

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 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, M. Thomley, Chris Stalheim, Bradley Elvaker, Arryanna Tenneson, Cierra Dunlavy, Todd Dunlavy, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

Mission statement was read aloud.

Public comments: President D. Smikrud announced that Karla Hulne has won the Herb Kohl's Fellowship Award. She is one of 100 winners in the state. She will receive \$3,000 plus \$3,000 for the school. Congratulations to her on this wonderful accomplishment!

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by T. Tenneson to approve the February regular/closed meeting minutes and February bills. Bills for February include payroll checks #57890-57895, payroll advice of deposits #21730-21935, money wires #226, #436-437, #3286-3287, expense checks #15169-15175, #54939-55065, and #500252-500253. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

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

Student Council report by A. Tenneson: Working on senior scholarships. President receives a scholarship plus another Senior Student Council member. Teacher appreciation event being planned for May. Elections for next year will include new freshmen members and new officers, as all current officers are seniors.

Chris Stalheim's Technology Report: Chromebooks are here and students are practicing with them. Testing window begins the week of March 30<sup>th</sup>. Grades 7-12 parents were able to do online scheduling for one night of Parent-Teacher Conferences. Payments for students' lunch accounts can now be done online allowing parents to pay with credit card or checking account. Middle school teachers are using iPads to display student work.

Legislative Report by J. Eide: Proposed state budget revenues could result in decrease of \$150.00 per pupil member for the 2015-16 school year. Many school boards have sent resolutions to Governor Walker stating what their reductions will be. Will be drafting a letter to the Governor and/or community about the impact of these cuts on our school budget.

CESA #4 Report by D. Smikrud: CESA #4 Administrator Guy Leavitt will be retiring on June 30, 2015. Board of Control will be interviewing four candidates - two on March 17<sup>th</sup> and two on March 24<sup>th</sup> and hopefully make final selection on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Several CESA #4 and Dairyland Conference schools have held referendums for new buildings, improvements, and general operations. If revenues keep getting cut, our school district could face the same thing. CESA funding is also getting cut.

J. Eide's Report: Transportation Committee met with Noren Transport on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Committee also met to discuss the Teacher Compensation Model. M. Thomley will be leaving the meeting early to attend the Pops Concert.

M. Thomley's Report: Leprechauns will be running around the elementary school tomorrow. Grades K-1-2 will be having a scavenger hunt for their students. Elementary School Carnival will be held on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from

2:00-5:00 p.m. Each classroom will make a basket for the silent auction and set up a game in the gym. Grade 6 will be testing on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the first week, followed by Grade 7, then Grade 8, and then more elementary grades. Two evening P-T conferences went well with parents liking the extra option of Friday morning. More high school students have been able to mentor elementary students this year since driving is not an issue. BT Daycare has new ownership. Will look at after-school programs.

Discussion:

Monitoring the number of people for auditorium performances was discussed. How do we keep track of people in attendance? One person would monitor for up to 200 people and two monitors for up to 400 people. There are a total of 400 seats with 60 allowed on stage for total capacity of 460. Everyone is counted no matter what age.

Cierra Dunlavy is requesting early graduation at the end of the first semester for 2015-16 school year. She would like to start at Western Technical College in January 2016.

CESA #5 contract for Alio accounting and payroll software support needs approval for 2015-16 school year. Annual cost is \$9,520 with excellent services provided.

Middle/high school summer school classes are offered to middle school students needing to complete CORE classes before entering high school or high school students needing to complete a summer school packet before receiving credit for the class.

Three riding floor cleaning machines were demonstrated – (1) Tennant TNT-650-D T7 26" with a ECH20 system. This machine has the option of using chemicals or not and uses up to 70% less water at cost of \$14,061; (2) Tennant T7 26" that uses chemicals for \$12,500; (3) Minuteman E Ride 26" that uses chemicals for \$12,500. Cleaning service recommends the first machine.

2015-16 school calendar has 174 student days and 16 teacher in-service days. K-12 will have similar P-T Conference dates in October, but different dates for the second conferences. September 1<sup>st</sup> is the first student day. Elementary orientation will be held on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Proposed plan for storage shed was reviewed. Five or six contractors will be bidding on this project per proposed plan plus bidding the cost for an additional 20 feet of storage area on the unheated part. Building will have a four-foot overhang on the front side. Need to obtain estimated cost of site preparation.

Graduation Policy #345.4 is being presented for its first reading so it reflects what we're doing – student portfolio and 32 community service hours have been added, DPI-required increase in science and math credits beginning with the Class of 2017, GEDO II option is our current alternative education plan for students who are deficient in credits.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve the second reading of Auditorium Policy #732.  
Motion carried.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by K. Lien to approve contract for Jennifer Lien, Middle School Track Coach.  
Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud, seconded by P. Kujak to approve contract for Allison Thomley, Assistant Middle School Track Coach. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud to accept Rebecca Boe's resignation as Cheerleader Advisor expressing thanks for her services. Motion was seconded by R. Arneson and carried unanimously.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by K. Lien to approve Cierra Dunlavy's early graduation request. Motion passed.

Motion by F. Aleckson, seconded by T. Tenneson to approve the Middle/High School Summer School Program that will start one week after school is out. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak, seconded by K. Lien to approve purchasing a Tennant TNT-650-D T7 26" riding floor cleaning machine from Dalco for \$14,061. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by D. Smikrud to approve the 2015-16 school calendar. Motion carried.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by K. Lien to approve the amended Graduation Policy #345.4. Motion passed.

Motion by R. Arneson, seconded by F. Aleckson to approve the two-year sports medicine contract with Gundersen Health System for first year cost of \$1,260 and second year cost of \$1,400. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by T. Tenneson, seconded by F. Aleckson to move to closed session at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to consider staffing, teacher compensation/discussion models, and Western Wildcats board changes. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Respectfully submitted,



Fern Aleckson, Clerk