

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 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, K. Lien, Smikrud, D. Thompson, and T. Tenneson. Board member absent: P. Kujak. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, L. Halverson, Katie Belitz, Lauren Steien, 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 F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to approve minutes of the December 2016 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by K. Lien with second by D. Smikrud to approve bills for the month of December. December bills include payroll advice of deposits #26176-26379, payroll checks #58070-58077, money wires #248, #481-482, #3330-3331, expense checks #15330-15334, #57529-57637, employer-paid HSA contributions of \$7,500 and employee-paid HSA contributions of \$2,407.72. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by K. Lien with second by F. Aleckson to approve the December financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Reports:

Student Council by Lauren Steien: Due to the several days of no school this month the first Student Council meeting for the new year will be held this week. Have openings for new officers/members and are working on filling them.

Superintendent by Jeff Eide: \$22,300 has been received to date from community businesses, organizations, and individuals for the Wildcat Way & Wall of Inspiration, which leaves an outstanding balance of \$2,200. Booster Club will donate to this project as well, but will need to make annual requests. Using \$2,200 from former class account balances to get this project started is an action item. Have started to meet with students to provide them with a better understanding of what ALICE training is and how it would work in case of a dangerous intruder. Initially safety of students and making good decisions will be talked about, then more hands-on practice. Met with Performance Services about retrofitting the 1999 building with LED lighting, but now we are working with a third company. We would order the lights from the third company with our maintenance men doing the installation. The listening session that should have been held at Taylor Community Center on January 9<sup>th</sup> was missed. Next listening session will be posted and held on April 10<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Elementary Principal by Lynn Halverson: In order to receive AGR (Achievement Gap Reduction) funding for ELA program, class ratios in grades K-3 must be 18 to 1. Grades 4-6 have higher numbers, but Cheri Omernick is the designated ELA coach. AGR funding replaces the former SAGE program. Science committee has been looking at Next Generations science standards that have the same guidelines at each grade level. Most schools are moving towards the Next Generations standards and there are many science curriculum options available. We're receiving sample materials that will be piloted before selection is made. Student Leaders are having a Father & Daughter/Mother & Son Dance on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Students of the month program is going great with very good parental attendance.

Middle/High School Principal by Dana Eide: Middle/high school science teachers are working on implementing the Next Generations standards to what's being taught. PAWS program, which is a common end-of-day study hall for all students, allows students to get extra help from teachers. Main focus for this time has been academics

and it also keeps more students eligible for athletics. PAWS time is also used for ALICE training, Lifelines meetings (suicide prevention), class scheduling, and organization meetings. Sarah Davis and Troy Tiedens are revitalizing a school newspaper. First Wildcat band uniforms (60) were purchased in 1989 and 60 new band uniforms were purchased in 2010. 2010 uniforms were purchased entirely with fundraising/donated funds and are in excellent condition. Would like to purchase 15 more band uniforms with some school district support. Booster Club has donated \$500 towards this purchase and this year's band fundraiser raised \$2,445.

Pupil Services by Katie Belitz: Child Development Day is scheduled for February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Children between the ages of 2 ½ and 4 will be screened, if not previously screened. On February 6<sup>th</sup> Lifelines session will take place. The county health nurse will be speaking about suicide to parents and community. Social-emotional screener for students (in addition to academic) is being looked into. Letter would be sent to parents prior to conducting this type of screening.

#### Discussion:

Draft calendar for 2017-18 school year was reviewed. Have been working with the four-school consortium attempting to have some consistency. If state law changes, start date could be different than September 1<sup>st</sup>. Students seem to be excited about new course offerings. Most classes will be taking place in the classroom, but may need to look at two-way class possibilities in the future. Next Board meeting for consortium is scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at which time transportation will be discussed.

#### Action Items:

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to accept Tracy Truax's resignation as Food Service cook. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by F. Aleckson to approve contract for Kimberly Sweet, Food Service cook. Motion passed by roll call vote with five members voting yes and K. Lien abstaining.

Motion by D. Smikrud with second by D. Thompson to accept Mac Bowen's resignation as Assistant Track Coach. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by T. Tenneson to approve contract for Allan Lien, Assistant Track Coach. Motion passed by roll call vote with five members voting yes and K. Lien abstaining.

Motion by K. Lien to use \$2,200 from former class funds balance to get Wildcat Way & Wall of Inspiration project started. If more donations are received, then money could go back to class funds. Motion was seconded by D. Smikrud and passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to approve contracts for Odyssey of the Mind coaches: Carlene Wolter-7<sup>th</sup> Grade Head Coach, Troy Tiedens-8<sup>th</sup> Grade/High School, Sarah Davis-6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Baleigh Kehe-5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Bill Hinman-Shared 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, and Brandy Kohel-Shared 4<sup>th</sup> Grade. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud with second by K. Lien to not limit open enrollment numbers in regular education and special education at any grade level for the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to move to closed session at 6:40 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to discuss administrative contracts and staffing needs. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk