

Minutes of the June 16, 2014 Board of Education Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Dir. Strebe at 6:32 pm in the Board Room, 800 Beech Street, Manawa. All stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Dir. Strebe appointed a fill in Clerk – Jeanne Frazier. Roll Call of the Board was taken: Strebe- here, Pohl – present, Lowney – present, Sturm – absent.

Director Strebe - Verify Publication of Meeting- was posted on time.

Director Strebe explained to those in attendance that the Board could not conduct an official meeting due to a lack of a quorum. Due to the resign of Kurt Kreklow and Treasurer Sturm not available by electronic means this evening those board members present will facilitate the agenda; if there is discussion for a particular item we will stop and discuss it, but as stated, no action will be taken, no motions will be made tonight. The 3 members present chose not to cancel.

Slight addition to consent agenda items....at future meeting to amend

Item 5d: 2 additional resignations: Becky Marquardt and Kurt Kreklow board member. And to approve

Dir of Technology amended item.

Director Lowney explained a quorum: more than half of the BOE must be present for action to be taken.

Strebe: once the remaining board can meet / with a quorum the Board will then consider approving the consent agenda including Minutes, Treasurer's Report, Donation, Request for Leave of Absence, Resignations as listed with the addition of Becky Marquardt, Business Education Teacher, Kurt Kreklow, Board Member and Will Johnson, Special Education Teacher.

Openings on the Board will be filled according to Policy 133 and 133 Rule. The vacancies will be posted as to the date the Board will take application from candidates to fill the three vacancies. The areas of the district that apply to the openings on the board include one from the City of Manawa, one from Township of Little Wolf and one from Lebanon/Bear Creek.

Director Strebe: I know there has been a lot of turmoil with the resignations. I want to thank each and every one of them whether teaching staff, support staff or board members I want to than each and every one of them. Whether we agree or disagree with teaching style, or how board members acted, whatever. It doesn't matter. I want to thank each and every one of them for the time they put forward. This has been a trying time for everyone not for just those in our seats, but for everybody.

Public Comments: (Register to Speak Prior to Start of Meeting / Guidelines on Reverse) Dir. Strebe read the guidelines of Policy 187 requesting to speak under public comments.

Roseanne Sanderfoot: N5462 Obertin Rd. New London Wi. Employee of the Manawa School District. Read her resignation from the District after 35.5 years. Her concerns and her thanks, reasons for retiring, and the leadership of the district.

Brad Johnson, E7586 Symco Road, Bear Creek. questions and concerns regarding coaches for this next season including the football season and the timing of filling positions.

Casey Johnson: E7586 Symco Road, Bear Creek. Concerns on coaching changes and future athletic coaches.

Molly Suehs 330 Grove St., Manawa. Take the time to publicly thank the board and administration for their continued support; positive things we have going on in the district.

Jenny Larson: 307 S. Schaefer St. Appleton. Spec Ed dir for 3 years. Support of Mrs. Sjoberg, and very grateful to all the teachers and how they how they embraced the students.

Dir. Lowney; thanked Mrs. Sanderfoot for 35.5 years and Mrs. Suehs. .

Tom Langman, 220 E. 4th St., Manawa. to the Board: thank you for showing up tonight. Spoke regarding the coaching situation mention earlier.

Jeff Bortle, N5951 Wolf Road, Manawa: probably 15 yrs ago when the AD stopped doing evaluations and hiring and firing.

Joe Starr, E5190 N. Water Drive, Manawa. I would like to know when do you anticipate having all four board members here to conduct business.

Dir. Strebe: I can give an immediate response. The intent is to do this asap. Move forward as fast as we can.

Mary Griffin: N5993 summit lane: thank the teachers that are here tonight as there are others retiring. Concerns about the district; get all phases functioning again.

Mary Johnson, E7586 Symco Rd. Bear Creek, WI 54922. When does Stephanie Flynn's seat end? (April 2015). When you fill the positions will it be for a year or full term or what?

Questions were asked regarding the other vacant board positions: when does the term end. Board members answered as they could at the time.

Dir Strebe: I believe Mr. Kreklow's position is up in April 2015; Mr. Artz, April 2016 and Flynn as of April 2015.

Other questions asked: who is calling the shots in the district office as decisions are needed to be made?

Dir. Lowney: We cannot discuss much as it was in closed session; but it's being delegated out. Done by committee. If questions, contact the building principals. The board has a communication protocol to follow.

Mary Griffin: Status of the trip to Nashville? Jim Quinn: Becky Marquardt is going on trip to Nashville

Tom Langman: spoke on hiring a district administrator.

Jerry Sexton, 1700 Kurts Drive, Plover; Concerns regarding how staff / teachers have been treated, losing 130 years of experience.

Jenny Larson: spoke in support of teachers.

Jerry Sexton: spoke regarding loss of benefits to teachers.

Michelle Kaczorowski, E7674 Symco Rd., Bear Creek, WI 54922 – Concerns about the former administrator.

Jackie Beyer: thanked three board members for being here tonight because you could very easily have closed the door and said there was nothing, and encourage anyone in this room sign up and to send in a letter of intent to be a board member.

Emily Guentner, 111 Lamplighter Dr., Kaukauna: Thank you to teachers and Manawa; support of Principal. Sjoberg.

Cindy Buttles: Positive comments about how things are going.

Tom Langman: 504 program: has been an ongoing struggle. It's a federally mandated program that hasn't been followed.

John Smith, 960 Depot St., Manawa: applauded the 3 board members that are here. apologized for anything I said and for some of the actions I may have taken that that offended some here. I definitely don't want to offend anyone. Support of the school board and the administration that is still here.

Marie Gorman E7748 Cty Rd. N., Manawa; suggests that in order to get an administrator that fits our committee that the school board takes their time and post the posting; and suggests Veteran substitute teachers are not dismissed or not called because they are too old or don't know the technology because that has been happening.

Angela Williamson Emmert, N8115 Ferg Road, Manawa; Write for the Manawa Messenger a taxpayer and a parent of the district. there have been allegations of violations of open meetings laws: can the board perhaps address those or give us some sense going forward that this will be taken very seriously by the board going forward.

Dir. Strebe addressed this: up until a month ago I think this board has stayed out of those situations. Many times at our committee meetings... when there are potentially up to 7 present. Committee has been present and two or three on the sidelines. In my opinion it has not been an issue: what happened that night, it is what it is. There is supposed to be a meeting coming up at some time...a two hour meeting (with our attorney)

John Smith: penalty for illegal open session \$154 fine or 2 hour training. I wrote a letter to the school board members myself, asking the police chief, council people to attend the training session.

Pete Griffin, N5993 Summit Lane, Manawa: spoke regarding a replacement for District Administrator.

Dir. Strebe: Comments regarding people on Facebook, I don't care if you're on Facebook, and I can't say you can't take part in it...but please watch what you put out there. Comments regarding moving forward.

Correspondence: a card of thanks from Jessie Ort, Teacher's Aide – end of year picnic

Administrative Reports:

MES Principal: Seclusion & Restraint Report 2013-2014 – had one incident at the MEs. It is my understanding the HS did not have any. I apologize the report was written wrong so it will be corrected. I want to take an opportunity to celebrate all that we've accomplished at the elementary school.

HS Dean of Students: Washington DC Trip: general information on the trip. News from National (FBLA) trip coming up. Mr. Bortle. Recommend approving at the next regular meeting. Foreign exchange student from Turkey, Bilge Uysal, arriving in the fall. Many positive comments on the commencement ceremony. Had a great end of the year. Wonderful for staff and students.

Board Comments:

Pohl: Retirement Thanks – with regret and respect: Cindy Jaeckle, Special Ed Teacher, board members Stephanie Flynn, Carl Artz and Kurt Kreklow. Mrs. Sexton 32 years, Mr. Keller 36 years in our district, Mrs. Mursau, Reading Specialist 16 yrs, Mrs. Sanderfoot and her presentations of her students, for 35.5 yrs...to all of you our sincere thanks.

Committee Reports:

Policy & Personnel Committee (Pohl)

- i. Long Range Planning – Presentation by Connie Abert, UW Extension - Facilitator by Mrs. Abert – stakeholder mapping. Artifacts. Includes retailers, alumni churches, city council, parents, renters, service organizations. Approx. 40 people invited to the meeting. Start on the rebuilding of our district. We've hit our low and we're on our way up. We ask for your help to rebuild. Later on look at suggestions for action plans; hope to be done in 5 meetings with a direction and specific actions. Hope to have good results in one year.
- ii. Course Option Policy Presentation - Mary Roenz - law passed in 2013; allows children to take 2 classes from another institution (school dist, FVTC, university) same law also compels districts to pay for tuition. Could be quite costly for our district. Not to discourage the students, just wanted to mention there is a cost. We're very lucky that the UW system has vowed to pay the class by any student in the state of Wisconsin. Excellent opportunity for our students. Have to move very fast; adopt a policy from a neighboring dist. Will be on the agenda for next meeting. Want parents and students to know ...in 6 wks before beginning of class July 21st for 2nd reading. Try to have emergency passing of our policy. Form is on dpi website. Will be on the website.
- iii. Band Position Presentation – Staff member requested to have her compensation amended based of new responsibilities. Has been referred to our HS principal and Dist Administrator for compensation assessment. The board will not take action on this subject.

Dir. Strebe: names on the list for long range planning. Anyone who wants input, the Long Range Planning; June 23rd is the first meeting date. If anyone is interested, there is information here regarding the meeting. Dir. Strebe not able to attend the July 21st board meeting.

Next Meeting Dates:

- b. June 23, 2014 – 6:30 pm – Long Range Planning Mtg
- c. June 30, 2014 – Joint BOE Mtg – Re: Centers of Excellence – 5:30 pm Dinner / 6:30 pm Mtg with Shiocton, Weyauwega-Fremont, New London School Boards @ Rawhide Boys Ranch
- d. July 21, 2014 – Regular Meeting – 6:30 p.m. - Board Room

The meeting ended at 8:06 pm.

Jeanne Frazier, Temporary Appointed Clerk / Recording Secretary