

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016 – 5:30 P.M.

Vice-President P. Kujak 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, J. Stalheim, and D. Thompson. Absent: T. Tenneson. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, L. Halverson, Al Austad, Gwen Kidd, Peter Blum, Angel Mendoza, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

Mission statement was read aloud.

No public comments.

Motion by J. Stalheim with second by K. Lien to approve the May regular and closed minutes and bills for the month of May. May bills include payroll checks #58008-58020, payroll advice of deposits #24832-25056, money wires #241, #466-467, #3316-3317, expense checks #15277-15284, and #56699-56846. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to approve the May financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

No Student Council report.

J. Eide's Report: Summer maintenance needs include re-painting the yellow stripes in the no parking area, re-painting some white lines, installing signs for parking lots as Lots A, B, C, D, re-surfacing back parking lot, installing fence on west side of playground near Elland Road, planting shrubbery near district office to reduce snow buildup on sidewalk/steps area, install strikes on four entrance doors, paint elementary gym, replace carpet in room D-120 (last room of 1999 building to be re-carpeted), and put classroom numbers on each window. Will get bid for painting elementary gym. Board members asked that signs in elementary gym be moved to the high school gym. Boy's locker doors are finished and can only be opened if left unlocked. Will soon need to get bids for roof replacement projects whether it is for specific roof areas or the complete roof area.

CESA #4 Report by J. Stalheim: At June annual CESA #4 meeting guest speaker from Illinois talked about how to hire and retain teachers in rural school districts. Teachers want to stay in rural areas because that's where they were raised, they have a rural background, and they have an attachment to the community. School website can be a tool for marketing rural school districts to teacher candidates. Not having teachers live in the community of the school district was common amongst all the CESA #4 schools.

L. Halverson's Report: Even though the last student day was on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, it has not slowed down. ELA training (by Black River Falls School) is taking place on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>. Several staff will be attending PLC Institute in Minneapolis June 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. OM team placed 30<sup>th</sup> out of 60 teams at World OM competition held in Ames, Iowa. Students did very well in their performance and it was a great opportunity for them. Student assembly was held on the last day of school. Over 100 students were recognized for attendance having perfect attendance or five or less absent days for the year. Over 100 students were recognized for the PBIS Wildcat Way having 0 majors and 0 minors. Have been interviewing for open teaching positions from a very good pool of candidates.

D. Eide's Report: Thanked the School Board for their financial support of the OM program. New middle/high school PBIS coach is Chelsea Stephenson. Wildcat Way Committee is working on specifics for the wall such as having one student per grade for the year selected by the community committee. Wall of Inspiration will honor people from Blair and/or Taylor area who have contributed to society. Blair Lion's Club donated \$3,000 towards this project. Middle/high school credit recovery summer school started today with Jenni Lien, Katie Bentz, and Chelsea Stephenson teaching.

Peter Blum from Youth Challenge Academy spoke about their program that is offered to students ages 16-19 who are struggling in high school because of bad habits. Their program includes a five-month tough schedule, as they have the students for 24/7. Students cannot have cell phones and are provided a very good environment with a scheduled regiment of sleep, exercise, three meals per day, high school recovery classes, etc. Their program serves the entire state of Wisconsin. Many students who enroll in their program do not finish because it is too difficult, but it is very rewarding to see the maturity that takes place in those students who do stay the full five months. In this last session 167 students started the program and 107 finished. Angel Mendoza transferred to our high school in February 2015 and was low on credits. He talked about how this program has changed his life. The team leaders and counselors gave him a wake-up call - opening his eyes and realizing that you can do what you set your mind to. His experience at Youth Challenge Academy was hard, but a good time because everyone is in it together. He was promoted to First Sergeant meaning he was in charge of 56 people getting their work done, which taught him responsibility. He would like to attend Western Technical College. D. Eide reported that Angel's passed courses and time spent in this program meets our standards for graduation. He also presented his portfolio to classroom, teachers, and School Board as well as completed his eight hours of community service. D. Eide recommended that Angel receive a Blair-Taylor High School diploma.

#### Action Item:

Motion by P. Kujak with second by F. Aleckson to approve early graduation request for Angel Mendoza and grant him a Blair-Taylor High School diploma. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes. Board members congratulated Angel Mendoza on his accomplishment and wished him future success!

#### Discussion Items:

Bids for elementary playground are being re-figured, as looking to install a drainage pipe. There are drainage problems since there is not enough slope in this area and would not be a good idea to remove the concrete pad.

Can sell some Apple computers here and company will take what's left. Dell Chromebook and CTI Chromebook samples are being checked out with price being the same. Students will be given the chance to purchase their computer and community members can also purchase them. Prices for Airbook laptops are \$350 each and iPads are \$150 each. Current computers will decrease in value each year so don't want to wait. Short timeline for computer sales will be communicated via School Messenger call, Facebook, and school website.

ALICE training for all staff is scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup> with morning and afternoon sessions. Board members are welcome as well as bus drivers, fire departments, and police departments.

Second reading of Policy #164 Board Member Compensation was discussed with consensus that if a Board member is not capable of attending a regularly-scheduled meeting, it should be an excused meeting. This should be a judgement call by the Board President and Superintendent.

Concerns about the 7-12 entrance area such as water seeping down causing problems with freezing and cracked concrete were discussed. If entire area is cemented, could possibly install underground barrels and rocks to allow slow drainage.

Action Items:

Motion by K. Lien with second by D. Thompson to approve the second reading of Policy #164 Board Member Compensation with addition of "absences above two need to be approved by doctor's written medical authorization to be deemed payable." Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by J. Stalheim with second by F. Aleckson to table back parking lot repair due to lack of bids. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by J. Stalheim to approve concrete work to be done by Jeremy Swenson Construction for three areas (dumpster pad, parking lot patch, and gas pad bollard) for total of \$3,136. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by K. Lien to approve 2016-17 Alio support services for payroll and accounting software programs at cost of \$8,988. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by K. Lien with second by J. Stalheim to approve the sale of Apple iPads and Airbooks for approximately \$77,100 and purchase 425 Chromebooks for \$98,175 with net cost being \$21,075. Options to purchase Apple devices will be given to students, staff, and community by June 24<sup>th</sup>. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by J. Stalheim with second by K. Lien to accept Scott Pooler's resignation. Motion carried unanimously. Board members expressed their appreciation for his 12 years of service to the school district.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by D. Thompson to accept Stephanie Schmidt's resignation. Motion carried unanimously. Board members expressed their appreciation for her 22 year of service to the school district.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to approve 2016-17 contract for Troy Tiedens, high school English teacher. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by J. Stalheim to approve 2016-17 contract for Cassandra Shaw, Kindergarten teacher. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by P. Kujak with second by K. Lien to approve 2016-17 contract for Mianna Sobotta, fourth grade teacher. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by K. Lien to approve 2016-17 contract for Amanda Bakkestuen, fifth grade teacher. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by J. Stalheim with second by F. Aleckson to move to closed session at 7:30 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85(1) (c) to consider IT/AV staffing, compensation model, staff extra-curricular pay, and a personnel concern. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk