

Minutes of the May 20, 2013 Board of Education Meeting

Meeting was called to Order by President Kreklow at 6:02 p.m. in the MES Board Room.

Present from the Board: Kreklow, Artz, Sturm, Strebe, and Flynn.

Clerk Flynn Verified proper Publication of Meeting notices.

Filling Board Vacancy: Applications/Interviews to Fill Board Vacancy by Board Appointment. There were no interested candidates from Zone 5 – Royalton/Mukwa. H  l  ne Pohl, E3080 Poverty Hill Rd, Ogdensburg submitted the required letter of interest and spoke to the board wishing to fill the vacancy for Zone 4 Townships of Ogdensburg/St. Lawrence. Votes were cast by written ballot in which H  l  ne Pohl was voted unanimously to represent Zone 4. Clerk Flynn officially swore H  l  ne Pohl into office as the newly elected Board Member – Zone 4 for a term until April 2014. Richard Lowney submitted a letter of interest for the school board vacancies but has not established residency in either of the vacant zones at this time, therefore, Mr. Lowney was not considered for appointment.

Presentation: Miles Turner, WASB – Topic: Boardsmanship

Mr. Turner spoke on items that are essential in being a successful board and administration team. *Trust* – The board, as well as the administration, cannot have surprises. They need to be well informed and have common knowledge of issues before them. *Open and honest communication* – All discussions need to take place in the public meeting forum. Correspondence needs to go through the District Administrator or the Board President. *Show respect for each other* – Do not criticize other board members and/or administrators. You are a team and disrespect can break down trust. *Keep executive sessions/closed sessions quiet* – All matters discussed during these sessions are strictly confidential and may not be disclosed. *Attack the issue, not the person* – Do not make issues personal. *Vote and move on* – the overall goal is ultimately to educate our children. *Follow chain of command* – If issues are brought forth to a board member, have the source go through the chain. First the teacher/coach, then the Principal, followed by the District Administrator and finally, the Board President. Handling issues by yourself as a board member creates a bias opinion and it may be hard to stay impartial to the issue at hand. *Know your policies*. In conclusion, *learning is important*. Keep yourself educated on new and ongoing issues.

Paul Sturm asked for an opinion on having subcommittee meetings versus a Committee of the Whole format. Mr. Turner said there are pros and cons to each but it is the desire of the board on which to choose. One committee that is a state statute to have is a Human Growth and Development Committee. If you have a Committee of the Whole, the committee would post the meeting, may vote on items and there would be no further action required at a regular scheduled board of education meeting.

Move by Sturm/Artz to approve Consent to Agenda Items as follows:

- Approval of Minutes of the April 22 Regular Meeting, and April 29, May 8 and May 15, 2013 Special Meetings
- Treasurers Report: Approval of Expenditures of \$295,027.24 and Cash Receipts of \$201,903.97

- WIAA Membership Renewal 2013-2014

Motion Carried.

Public Comments: Marie Gorman, E 7748 Cty. Rd N, Manawa, thanked the administrative team for the opportunity to interview for the elementary teacher position and for the support she has received being the Elementary Library Aide this year. She wants to be on the record requesting to meet Mr. Morrin within the next two weeks to better understand what qualifications she needs to be considered a qualified teacher in the district.

Janet Huebner, E6071 S. Shore Dr. Weyauwega, voiced her concerns regarding not having a full time librarian, tech support, and special education director within the district and readily available. She would have liked to see more board presence within the elementary building this last year. The positive work of the elementary Library Aide was commended along with the generous help of volunteers. She did state concerns with staff being properly prepared for the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium. Mr. Dombrowski offered to talk with Mrs. Huebner following the meeting to address her concerns.

Correspondence: Healthy Smiles for Waupaca County's thank you for supporting their program promoting oral health within the school district.

Administrative Reports – ES Principal, Megan Yeska reported the elementary school recently had their guitar and recorder ensemble; completed the building walk-thru; various grades are going on field trips that tie into curriculum; the teachers are currently working on their budgets; teacher class assignments are penciled in; the ESCA Title 1 plan has been drafted; Star Testing was completed for the year and continues to see growth, although statistically the percentile has gone down which can be attributed to the trajectory of growth is not as rapid as pace anticipated; and the 5K PALS tests are completed and PALS testing will be extended to 4K next year. Staff is excited that next year they will have concrete data for their 1st grade students to show growth from 5K to 1st grade. Mrs. Yeska mentioned she and staff have found the Educator Effectiveness Project rewarding in which it has a collaborative goal and will show measurable goals. In conclusion, Mrs. Yeska shared her gratitude for being with the district for the last 2 years and will take along the Wolf motto which is Work Responsibly, Own our Education, Lead with Respect and Purpose Find our Potential so she will continue to be a lifelong learner.

