

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BELOIT
April 26, 2011

The Board of Education held its regular meeting on April 26, 2011 at the Kolak Education Center in the Board Room. President Scharmer called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

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

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

Acomb led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Gard announced upcoming activities in the district. She announced that the Morgan Destination Imagination team won first place at the State competition, which makes them eligible for global competition in May. She also announced that the high school choir and band received “excellent” and “superior” scores at the Disney Festival last month in Orlando, Florida. The Herb Kohl Educational Foundation honored Michelle Hendrix-Nora, professional educator and Micole Gauvin, class of 2011 for their accomplishments and hard work. She then announced that Beloit Memorial Hospital was one of 10 businesses state-wide honored by DPI for their support of students looking for careers in the health care field. Gard also announced the 4th annual father/son fishing outing as one of many events happening this spring.

Badger recognized the Todd Jump Rope for Heart participants for their volunteerism and fundraising efforts. Lori Lefel, organizer, stated that the students raised over \$2,000 this year compared to less than \$1000 in previous years. Badger also recognized Gary Zimmerman who has donated his time and use of DJ equipment for many events at Todd Elementary and the high school. Badger then recognized the high school orchestra director, Tiffany Chang and students who performed in New York City in March for the National Orchestra Cup.

Badger thanked and recognized Jessie Everson for her term on the Board of Education. Everson shared a few words and her comments of thanks from board members. Badger then thanked and recognized Milt Thompson for serving the district as Superintendent. Board members shared their thanks as well. Thompson shared his thoughts about the district and Beloit.

Scharmer opened up the podium for citizens to speak on items not on the agenda. Dennis Murphy, 1107 Harrison, addressed the board regarding contract extensions and commended the board and unions for their hard work. He also stated that was hopeful that the board will find a use for Wright school in their facility discussions. He also wished Mr. Thompson well.

Scharmer introduced the Superintendent’s Report to the board regarding smart board tips and tricks. Richards stated that the district has been doing professional development with staff for smart boards. He offered a demonstration of the smart board for the board members. Scharmer asked about the technology through Skyward that allows educators to upload assignments for students to access.

Student representative, Madeline West, announced current activities at the high school. She stated that a hot topic at the school is the AP testing coming up next week. She also stated that there is a blood drive coming up on May 2nd. She also stated that Prom will be on May 7th. She did indicate that award ceremonies are fast approaching in May as well. Scharmer asked about the AP exam schedule. Winkelmann asked what a high school student would learn by attending BMHS. West stated that diversity and the classes that are offered.

Barb Selmer, Chair, reviewed the topics of the February, March and April (E)Quality Committee meetings in Barb Hickman's absence.

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

Acomb reviewed the topics of the April Curriculum and Instruction Committee meetings.

Henderson reviewed the topics of the March Special and April Regular Policy and Personnel Committee meetings.

Johnson and Henderson shared information from the WASB Joint Convention held in January.

Ramsdail moved approval of the consent list: 1) Bills, Payroll and Cash Position Statement; 2) Special Board Meetings of March 21, March 22, March 24, March 29, March 30, April 12 and April 19, 2011; and 3) Regular Business Meeting of March 22, 2011. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the \$1000 donation from the WI Youth Services Fund to be used for students per the Madison Community Foundation's guidelines. Seconded by Ramsdail. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the Reinders proposal for the 2011 Tower mower. Seconded by Ramsdail. Scharmer asked if the district has looked at collaboration of services with the city for equipment, storage of equipment and personnel. Winkelmann indicated that he did not think too many conversations have happened. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval of the IKON Managed Print Services Proposal. Seconded by Ramsdail. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Ramsdail moved approval of the purchase order with Skyward for annual license fees in the amount of \$56,404. Seconded by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Ramsdail moved approval of the 2010-2011 budget adjustments as presented in the board packet, the Fund Balance Assignment Authority Resolution and the Fund Balance Expenditure Resolution. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval of *Talking about Touching* as the primary K-3 instructional material for grades K-3. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval of the high school Math and English Instructional Materials Adoption for 2011-2012. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval to increase required math credits for graduation from 2 credits to 3 credits. Seconded by Henderson. Winkelmann stated that this item should go through the policy process since graduation requirements is a policy indicating the number of credits required to graduate. He also asked about staffing implications at the high school. Ramsdail stated there was a request last month to discuss graduation requirements in general. Acomb asked the board to approve this and then pass it on to the Policy/Personnel Committee. Winkelmann offered a friendly amendment that the Board of Education approve to increase the math requirements for graduation from two to three credits, pending policy approval. Acomb suggested approving the third math credit with an understanding that the graduation requirement increase would be subject to further discussion. Winkelmann agreed to the suggested modification. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval of the Youth Options applications for first semester 2011-12. Seconded by Ramsdail. Scharmer asked that the district continue to look at which of these courses can be taught by high school staff. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Ramsdail moved approval and layover of Policy 166 Board Member Requests for Information, Policy 166 RULE 1 Procedures for Board Member Requests for Information and Policy 662.3 Fund Balance for first reading. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of following Policy 345.1 RULE 2 Grading System Guidelines for the remainder of the year with the exception that on the last day of school all work, assignments, quizzes and test must be made up and there will be no window of opportunity beyond that last day. The Board of Education also approves that the grading policy will be suspended until a committee is implemented to create changes for a new policy that better meets the needs of our students. Seconded by Ramsdail. Scharmer asked for clarification on the final window of opportunity at the end of the school year. Tom Johnson indicated that the students would not be given time after the final day of school to make up work, but that educators would do everything they can, and have done in past years to have students complete their work for the year. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

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

No items for consideration at future meetings were requested.

Scharmer announced future meetings on Tuesday, May 10, and the Board Business meeting will be held on May 24, 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Michelle Shope, Board Secretary

Approved at the regular meeting of May 24, 2011

Shannon Scharmer, President