September 4, 2012 closed session meeting and discussion of specific personnel.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Motion to adjourn closed session was made by Peter Kaul, seconded by John Lehman, and carried by unanimous vote. The closed session adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Jeff Spoehr
Board Clerk