Jr/Sr High Principal, Karl Morrin – Not present due to illness.

District Administrator, Ed Dombrowski – The 2011-12 School Performance Report was provided in the board packet. Strebe questioned what is being done to monitor and curb the truancy and attendance rate. Mrs. Yeska responded on what procedures are taken at the elementary level which includes 3 day letters, 5 days letters and finally an offer for a meeting. Mr. Dombrowski confirmed there are procedures in place to deal with attendance and truancy issues at the Jr/Sr High. Communication with the parents is the key but sometimes getting involved in the legal process is not as effective to get to the bottom of the problem.

Board Comments: None

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee:

Preliminary Budget for 2013-2014 – A balanced preliminary budget was brought forth which will come to the full board for action. This preliminary budget will continue to see changes due to unknowns at the state level but once approved, allows the district to make necessary purchases through the summer months. In addition, this budget uses the Governor's suggested \$0 increase per student which is anticipated to change once talks are complete at the state level. This preliminary budget does include IT and Librarian positions within the district, a Literacy Coach at the Jr/Sr High, a full time Jr High teacher, a curriculum director, and a full time Literacy coach/Interventionist at the elementary. To reiterate, the preliminary budget includes these changes/additions but the budget will continue to change right up until the Annual Meeting.

Health Care Reform – Discussed the upcoming Health Care Reform which goes into effect January 1, 2014 that will affect the districts support staff. The law states the district must offer health insurance to all employees of the district that work over a 30 hour work week. The options that have been considered is to offer insurance to all employees which has a large cost involved and questions whether a sustainable solution can be secured for the yearly added expense. Another option is to reduce working hours of the support staff to less than 30 hours a week which also has many concerns. The new option Mr. Sturm is currently pursuing is forming a co-op type of employer with another small district that would be similar to hiring out their contracted workers to ensure the support staff could retain their full time hours. This continues to be researched. It is time sensitive issue as well as an all around sensitive issue that will likely need board action within a month's time to allow the district to properly make plans.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Move by Strebe/Pohl to Approve Open Enrollment for 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Move by Flynn/Pohl to Approve Contract for Kevin Murphy, Physical Ed / Health Teacher 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Move by Pohl/Strebe to Approve Contract for Kim Poli, HS Math / Physics Teacher 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Move by Sturm/Kreklow to Approve Contract for Bradley Johnson, ES Teacher 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Dave Strebe pointed out how happy he is to have someone from our hometown join the district as a new teacher. He then asked Mr. Dombrowski for clarification on the selection of candidates, the interview process, and expressed his reservations on the interview process as a whole. Dombrowski explained the process that was taken with the recent elementary teacher position. When Mr. Strebe questioned specific applicants, Dombrowski declined to discuss specific individuals in a public forum meeting but offered to talk to Strebe privately following the board meeting to go into further details regarding individual candidates.

Move by Sturm/Artz to Approve the Lunch Price Increase Required by DPI by \$.10 for 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Move by Sturm/Strebe to Approve Preliminary Budget 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Move by Sturm/Pohl to TABLE Health Care Reform Recommendation. Motion Carried.

Move by Strebe/Artz to Approve Revised Administrative Contract for Tammy Sjoberg, ES Principal for 2013-2015, Pending Acceptance of Resignation from Current Employer. Motion Carried.

Revision of the contract for Tammy Sjoberg, ES Principal broke down the prorated salary of June 10, 2013 – June 30, 2013 \$3923 and contract salary of July1, 2013-June 30, 2014 \$68,000.

Move by Flynn/Strebe to Approve Revised Administrative Contract for Daniel L. Storch, Business Manager for 2013-2015, Pending Acceptance of Resignation from Current Employer. Motion Carried.

Revision of the contract for Daniel L. Storch, Business Manager broke down the prorated salary of June 3, 2013 – June 30, 2013 \$5769 and contract salary of July1, 2013-June 30, 2014 \$75,000.

Move by Flynn/Artz to Approve Physical Therapy Contract with New London Family Medical Center for 2013-2014. Motion Carried.

Move by Sturm/Pohl to Approve Co-Curricular - Fall Coaches for 2013-2014 School. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting Dates:

Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting – June 10, 2013 – 6:30 pm – Board Room

Transition Team Meeting – June 10, 2013 – 7:30 pm – Board Room

Regular Meeting - June 17, 2013 — 6:30 pm – Board Room

Move by Sturm/Artz to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. Motion Carried.

Stephanie Flynn, Clerk of the Board