

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JULY 17, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.

President T. Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Board members present: B. Koxlien, P. Kujak, S. Staff, D. Thompson, and T. Tenneson. Board member absent: F. Aleckson, K. Lien. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, L. Halverson, Katie Belitz, Al Austad, Gwen Kidd, Linda Nereng, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

Motion by S. Staff with second by D. Thompson to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Mission statement – "To educate all learners to reach their potential as productive citizens" was read aloud.

No public comments.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by S. Staff to approve the open and closed minutes of the June 2017 regular and closed meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by S. Staff with second by D. Thompson to approve bills for the month of June. June bills include payroll advice of deposits #27427-27904, payroll checks #58130-58138, money wires #254, #493-495, #3342-3344, expense checks #15359-15364, #58281-58418, employer-paid HSA contributions of 625.00, and employee-paid HSA contributions of \$5,723.16. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by S. Staff to approve the June financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Reports:

Jeff Eide – Superintendent's Report: Joint Board of Education meeting for four-school consortium will be held on August 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Staff event will be held during the day. State budget is not finalized yet, but projections indicate that our state aids will decrease by \$497,114. This significant decrease is due to property valuations in our school district increasing above the state average as well as declining enrollments. Less state aids will result in higher property taxes.

Lynn Halverson – Elementary Principal's Report: 127 students are attending summer school, which is in its second week and will run through July 28<sup>th</sup>. Students are taking reading, math, and fun classes with free breakfasts and lunches served daily. We were fortunate to interview some very good candidates for the sixth grade position. Several teachers and I will be attending the PLC (Professional Learning Community) Institute on July 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. Thirteen third and fourth grade choir students will be performing at Ashley for the Arts on August 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:20 a.m. All elementary teachers will be here for a curriculum day.

Dana Eide – Middle/High School Principal's Report: Two summer school enrichment classes were offered for middle/high school students – video production class taught by Katie Belitz and woodworking class taught by Mac Bowen. A drama class is working on a play that will be performed for elementary summer school students. Key topics at SAILS conference were school culture and student learning and also provided an excellent bonding time. Will be attending Mindfulness training at CESA #4 and one-day PBIS workshop in August. Teachers have been working on curriculum with CESA #4 consultant, who will continue to work with staff during the school year. Proposed changes to 2017-18 student handbook include a paragraph explaining what "Walking the Wildcat Way" means, more specifics about what happens in certain situations, student attendance and being proactive on unexcused absences, senior trip day will eliminate senior class trip for entire class, legal documentations for requested name changes must be submitted by November 1<sup>st</sup> of senior year, students will serve a closed noon hour if they leave their computers unattended around the school building, students can only have water in clear

containers during the school day, electronic devices (cell telephones) must be left in lockers (except during lunch break) and not allowed in the classroom, and changes in times when students can make-up detentions. Will discuss the student handbook and approve next month.

Katie Belitz – Pupil Services' Report: Will be attending trauma sensitive training in August in an effort to create a better environment for all students. Newly-hired high school Special Ed. teacher, La Donna Welter, has resigned so our Special Ed. staff retreat has been postponed.

#### Discussion:

Proposals for concrete and asphalt work on following areas were discussed. (1) sidewalk out of sixth grade B wing door that students would use during fire drills; (2) corner on west side of elementary entrance where students enter and exit the building daily and cut across the grass; (3) small triangle area in front of district office, and (4) kitchen receiving area where delivery trucks always back onto the grass; and (5) curb area on east side of building would be removed and replaced with sidewalks that would allow handicap accessibility to the softball field. Concrete and asphalt work approval is under action items. Offering employees who waive the group health insurance coverage a cash-in-lieu-of insurance option will be an action item. If approved, compensation amounts will need to be determined for single and family plans. Sample form that an employee would complete for this option was shared. We have three six-hour para positions needed for next school year. One para left during last school year and was covered by substitutes, another para was a long-term substitute last year, and the other position is vacant due to Julie Nehring's move to the middle/high school office. Framework for glass and glass for nature case needs to be ordered before more work can be done. Committee has been soliciting funds for this project, but is \$8,952 short at this time. They are requesting that the school district provide funding for this amount, as they will continue to solicit funding sources and re-pay school district if possible. When the glass is installed, nature case will be covered as work continues, and then unveiled when completely finished.

#### Action Items:

Motion by S. Staff with second by D. Thompson to table the approval of concrete and asphalt work due to discrepancies in the square footage submitted on bids. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by S. Staff to approve 66:0301 contract with Whitehall School District for shared Speech/Languages services (Kelly Mattison) for 2017-18 school year. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by S. Staff to increase breakfast and lunch prices by five cents. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes. Prices for 2017-18 school year will be:

Breakfasts: K-6 = 1.35, 7-12 = 1.70, Adult = 2.10

Lunches: K-6 = 2.15, 7-12 = 2.40, Adult = 3.30

Motion by D. Thompson with second by P. Kujak to approve the spending of Fund 21 funds in the amount of \$8,952 so work can continue on the nature case project. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by S. Staff with second by T. Tenneson to approve Joshua Peterson's resignation as physical education teacher and coach. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by S. Staff to approve contract for Jessica Kish, physical education teacher. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by D. Thompson to approve contract for Allan Lien, Head Cross-Country coach. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by S. Staff to approve resignation of La Donna Welter, newly-hired Special Education teacher. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by S. Staff with second by D. Thompson to approve Timothy Delnay's resignation as vocal music teacher and Gifted/Talented coordinator. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by P. Kujak to approve contract for Alexandra Lisowski, sixth grade teacher. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by P. Kujak to approve 210-day contract for Julie Nehring, middle/high school Administrative Assistant. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by D. Thompson to offer \$4,000 family and \$2,000 single cash-in-lieu-of-insurance option using the following language – "if an eligible certified staff or support staff employee elects not to take the health insurance, the school district will pay the employee \$4,000 per year for family or \$2,000 per year for single. The employee must have other group coverage (via an employer, Badger Care, Medicare, etc.) This coverage does not include individual or marketplace insurance." Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by S. Staff to move to closed session at 7:55 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to discuss support staff insurance, in lieu of insurance, and a personnel staffing concern. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk