

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.

President T. Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: F. Aleckson, B. Koxlien, P. Kujak, D. Smikrud, D. Thompson, and T. Tenneson. Board member absent: K. Lien. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, Katie Belitz, Amber Lambright, Hannia Cecenas, Gwen Kidd, Jeremy Tranberg, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

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

No public comments.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by F. Aleckson to approve minutes of the February 2017 regular and closed meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Smikrud to approve bills for the month of February. February bills include payroll advice of deposits #26580-26779, payroll checks #58083-58088, money wires #250, #485-486, #3334-3335, expense checks #15340-15344, #57800-57929, employer-paid HSA contributions of \$1,500 and employee-paid HSA contributions of \$2,477.72. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

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

Reports:

Student Council by Amber Lambright and Hannia Cecenas: School recycling project continues. Have been meeting with two members from each class about sponsoring a school-wide charity that everyone could be involved in. Could possibly be a toddler charity, but it is undecided at this time.

Superintendent by Jeff Eide: Expressed thanks to D. Smikrud for serving as an interim Board member. K. Lien is a patient at Gundersen Lutheran since having a stroke. He is looking around and doing okay, but will have a slow healing process towards recovery. Listening session will be held in Taylor on April 10th beginning at 5:30 p.m. Board meeting for consortium is set for March 22nd in Arcadia. Bruce Miles will meet with Long-Range Planning Committee members from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. and then meet with all Board members from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. CESA #4 Board of Control representative will be an action item next month. Gave an update on the progress of LED light project. There have been lots of positive comments about the new lights. Will be seeking bid proposals from audit firms and have that information for the April meeting. Regular meeting for April will be held on the fourth Monday – April 24th.

Middle/High School Principal by Dana Eide: Group picture of Board members will be taken tonight. Carlene Wolter and coaches have done an excellent job with O.M. teams this year! High school team has qualified for World finals at Michigan State University and two other teams placed second. PBIS team leaders felt that by helping others, students would create feelings of empathy and compassion so that's what started the Student Council's charity project. State ACT testing for 11th graders is done; Forward exams (8th graders) and ACT Aspire exams (10th graders) will be next. By taking Advanced Placement classes and transcribed vocational classes students can earn college/technical college credits while in high school. During the past three years under the excellent leadership of Lisa Perry, Lettermen's Club advisor, the concession stand has raised over \$17,000 in profits that have been shared with various school groups. FBLA student leaders can also earn scholarships.

Question was asked if our school staff would be prepared should a medical emergency occur during an event? Defibrillator (with detailed instructions) is located by gymnasium and training session is done by Kristi Benedict at the beginning of each school year. Also looking at purchasing a portable defibrillator for outdoor events.

Pupil Services by Katie Belitz: Big Cats/Little Cats March activity had a Dr. Seuss theme and older students did a lesson about bullying. Plan to create visuals for elementary autistic students. Thanks to Kim Tenneson for making visuals on lunch boards! Looking at more ways to create awareness for autism.

Discussion:

School districts are being encouraged by Michael Thompson, Deputy State Superintendent, to spend category II e-rate monies. Since the school's infrastructure is in a good place at this time, the funds could be used to install cables and hard wiring for internet access to the football and softball fields. Will get bids for this project. Will be practicing barricading classroom doors with middle school students. Door stops and barracuda slides on hinged doors could be a better option for barricading classrooms with younger children. About 60 classroom doors would be in need of such items.

Action Items:

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to approve the 2017-18 school calendar. Motion passed unanimously. August 23rd is a teacher flex day for classroom and/or curriculum time, August 24th is an elementary teacher day while June 5th is a middle/high school teacher day, November 6th and March 28th are consortium in-service days. If state law changes the first student day of school from September 1st, it would begin with the 2018-19 school year.

Motion by D. Smikrud with second by P. Kujak to approve the 2017-18 Internet and Computer Connection agreement with TCC (Tri-County Communications Coop) for net cost of \$1,800. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Smikrud to approve extra-curricular contract for Melissa Massman, Assistant Middle School Track coach. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Because of comments from the community Board members expressed concerns about possible damage to the football field, inappropriate language used by players, and negatives in general coming from the football league. Motion by P. Kujak with second by F. Aleckson to not renew the facility contract with Western Wildcats for the 2017-18 school year. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by D. Smikrud to approve 2017-18 CESA #4 contracted services in the amount of \$79,068. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud with second by T. Tenneson to approve 2017-18 Project Circuit Distance Learning services for \$12,950 and Alio software hosting services for \$2,300. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to approve Todd Pozarski as a Driver's Education (behind-the-wheel) instructor through CESA #4. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud with second by T. Tenneson to accept Michael Soto's resignation as Head Middle School Boys Basketball coach. Motion carried unanimously with Board members expressing their appreciation to Mike for his coaching services.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by F. Aleckson to accept Josh Peterson's resignation as Assistant Middle School Boys Basketball coach. Motion carried unanimously with Board members expressing their appreciation to Josh for his coaching services.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by D. Thompson to accept Shari Solberg's retirement as Special Education teacher at the end of the 2016-17 school year. Motion passed unanimously. Board members expressed special thanks to Shari for her 25 years of dedicated service to the students of our school district.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Smikrud to accept Janice Lebakken's retirement as F.C.E. teacher at the end of the 2016-17 school year. Motion carried unanimously. Board members expressed special thanks to Jan for her 34 years of dedicated service to the students of our school district.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by T. Tenneson to approve the first reading of Policy #461 – Academic Excellence Scholarship/Laude System. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by D. Smikrud to approve the first reading of Policy #533 – Substitute Teachers. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by D. Thompson to have Hi-Crush's name and logo on the new football scoreboard – large enough so it is legible from the stands. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Having a display board recognizing retired staff for their years of service in the school district was discussed.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Smikrud to move to closed session at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to discuss staffing needs, personnel concern, and compensation model. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk