

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 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, R. Arneson, B. Koxlien, P. Kujak, K. Lien, D. Smikrud, and T. Tenneson. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, M. Thomley, Chris Stalheim, Cara Hart, Kara Lejcher, Jennifer Lambright, Marissa Tenneson, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

Mission statement was read aloud.

No public comments.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by K. Lien to approve the January regular/closed meeting minutes and January bills. Bills for January include payroll checks #57882-57889, payroll advice of deposits #21527-21729, money wires #225, #434-435, #3284-3285, expense checks #15162-15168, #54802-54938, and #500243-500251. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by R. Arneson to approve the January financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Student Council report by M. Tenneson and J. Lambright: Two recent fundraisers of selling candy grams and a chili supper raised about \$200. As of second semester Emma Robertson and Jacob Eckel are new members. Will be training a new treasurer.

Chris Stalheim's Technology report: 14 different distance learning classes are taught in this Board room each day. Seven students signed up for the independent study course on technology broadcasting. A sample of technology broadcasting created by two freshmen students was viewed. Two science classes taught by Jenni Lien are being video recorded. Technology tours to see how other teachers manage the technology environment are taking place. Setting up first graders Apple ID accounts to be prepared for next school year. 85.4% middle school students and 85.6% high school students have Wi-Fi at home. Technology helps learning at any time anywhere. Middle/high school students were surveyed as to why they like technology. Elementary students will take similar survey very soon. Most teachers are doing something with technology and numbers are increasing. Keyboards are mandatory for taking the Badger test, which is required for students in Grades 3-8. Cannot seem to get keyboards to work with iPads so are looking at Chromebook laptops for testing.

J. Eide's Report: Updates from School Administrator Alliance (SAA), WASB, and Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance about the proposed state budget were given. Proposed budget does not look good for public schools. There could be some new revenues for rural schools, but it does not make up the difference of what's already been taken away. Mallory Knipe was the guest speaker at February 13th staff in-service. Her topic was on poverty and its effect on education. Her main message was that we should keep doing our best job to educate all students. We've been experiencing problems with the school's Wi-Fi and IOS systems when using the iPads. If the connection is lost during testing or reading, it kicks you out. Since the systems operate properly with Chromebook laptops it is recommended that the school purchase 60 Chromebook laptops.

M. Thorley's Report: All Special Ed. Staff and several elementary teachers attended Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training on January 23rd. Report cards were sent home during the first week in February. Will be attending training for the upcoming Badger testing on February 24th. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on March 2nd and 5th from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Teacher in-service will be held during the morning of March 6th. Winter activities

(girls and boys basketball, wrestling) are coming to an end, and sign-up sheets for summer activities (swimming, baseball, softball) will be coming out soon. Important dates: May 29th - Spring Concert, June 3rd - Kindergarten Graduation, and June 4th - Kindergarten Round-up.

D. Eide's Report: First Recognition Event for middle/high school students was held on February 6th. Students were recognized for honor roll, STAR reading and math improved scores, and attendance. School musical, "Once Upon a Mattress," performances will be held on February 27th and 28th at 7:00 p.m. Elementary students will watch an afternoon matinee on February 26th and middle/high school students will watch a morning matinee on February 27th. Middle and high school Forensics competitions are underway. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on March 5th and 10th from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Trying to schedule conferences at middle/high school level, but it is difficult. Four wrestlers - Brennen Eide, Josh Nitek, Kevin Reese, Braden Smith have advanced to sectionals.

Discussion:

Transportation Committee (P. Kujak, K. Lien, D. Smikrud) meeting with Noren Transport, Inc. set for Thursday, March 5th at 5:00 p.m. in the district conference room.

Auditorium Policy #732 will be presented for its first reading and changes can be made.

Recommending the same Summer School Reading Program as in past years plus adding a math group and maybe Lego Robotics. Will have different stations for each subject area and looking at using Mobymax and Scratch software programs. Looking at possibility of adding bus service in the City of Blair. The goal of this summer school program is to have a reduction in the summer loss of student learning. Dates for this six-week program are: June 22-July 3, July 13-24, and August 3-14.

Spanish Club's 12-day trip to Spain in June 2016 was presented by Cara Hart. They would travel to the southern part of Spain staying with middle-class host families with many educational and cultural experiences, taking in tourist attractions, and staying in hotels for a couple of days. Currently 13 students are interested in this trip, which will be chaperoned by Cara Hart and her husband.

Dalco Co. demonstrated a non-chemical riding floor cleaning machine. Another machine will be demonstrated by Professional Supply Co. Cost of approximately \$14,000 will be paid from Focus on Energy rebate.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by K. Lien to approve Spanish Cub trip to Spain in June 2016. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Smikrud, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve hiring Kari Ekern as a part-time food service dishwasher. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by R. Arneson to approve hiring Cindy Peterson as an aide not to exceed 30 hours per week. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by K. Lien to approve the first reading of Auditorium Policy #732. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Smikrud, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve a new Union Bank of Blair Bank Declaration giving Jeffrey Eide authorization for all school accounts. Motion passed.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by K. Lien to approve the elementary Summer School Reading Program. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by R. Arneson to approve purchasing Chromebook laptop computers for testing/reading purposes. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by T. Tenneson, seconded by R. Arneson to move to closed session at 7:15 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to consider fall extra-curricular contracts, staffing, and discussion of teacher compensation models. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Meeting was reconvened to open session.

Motion by K. Lien, seconded by P. Kujak to approve the fall extra-curricular coaching contracts for: Jeremy Hanson-Head Football, Andy Nehring-Assistant Football, Jeffrey Eide-Assistant Football, Brent Steinke-Assistant Football, Gregory Bratina-Head M.S. Football, Tammy Stensven-Head Volleyball, Mandy McDonald-Assistant Volleyball, Kimberly Nehring-Head M.S. Volleyball, Baleigh Kehe-Assistant M.S. Volleyball, Allan Lien-Head Cross-Country, Joshua Peterson-Assistant/M.S. Cross-Country, and Ben Anderson-Assistant Track for 2015 season. Motion passed by roll call vote with six members voting yes and R. Arneson abstaining.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by F. Aleckson to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Fern Aleckson, Clerk