

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BELOIT
March 27, 2012

The Board of Education held its regular meeting on March 27, 2012 at the Kolak Education Center in the Board Room. President Scharmer called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Members Present: John Acomb, Nora Gard, Missy Henderson, Tia Johnson, Michael Ramsdail, Shannon Scharmer and John Winkelmann. Also present: Steve McNeal.

Acomb moved approval of the agenda. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Gard announced upcoming activities in the district.

Badger recognized Nadir Carlson, student, who was awarded the Prudential Spirit of Community Award for his high academics, positive attitude and selfless giving through multiple volunteer activities. She also recognized Todd Greco, professional educator at BMHS, who was awarded Accounting Careers Awareness Grant from the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants Educational Foundation to assist with the partnerships in the community that he has established.

Scharmer opened up the podium for citizens to speak on items not on the agenda.

Matt Roegner, 2618 E. Collingswood Drive, congratulated the board for its leadership on the referendum. He gave the perspective of the business community and its support of the referendum.

Rick McGrath, 1747 Sherwood, shared information regarding the website created to provide information about the referendum. He shared data showing that people are watching Beloit across the country, especially in Madison and Chicago.

Debra Prowse, 2056 Cobblestone Court, gave the parent perspective on the number of transitions for her daughter and how positive she feels the 4-8 intermediate school could be for her daughter and other students.

Kathe Johnson, 622 Olympian, stated she has her doubts about the referendum and has many unanswered questions. She then thanked Therese and others who have worked so hard to oppose the referendum and the hard work she has done on the school board for three years.

Cody Schober, 1220 Evergreen Avenue, stated he is a student, a voter and is in support of the referendum.

John Wong, 2718 Sharon Drive, commended the board members on their service to the community. He encouraged all voters to get accurate information regarding the referendum. He also addressed the miss information being given by some as well as the financial information and expenses.

Heidi Eldred, 2336 Boulder Lane, shared her thoughts on the needs of the school buildings for our future.

Fran Fruzen, 1726 Garfield, shared his thoughts on the needs for our students and facilities since they represent Beloit. He also spoke about the recognition Beloit is receiving for its high academics.

Tom Holmes, 2537 Hawthorne Drive, expressed his confusion with items on the referendum like the critics, former board member actions, etc. He also shared his thoughts on why Beloit needs the referendum.

Jeremy Flanagan, 1243 Ninth Street, stated that he left Beloit, returned to Beloit and is proud of Beloit. He shared a story from his visit to Merrill today where a parent stated that her former district in Chicago had 30 or more students in each class and feels her students are already benefitting from being in the Beloit schools.

McNeal shared that the district was visited today by Kent Peterson, UW Madison and Dr. Ohno from Japan, who wanted to visit a highly successful district in action.

McNeal reviewed the facts of the referendum beginning with where the district was, where the district is now, where the district is going...its vision, the board's three questions, and the administrative team work. Lynée Tourdot, Assistant Superintendent, reviewed the researched educational configuration recommended for Beloit's students with fewer transitions, consolidation of resources, team teaching, intervention rooms, increased collaboration, more gym space, separate art and music rooms. McNeal explained the bonds, low interest rates, state reimbursement and financial savings with reconfiguration. He explained referendum funding versus operational funding. He also explained the value of the economic development within our community. Tourdot reviewed the plans for the elementary schools, Cunningham, new intermediate school, and high school pool/tennis courts. McNeal reviewed the maintenance plan and renovations for Aldrich and McNeel for the next five years including current projects that are underway. He reviewed endorsements for the referendum. He explained the energy tax exemption, miss information and why the changes were made. He also stated that the high school fine arts area would be addressed in year three of the plan. He reviewed building plans for those closing or being repurposed.

Olszewski and Quillins gave highlights of the activities in the district for high school students. Members asked questions and made comments about activities.

Winkelmann reviewed the topics of the March Finance, Transportation and Property Committee meetings.

Henderson reviewed the topics of the March Curriculum and Instruction Committee meetings.

Johnson reviewed the topics of the February Special and March Regular Policy and Personnel Committee meetings.

Acomb moved approval of the consent list: 1) Bills, Payroll and Cash Position Statement; 2) Special Board Meetings of February 28, March 19, and March 20, 2012; and 3) Regular Business Meeting of February 28, 2012. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the payment of Business Fitness fees totaling more than \$25,000 based on no more than half of the amount of money that will be refunded to the district as a result of their investigation of our current and historical contracts and bills, the transition to Microsoft software leasing at a starting cost of \$35,640 per year for Office and Windows, moving to Just In Time paper delivery with Office Pro as the supplier, moving to Skyward SaaS contract which

integrates their student and business systems, and the purchase with Heinemann for instructional materials for elementary teachers in the amount of \$47,675.62. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the Key Club activity group and their activities for the 2011-2012 school year as presented. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval of the Aligned Literacy, Targeted Literacy, and Selected Literacy new courses for middle schools for 2012-2013. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Johnson left the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Acomb moved approval of the proposed elementary music instructional materials adoption for 2012-13. Seconded by Gard. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant for Cunningham, Robinson and Todd Elementary Schools. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval of the addition and layover of Policy 345.6 Rule 3 .5 Credit Physical Education Exemption for first reading. Seconded by Winkelmann. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Gard moved approval of the addition and layover of Policy 522.8 Dress Code for District Employees, the deletion and layover of Policy 539.2 Dress Code for Professional Educators and deletion and layover of Policy 549.1 Dress Code for Auxiliary Staff for first reading. Seconded by Henderson. Acomb suggested listing what writing on clothing would be acceptable rather than what is not acceptable.

Winkelmann moved to extend the meeting to finish the items before them. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann suggested adding suits for women who wear them. He also suggested another staff review. The motion on the dress code policy carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval of the revision and layover of Policy 840 Public Gifts to the Schools for first reading. Seconded by Winkelmann. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the revision and layover of Policy 672.1 Purchasing/Bidding Requirements for first reading. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Gard moved approval of the revision and layover of Policy 943.3 Equipment and Furniture for first reading. Seconded by Winkelmann. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the revision and layover of Policy 945 Construction Contracts, Bidding and Awards for first reading. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the revision of Policy 460 Student Scholarships and Awards for final reading. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried 4-1 with Acomb voting in the negative.

Winkelmann moved approval of the addition of Policy 851.1 Guidelines for Advertising through Technology for final reading. Seconded by Henderson. Gard made a friendly amendment to make the payment in the fourth paragraph on page 140 “pre-payment” terms. Winkelmann and Henderson accepted the friendly amendment. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the revised personnel recommendations, Exhibit A. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

No Items for consideration at future meetings were requested.

Scharmer announced future meetings on Tuesday, April 10, and the Board Business meeting will be held on April 24, 2012.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Michelle Shope, Board Secretary

Approved at the regular meeting of April 24, 2012

, President