

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 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, S. Staff, D. Thompson, and T. Tenneson. Board member absent: K. Lien. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, L. Halverson, Katie Belitz, Gwen Kidd, Carlene Wolter, Andrew Dannehy, and Lee Henschel.

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

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by S. Staff to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

No public comments.

Student Council Report by Carlene Wolter: Have many beginning-of-the-year activities in progress such as planning Homecoming with other advisors, middle school Halloween Dance, and Veteran's Day Assembly that will take place on November 10<sup>th</sup>. The Homecoming Parade will be going downtown, which is new this year. On a trial basis, we'll be conducting our Student Council meetings online.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by S. Staff to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2017 regular and closed meetings and August 31, 2017 special meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to approve bills for the month of August. August bills include payroll advice of deposits #27929-27974, money wires #256, #498-499, #3346-3347, expense checks #58482-58572, and employee-paid HSA contributions of \$190.00. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

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

Reports:

Superintendent by Jeff Eide: WASB Fall Regional meeting will be held at Westby Middle School on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Consortium Board meeting held on August 31<sup>st</sup> went well. Initial meeting place for consortium bussing at Fagernes Church is not working out so will change to Husmoen's. Board members were impressed with the consortium opportunities now available to students. In the process of obtaining bids for softball concession stand/storage shed and looking at handicap accessibility options so more information will be presented in the future. Next month's regular meeting will be held on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. followed by budget hearing at 6:30 p.m., and annual meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Elementary Principal by Lynn Halverson: Very smooth start to the school year – seems that PBIS is improving student behavior. Will continue to promote students of the week and invite families to attend students of the month recognition events. L. Halverson will provide classroom coverage for one hour per month for teachers, as it gives him an opportunity to interact with the students. We're continuing with the "shout outs" so students or staff can fill out a ticket acknowledging students for good things they do. "Shout outs" are announced on the intercom, as most students love hearing their name on the intercom. Consideration is being given to having student celebrations at Bruce Mound or some activity away from school. Music concerts will be split this year with grades 3-5 Winter Concert on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. (Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> is alternative date) and grades K-2 Spring Concert on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Both concerts will be held in the auditorium. Sixth grade students, who are in Band and/or Choir, will perform at middle school concerts. This schedule will be on a trial basis for this school year.

Middle/High School Principal by Dana Eide: Sarah Davis is our new PBIS coach this year. Various twenty-minute PBIS sessions were held on the first day of school with an end-of-day celebration in the auditorium. Staff members created a video inviting and welcoming students back to school. New this year is the "shout out" board. Students can fill out a small form showing appreciation to others for acts of kindness that will be read during Friday morning announcements. Students of the month will be chosen for both middle and high school this year. High school homerooms with the lowest number of discipline referrals will be recognized while the middle school will continue with Cat Tracks. Wallapalooza celebrations will be held two times during the year. Received lots of feedback from parents about Orientation Day stations so we're looking for ideas to make it more efficient while still providing parents with the necessary information for the start of the school year. Drama Club will be performing "Hillbilly Wedding" on October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. with dress rehearsal on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. and two matinees on October 18<sup>th</sup>. No school for students on October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Pupil Services by Katie Belitz: Twenty-one incidents (mostly elementary) of seclusion and restraint were reported last school year. If a student is endangering him/herself or other students, then it becomes a recordable incident. Special Education fall newsletter will be released to parents this week. Student activities include Big Cats/Little Cats, Reading Buddies, Red Ribbon Week, Stomp-Out Bullying, and Wildcat Ready. Will be having student-led Parent-Teacher conferences this year with first ones in November.

#### Action Items:

Final 2016-17 expenditures were favorable, as the fund balance increased by \$198,380. Preliminary budget expenditures were explained by department referencing increases and/or decreases. Revenues from property taxes, equalization aids, and computer exempt aid show a decrease of \$41,926 from last year – mainly due to increase in land valuations. Headstart rent and transportation revenue has been combined. Proposed budget expenditures of \$7,513,265 and revenues currently show deficit spending of \$377,844, but depending on final state budget our revenues could increase \$184,000 resulting in deficit spending of \$189,844. Final proposed expenditures and revenues will be presented at next month's meeting. Motion by P. Kujak with second by F. Aleckson to approve preliminary budget for 2017-18 school year showing \$7,513,265 proposed expenditures and \$7,135,421 proposed revenues. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by S. Staff with second by D. Thompson to accept resignation from Laurie Marsh, Middle School Cross-Categorical teacher, effective September 22, 2017. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by P. Kujak to approve Headstart food program (breakfasts and lunches for students and adults) and facility rental (includes rent and transportation) contracts with Western Dairyland 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 accept resignation from Kari Schoonover, Special Education paraprofessional. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to approve contract for Jessica McHugh, elementary paraprofessional – six hours per day. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by S. Staff to approve contract for Stacy Armitage, elementary paraprofessional – six hours per day. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Even though Gunderson Chevrolet ordered two 2018 Ford Transit vans on September 1<sup>st</sup> the school district is not obligated to purchase them. Cost of mid-roof van is \$42,995 and cost of low-roof van is \$41,110, but with government discount and trade-in value of our 2010 and 2012 Ford vans, the total cost is \$41,103. Vans could be purchased entirely from Fund 10 or Fund 21 or with a three, four or five-year lease agreement. New vans should have a five-year lifetime and still have good trade-in value at that time. Motion by P. Kujak with second by

D. Thompson to purchase two 2018 Ford Transit vans on five-year lease agreement with American Capital Financial Services, Inc. at 4% interest rate with annual payment of \$8,668, but to budget for three-year lease agreement with annual payment of \$13,986. Difference of \$5,318 would be transferred to Fund 46 to be used for future transportation replacement needs unless expenditures at end of the fiscal year warrant paying vans off in full. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by F. Aleckson to move to closed session at 7:30 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) (f) to discuss compensation model, administrative salaries, support staff leader pay salaries, spring coaching contracts, unpaid leave during the school year, and student/parent meeting with the Board. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk