

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 21, 2014 – 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, R. Arneson, B. Koxlien, P. Kujak, K. Lien, D. Smikrud, and T. Tenneson. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, M. Thomley, Chris Stalheim, Carolyn Orlowski, Lee Henschel, Fred Nehring, Ben Johnson, Brian Simmons, and Gary Simmons.

Mission statement was read aloud.

No public comments.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by T. Tenneson to approve minutes of the June 16th regular meeting and June 23rd, July 3rd, and July 7th special meetings and June bills. Bills for June include payroll checks #57807-57819, payroll advice of deposits #20104-20590, money wires #218, #420-421, #3270-3272, expense checks #15108-15114, computer expense checks #54103-54174, and computer expense checks #500096-500116. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by P. Kujak to approve the June Financial Statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Technology Report by C. Stalheim: Parent's Technology Right to Know at Blair-Taylor School District, Digital Presence Guidelines, and Philosophy behind the Digital Presence Guidelines handouts about student's online usage were shared. School complies with COPPA (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act) and CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act) regulations for our students' protection. It's important that the school educate students so they promote themselves online in a positive way while showcasing their learning and successes. These handouts are part of the Student Technology Handbook, which will be emphasized during orientation for freshmen and new students.

TCI Report by Ben Johnson: It's "crunch time" for the building project, but things are coming together. He gave a progress report on each area (referred to as Units). Painting continues with many areas ready for cabinets and flooring. Crew sizes have been increased to handle the extra work load. Completion date for the sixth grade addition and 7-12 commons is September 30th. 7-12 students will eat in the mat room at the beginning of the school year. Completion date for the band/vocal area and auditorium is November 30th. Completion date for high school gymnasium is a concern, but the mechanical system has been started and is drawing moisture from the concrete. Sidewalks are being poured this week and parking lot work should be complete by August 8th. When school starts the construction areas will be fenced off for safety and should not be noisy.

Legislative Report by Jeff Eide: More than half of Wisconsin public schools will receive more state aids in 2014-15 year, but Blair-Taylor is not one of those schools. Will do more research on this.

Superintendent's Report by J. Eide: The elementary pallets will be moved to the United Campus on July 31st. Aaron Kidd and Ashley Furniture are coordinating the move and will provide semi-trailers, Bobcats, and pallet jacks to get items moved to the classrooms. Special thanks to Al and Lucas, who have been very busy moving SMART boards and furniture! The cleaning service has been cleaning floors as they become available. M. Thomley is soliciting volunteers for the installation of the elementary playground equipment on August 4th-7th. Administrative offices should move the week of August 11th and teachers on August 18th. No dates set for community tours yet. Parents will be able to tour the building during orientation times. New Union Bank of Blair depository declaration form for Jeffrey Eide was signed by F. Aleckson.

Principal's Report by M. Thomley: Lee Recreation Company will bring experts to construct our new playground equipment with us providing the volunteers. Lots of wood chips will need to be leveled out. Marshfield Book & Stationery Company will deliver and set up the new furniture during the week of August 11th. Leadership meetings for teachers will be held during week of August 4th. This is the last week of summer school – we had 117 students enrolled for the minimum requirement. Orientation will take place on August 27th and August 28th. Handwriting has not been a state requirement for several years so more students are just printing. More math problems are being done on students' iPads, as they're more of an interactive tool than using paper.

Principal's Report by D. Eide: SOAR and Portable Touch Screen Device grant monies are funding professional development opportunities. Janet Woodward from Melrose-Mindoro worked with middle/high school teachers on vocabulary comprehension. Two teachers from Baraboo did Google training with 34 teachers in attendance. They provided very valuable information during the training plus left resources to be used when teaching these new concepts. Several teachers read "Teaching Every Student in the Digital Age", then took part in discussion via Google. M. Thomley posed the original questions, then teachers answered these questions individually rather than in a group setting. Orientation for middle school, freshmen, and new high school students will be on August 26th. Beginning-of-year newsletter should be coming out in early August.

J. Eide will ask teachers and support staff for possible dates for negotiations, and then contact Board members to confirm.

The purchase of essentials for the United Campus such as a reader sign, Zamboni, and Bobcat with attachments will depend on available monies. Storage shed is also being looked at. Ideally the storage shed cement could be poured before the blacktopping is done. Special meeting will be held on July 24th at 7:30 p.m. to review concrete and shed bids.

Board members agreed that one company could look at all furniture and equipment not needed at the United Campus and give a purchase price. The options of having an auction or sale where we would price items were less favorable. Simmons Construction agreed to work with the school if temporary storage is needed for unwanted items.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve the second reading of Post-Issuance Tax Obligations Policy #675. Motion carried.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by K. Lien to approve the second reading of Support Staff Handbook stating that as of July 1, 2014, support staff must work 30 hours per week to be eligible for health and dental insurance benefits (the same number of hours as Affordable Health Care Act). Motion passed.

Motion by D. Smikrud, seconded by R. Arneson to accept Susan Guenther's resignation as Middle School English teacher. Motion passed. Sincere appreciation was expressed for her 16 years of dedicated service.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by P. Kujak to approve Sim Sound's proposal for materials (cabinet, cables wires) needed for elementary gymnasium existing sound system for total of \$1,874.32. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Sim Sound's proposal for sound system in new high school gymnasium was presented for total of \$19,643.35. Motion by P. Kujak, seconded by T. Tenneson to table the sound system proposal at this time. Motion passed.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by K. Lien to approve teaching contract for Jennifer Murphy, Early Childhood teacher at 50% time. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by P. Kujak to move to closed session at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to discuss contract language (breaking contract), employment certification needs, CESA services (Special Education Support), (Response to Intervention needs), (Gifted and Talented support), Food Service Director (services), and State Statute 19.85(1) (e) to negotiate contract with Simmons Construction. Motion passed.

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by P. Kujak to return to open session. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by F. Aleckson to accept Simmons Construction's proposed contract to purchase the elementary building. Contract should be amended to have the Board President determine "completion" and curb appeal that is aesthetically pleasing" so that last payment can be made to Simmons Construction. R. Arneson amended her motion to include this, and K. Lien seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by R. Arneson to hire Special Education support services from CESA #4. Motion passed by roll call vote with six members voting yes and K. Lien voting no.

Rtl and G/T were tabled until the next Board meeting.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by P. Kujak to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Fern Aleckson, Clerk