

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2016 – 5:30 P.M.

President D. Smikrud called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: F. Aleckson, B. Koxlien, P. Kujak, K. Lien, D. Smikrud, J. Stalheim, and T. Tenneson. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, L. Halverson, Kari Lejcher, Tracy Hogden, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

Mission statement was read aloud.

No public comments.

Motion by F. Aleckson was seconded by J. Stalheim to approve the open and closed minutes for the December regular meeting. Motion passed with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak was seconded by F. Aleckson to approve the bills for the month of December. December bills include payroll checks #57957-57962, payroll advice of deposits #23804-24011, money wires #236, #456-457, #3306-3307, expense checks #15241-15247, #56073-56198, and #500277-500280. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by J. Stalheim was seconded by F. Aleckson to approve the December financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Student Council Report by J. Eide: Snow Fest dance held on January 9<sup>th</sup> had low attendance. Three boxes of canned goods collected that night will be donated to the Taylor Food Pantry. Members are assisting Mrs. Eide with preparations for the high school Recognition Day to be held on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Middle school Recognition Day will be held on January 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

J. Eide's Report: Policy committee will start working on the 300 Instruction series policies when we meet on the first Thursday of each month. Safety committee has met twice with Blair and Taylor Fire Departments, Blair Police Department, and Trempealeau Co. Emergency Management Supervisor to discuss our fire procedures and challenges that arise during a situation. Will continue to meet monthly and eventually conduct a practice drill. Mr. Eide and Mr. Halverson will attend ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training in Arcadia next month. Since D. Smikrud's term will be ending, Board needs to appoint a new representative for the CESA #4 Board of Control. 11 of the 26 CESA #4 schools have a Board representative, and Blair-Taylor is one of the 11. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month except the month of July. This is an unpaid position, but members receive mileage and a meal. New Blair-Taylor representative could accompany D. Smikrud to April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. With the cold temperatures this morning (-30 degrees) our school had a late start. Some area schools did not have late starts because they were having teacher in-service. Thank-you note from Andy Nehring and other fifth grade parents for the use of our school facility for their boys' basketball tournament was shared.

L. Halverson's Report: Elementary had a mid-year booster about appropriate behavior throughout the building during the first days back from winter break. On Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> ELA committee, which consists of 16 teachers, will be going to Ettrick and Galesville Elementary Schools to observe Units of Study by Lucy Caulkins in action. In the near future teachers will be observing Balanced Literacy Framework at Black River Falls Elementary School. Will use information gathered from these observations to decide best approach for teaching guided reading to our students.

D. Eide's Report: One recognition event is held per semester for middle and high school students at which time students are recognized for their academic accomplishments and attendance. Student Council members are excited to help organize this event. Tardies have decreased this year as one minute passing time between classes was added to the schedule. First semester ends on Thursday, January 21st. Will formally communicate with parents of students who are in grade trouble. Winter sports are in full force. Numbers are high for middle school girls' basketball and middle school wrestling.

#### Discussion Items:

Tracy Hogden led the discussion about our school's open enrollment spaces for regular education and special education students. Per Act 55 there are changes in open enrollment for students with disabilities so each year in January school districts are required to determine if enrollment caps should be set or not. Districts will not be allowed to charge extra costs incurred for open enrolled students with disabilities, and the tuition transfer amount for these students will be \$12,000 between districts. Criteria for setting enrollment caps as well as the positives and negatives were discussed. Any student with or without special needs is the responsibility of the resident district they live in.

#### Action Items:

Motion by D. Smikrud was seconded by K. Lien that Blair-Taylor School District will not limit the number of regular education and special education open enrollment spaces for the 2016-17 school year. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson was seconded by K. Lien that Board members attending the WASB convention will not conduct any governmental business during the trip. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by J. Stalheim was seconded by P. Kujak to approve the swimming co-op with Black River Falls and Melrose-Mindoro. Motion carried unanimously. Four Blair-Taylor swimmers were on the team this year with six expected for next year.

Motion by F. Aleckson was seconded by D. Smikrud to approve CESA #10 contract for 2016-17 Project Circuit Distance Learning (\$12,720) and Alio accounting software hosting (\$2,215) services. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by T. Tenneson was seconded by J. Stalheim to approve Emily Becker's maternity leave request with estimated start date of May 9<sup>th</sup> until the end of this school year. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by K. Lien was seconded by P. Kujak to approve the first reading of Policy #431 Attendance, which states "absences excused by a parent or guardian beyond 15 per school year may be considered unexcused unless medical documentation is provided that supports the absences." Motion carried unanimously.

Motion F. Aleckson was seconded by K. Lien to approve the first reading of Policy #762 Lunch Ticket Collection Procedures. Change in policy is that students will be extended credit up to \$10.00 instead of a certain number of meals and changes reflect what is being done to collect student lunch money. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by K. Lien was seconded by J. Stalheim to approve extra-curricular contract for Joshua Peterson, Head Cross-Country coach for 2016 fall season. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by J. Stalheim was seconded by F. Aleckson to approve extra-curricular contract for Jeremy Hanson, Head Track coach for 2016 spring season. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak was seconded by K. Lien to approve extra-curricular contract for Mac Bowen, Assistant Track coach for 2016 spring season. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with a second by T. Tenneson to move to closed session at 6:55 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) (e) to discuss transportation contract proposals, administrative contracts, and staffing needs. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk