

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 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, B. Koxlien, P. Kujak, K. Lien, D. Smikrud, and T. Tenneson. Board member absent: R. Arneson. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, M. Thomley, Chris Stalheim, Karen Pennekamp, Linda Nereng, Dennis Sampson, Lee Henschel, Terry Thompson, and Ben Johnson.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by P. Kujak to amend agenda to include resignation of elementary art teacher. Motion passed.

Mission statement was read aloud.

No public comments.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by T. Tenneson to approve minutes of the July 21st regular/closed meeting and July 24th, July 30th, and August 11th special meetings and July bills. Bills for July include payroll checks #57820-57823, payroll advice of deposits #20591-20630, money wires #219, #422-423, #3273, expense checks #15115-15122, computer expense checks #54175-54228, and computer expense checks #500117-500147. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve the July Financial Statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

C. Stalheim's Technology Report: In response to last month's question about students' writing abilities, there are two types of digital users – digital immigrants and digital natives. In the technology environment, parents should understand the new way of learning. WI FI is working at the United Campus. Attended meeting at CESA #4 on ACT online testing for 9th graders with plans to have this operational for the first day of school. Due to concerns about the younger generation's communication skills, changes in curriculum will cover communicating, comprehension, and real-world applications. State of Wisconsin will be requiring all 11th graders to take the ACT test, then sharing results with colleges and potential employers. Educator Effectiveness program will also focus on what students are learning and not just what teachers are teaching.

Building Plan Update by Ben Johnson: Milestone today as teachers were moving into their classrooms. He gave updates on the progress of each area. Moisture in gymnasium concrete floor must test out at 85% - last week's test was at 85.4%. This moisture issue has delayed the installation of the gymnasium floor, but we do not want to jeopardize the floor. Paving is complete. Striping was started today, but delayed due to rain. Will try again tomorrow. Hope to have all glass installed by the start of school. Unfinished areas are progressing well, but areas are still messy. Fire extinguishers, fire alarm system, and fire sprinkler system are all approved and working.

No Legislative Report.

Jeff Eide's Report: Telephone system being worked on by Larry Kopp. Key system work being done by Kendall Doors & Hardware. Internet is working. Walking/bike trail will be installed by Jeff Swanson and paid from Contingency Fund. This will be a gravel trail and completed before school starts. Noren Transport will make three additional stops in the City of Blair – Blair Church West (formerly Zion), intersection of Pearl and Second Streets, and Park Road by Broadway Street. Other two stops on east side of Blair will continue. After-school activity buses will run on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

M. Thomley's Report: Most of the new elementary playground equipment has been installed. Company reps will be back on August 20th to finish. Teachers are very busy unpacking.

D. Eide's Report: Leadership Team met earlier this month to work on new student assessments and curriculum changes for 2014-15 school year. Technology tutorials and building tours will be the main topics during orientation. Educator Effectiveness model will involve a great deal of work this year. Will be giving teachers some choices on needed subject areas for their in-service days.

P. Kujak asked if the United Campus building will be ready by the start of school. As Board members are hearing comments from taxpayers, their perception is that TCI was behind with the construction schedule putting the school district in a poor situation. Lots of staff members have been helping out making it a team effort, but a great deal has to be accomplished in order for school to start on time. Huge furniture deliveries are expected for the next three days. TCI realizes that it's definitely crunch time. Contracts are usually not bid for overtime, but subcontractors have worked extra time. Everything in construction is a process dependent on something else. Crew sizes have been increased as there are deadlines to meet.

Teacher negotiations meeting scheduled for August 21st at 6:00 p.m. Board committee will meet at 5:00 p.m. Support staff negotiations meeting scheduled for September 9th at 5:30 p.m. at United Campus.

No Sporting Clay presentation.

Trap Team presentation by Dennis Sampson: D. Sampson provided information about a co-ed student trap team, which would be open to students in grades 6-12. It would be a nine-week spring sport with registration taking place in February, season starting in April, and state tournament in June. There would be one coach for ten participants with no financial support expected from the school district. Average cost per student is \$22.00 each week. Same school policies would be enforced as for other school sports and would like to use the school name.

Midwest Food Equipment purchased several kitchen items no longer being used. This company may also be interested in other items that the school does not want.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by K. Lien to approve Governmental Certificate authorizing Jeffrey S. Eide, Superintendent, to act on behalf of the Blair-Taylor School District for short-term borrowing at the Union Bank of Blair. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak, seconded by T. Tenneson to approve the Wire Transfer Agreement with the Jackson County Bank. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud, seconded by P. Kujak to accept Erin Schmuck's resignation as LMC Director. Motion passed. Board members expressed appreciation for her years of service to our school district.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by P. Kujak to accept Jennifer Pickett's resignation as K-1-2 SoSET teacher. Motion carried. Board members expressed appreciation for her years of service to our school district.

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by F. Aleckson to accept (with thanks for her year of service) Stephanie Schick's resignation as Elementary Art teacher. Motion passed.

Motion by D. Smikrud, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve contract for Carlene Wolter, High School Social Studies teacher. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by T. Tenneson to approve contract for James Hoepner, part-time Middle School Social Studies teacher. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve 66:0301 contract with Whitehall School District for contracted Speech/Language services for 2014-15 school year. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by K. Lien to approve the following Headstart contracts for 2014-15 school year: rent = \$350.00/month (\$50.00 increase), transportation = \$700/month (no change), and food program (\$.05 increase for breakfasts and \$.10 increase for lunches). 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 7:15 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to discuss Response to Intervention needs, Gifted and Talented support needs, and Library needs and DPI requirements. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Fern Aleckson, Clerk