

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

President Troy Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Troy Tenneson, David Thompson, Blaine Koxlien, Perry Kujak, Michele Steien. Absent, Sarah Staff, Late arrival Jeff Stalheim. Also present; Jeff Eide, Dana Eide, Lynn Halverson, Bryce Dokkestuel, Mary Oldendorf, Kim Nehring, Jen Murphy, Gwen Kidd, Holly Anderson, Lori Lisowski, Karen Robertson, Renee Ernsting, Brian Brewer

The Pledge of Allegiance recited

Motion by M. Steien, second by D. Thompson to approve the agenda. Motion passed

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

There were no public comments.

Discussion items:

J. Eide turned over the discussion regarding an in-school daycare to Lynn Halverson. Mr. Halverson gave a summary of the information gathered so far. Licensing – the school district would not have to go through a separate licensing process. School District is license exempt. Would only require board approval. Would be subject to yearly inspection. Jackson County Child Care Task Force for daycare, provided information regarding needs within the area. Employers in Jackson Co. lose 2.5 million due to childcare related issues. Families find they need to have children split with different day care providers in order to find adequate care. Results of a recent childcare survey provided show the impact childcare issues have on employee attendance and productivity – 66.67% of employees reported having childcare issues. Blair-Taylor is located in a childcare desert. For every opening, three children need the care Renee Ernsting, Western Dairyland spoke briefly regarding pre-licensing, center licensing requirements, and the barriers people find to opening home-daycare, or day care centers. Brief open discussion with board, and the public regarding the potential. Strong job market has caused some of the problems. Recently school districts are considering addressing. Ratios of children to teachers is a huge factor, with limited number of children per room. Most district day cares stay under 50 children. Staffing requirements driven by number of children. Recruiting and retention in the area keep people away due to the childcare issue. Largest need is infant care. Further discussion and review needed.

J. Eide introduced Brian Brewer from Baird. Brian created potential financing models for consideration should the School District decide to go for a referendum to build. As part of the discussion, Baird also presented financing models for the current debt that needs refinancing, by 2022. The model shows the current debt service levels and what might happen with the tax levy should a referendum pass. The various models shown as examples only. All subject to change and further review.

2019-2020 Preliminary budget presented by J. Eide. Expenses presented first. Proposed Fund 10 budget of \$8,297,492.00 projects tapping into fund balance. Part of the shortage is \$200,000 for roof repairs. Needed, repairs could be completed over two fiscal years if desired. Right now roof repairs remain in the budget. Largest Increases were salaries and benefits for 2019-20 budget. Open enrollment out has gone down, and open enrollment in has increased, which is good news. Fund 21 has a current balance of 157,000. Fund 27 has similar increases in salaries and benefits. We do have a grant carryover from 2018-19 of \$90,000 which reflects a budget spending increase. This primarily shows grant monies spent. There is a Special Ed van included under the IDEA grant as well as, handicapped playground equipment. Fund 38 reflects final payment of unfunded retirement liability. Fund 39 is our current debt service payment. Fund 50 food service should balance. Missing one Fund 50 revenue estimate. Total Fund 10 revenues estimated at 7,951,920.

Action items:

Motion by J. Stalheim, with second by M. Steien to approve the preliminary budget. Motion by roll call vote passed 6-0.

Motion by P. Kujak, with second by D. Thompson to move to closed session in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1)(c)(f) to review potential referendum budget impact options and student disciplinary concerns. Motion passed by roll call vote 6-0.

Motion by D. Thompson, with second by P. Kujak to move back into open session. Motion passed.

No action required from closed session discussion.

Motion by M. Steien, with second by J. Stalheim to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by roll call vote 6-0 and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Thompson", with a long, sweeping underline.

David Thompson, Clerk