

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015 – 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, Susan Frederixon, Jacob Eckel, Emma Robertson, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

Mission statement was read aloud.

No public comments.

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

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by T. Tenneson to approve the bills for the month of November. November bills include payroll checks #57951-57956, payroll advice of deposits #23603-23803, money wires #235, #454-455, #3304-3305, expense checks #15234-15240, #55974-56072, and #500274-500276. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by J. Stalheim, seconded by P. Kujak to approve the November financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Student Council Report by Jacob Eckel and Emma Robertson: Constitution has been changed so members must have passing grades or be off the council for three weeks. A winter dance is being planned. Admission will be canned goods for food pantries. Elections will be held at semester time.

Legislative Report by J. Eide: ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act), which replaces No Child Left Behind Act, passed on December 10, 2015. Flash video was viewed explaining this accountability system for measuring student achievement/performance. New federal act will be phased in gradually and appears to be moving in a positive direction.

J. Eide's Report: Copies of report from Schneider Electric's walk-through of the building were distributed. Report explains possible measures that could be implemented to conserve energy. Winona Controls' work on heating and air-conditioning system is nearing completion. Badger Mining donated \$1,000 towards the nature case project, as they were very impressed with Wava Jacobchicks's picture showing what the new nature case will look like.

L. Halverson's Report: Demonstrated the PBIS software program that is used for tracking student behavior referrals. Program tracks major and/or minor referrals plus grade level of student, and location, day of week, and time of day of incident. Only three staff members enter data into this program. When we return from Christmas break, there will be a PBIS kickoff to re-teach student expectations. Planning to recognize students who have consistently made good choices and have had no minor or major referrals so far this school year. Holiday concerts held on December 18th were very good – thanks to Jaclyn Hauser for all her hard work! Some parents were concerned about not being able to tape the programs due to copyright laws. It was suggested that parents should be notified about this prior to the performance. All hand bell groups performed at the Mall of America today. Guided Reading professional development continues. Many classrooms have brain breaks during the school day. Brain breaks originated during summer school.

D. Eide's Report: Wonderful holiday musical concerts have been held during the past few weeks. Hand bells performed on opening night of Rotary Lights and high school choir is performing there tonight. Former Ag. teacher, Andrea Hanson, was instrumental in obtaining the plot of land south of the old elementary school. This land is being used as an experimental plot project for our agriculture students with assistance from Trinity Farms. Wildcat Way Community discussed possible ways to recognize former students who've served in the military or made a significant contribution to society as well as recognize a student per grade each year. FFA is hosting Snow Fest activities on December 22nd, and middle school has special activities planned. K. Lien talked about parking issues during big events. During the recent elementary concert there were open spots in the back and the practice field could be used.

Discussion Items:

Jeremy Tranberg, Dave Tranberg, John Clemons, and Malcom Schultz spoke on behalf of the Western Wildcats semi-pro football team. Their past playing season was successful, but they encountered financial problems. Moving forward they would like to continue playing their home games on the Blair-Taylor football field, get sponsorships to help defray expenses, recruit some college graduates and players from area communities, and have the opportunity to convince people that this football team is a positive thing for the community. Jeremy Tranberg is President of the team, which has an eight-member board. They will put a plan together to present at a future meeting.

After Riggs Consulting from Stevens Point checked out the football practice field, they confirmed that we need water, an irrigation system, and an aerator to maintain the field. They took soil samples and would provide consultant services if we have a person to do the work. They emphasized that we should not roll the field.

Area Superintendents from Arcadia, Independence, and Whitehall will meet every two to three weeks. Big goal right now is to have two in-service dates on next year's calendar that are the same. B-T and Independence are currently working on a \$25,000 grant for PLC (Professional Learning Community), which needs to be submitted by December 22nd.

The final audit reports from Johnson Block Company for 2014-15 fiscal year were distributed.

Location for monthly Board meetings is determined at the re-organizational meeting in April, not the annual meeting. School Board nomination papers for April election must be signed by Tuesday, January 5, 2016. Incumbents not seeking re-election must file non-candidacy papers by December 28, 2015. At this time, David Smikrud announced that he will not be seeking a seventh term on the School Board. When first elected, he planned to serve two terms (six years), which has turned into six terms (18 years). He has been honored to serve as President and Vice-President plus serving on the CESA #4 Board of Control. Was recently very pleased to see good candidates interested in serving on the School Board.

Action Items:

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve Chelsea Stephenson's maternity leave request. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by J. Stalheim to approve 3% increase on B-T Cleaning Service contract for 2015-16 school year. Outside contractor will clean the exterior windows once per year. If the administration requests that the commons and bathrooms be cleaned after banquets or other school-sponsored events, charge will be \$40.00 per event. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by K. Lien to grant a third personal day to teachers for unforeseen or special circumstances. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by P. Kujak to approve 2015-16 Odyssey of the Mind coaching contracts for Laurie Marsh-Grade 4, Kristie Dingledein-shared Grade 5, Sandra Serum-shared Grade 5 & Head Coach, Baleigh Kehe-Grade 6, and Carlene Wolter-Middle/High School. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by J. Stalheim, seconded by F. Aleckson to move to closed session at 7:45 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) (f) to discuss coaching contracts, staffing, administrative review/contracts, food service director, and Western Wildcat contract. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Meeting reconvened in open session.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by K. Lien to approve Kim Tenneson as the new Food Service Director at the rate of \$15.54 per hour/eight hours per day and move Carolyn Orlowski to Food Service Consultant position. Motion passed by roll call vote with six members voting yes and T. Tenneson abstaining.

Motion by D. Smikrud, seconded by P. Kujak to adjourn. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk