

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BELOIT
October 25, 2011

The Board of Education held its regular meeting on October 25, 2011 at the Kolak Education Center in the Board Room. President Scharmer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

Acomb led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

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

Acomb moved approval of the (E)Quality Committee membership for the 2011-12 school year. Seconded by Ramsdail. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Gard announced upcoming activities in the district.

Badger recognized the high school soccer team and coach Brian Denu for their record-breaking season. Coach Denu highlighted the season, player successes and thanked the board for its recognition. Members shared their thanks and praise to the players and Coach Denu.

Scharmer opened up the podium for citizens to speak on items not on the agenda. No one came forward.

McNeal introduced Jeff Jacobson, Manager of Facilities Services, who presented an assessment of facilities needs. Jacobson began by giving a snapshot of the district. He stressed that the areas of concern included roofing systems, boilers, windows, exit doors, asbestos removal and flooring, asphalt replacement, classroom light retrofits. He explained that six of the elementary schools have only one boiler some dating back to the 50's and 60's. Unit ventilators are also as old and therefore their performance is poor. Poor air conditioning is causing excessive wear and tear on technology equipment due to excessive heat. He stated that the roofing systems have not been replaced since the recommendation in 2007 and he explained concerns with the tuck pointing of brick buildings.

He explained concerns with exit doors that have broken hinges, panic devices and failing locks. He stated that window replacement is needed to prevent moisture penetration, deterioration, failing seals and no screens. Jacobson explained the need for asbestos abatement in classrooms in which carpet was placed over tile and the carpet is now worn out and needing replacement which also brings up the tiles which then becomes an abatement issue. He explained the elementary school kitchen concerns stating that there are space issues and poor food preparation areas. He also stated that equipment needs to be stored in the gymnasium, due to space issues, which poses safety concerns. He shared the concerns with parking lots and drop off locations at the schools stating that nine locations are in poor condition. Playgrounds are also an area of great concern especially in terms of safety. He explained the concerns with the high school tennis courts needing "band-aid" repair in order for the tennis team to even practice this year. He also reviewed deterioration in sidewalks.

He explained that although the district has done some interior lighting retrofit, there are numerous classrooms that still need a retrofit done. He also stated that not all of the buildings are ADA compliant and elevator upgrades are also needed to address concerns. Jacobson showed examples of all of the concerns. Members thanked Jacobson for his hard work, pictures and great explanations. It was also asked if there would be a plan for prioritizing facility needs. Jacobson stated that there is a plan being developed. Members stated that some of these concerns have snowballed from budget cuts and items having to be put on hold. A member asked about the previous roof plan, where it was left off and where the district needs to go from here.

Scharmer welcomed the student representatives and introduced Emily Olszewski. Olszewski shared a little about herself. Quillins and Olszewski gave highlights of the activities in the district for high school students. Members asked questions and made comments about activities.

Barbara Hickman reported the topics of the September and October (E)Quality Committee meetings.

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

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

Johnson reviewed the topics of the September Special and October Regular Policy and Personnel Committee meetings.

Ramsdail moved approval of the consent list: 1) Bills, Payroll and Cash Position Statement; 2) Special Board Meetings of September 27 and October 11; 3) Special Joint Meeting of September 27 and 4) Regular Business Meeting of September 27, 2011. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Acomb moved approval of the youth options applications for second semester of the 2011-12 school year with removal of students requesting courses that are offered at the high school be removed from the approval list. Those courses are Introduction to Psychology, Fitness for Life, Web Page Development and First Semester Spanish. Seconded by Johnson. Acomb accepted Scharmer's friendly amendment to also remove any additional classes on the list that are an 80% match. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of the revised grievance procedure to be added to the administrative contract. Seconded by Ramsdail. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Winkelmann moved approval of a sign language interpreter posting for 1st semester at 50% and increasing to 100% at 2nd semester. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Gard moved approval of an additional 1.0 FTE ELL teacher to be added and split between elementary buildings in the most need pending Title III funds approval. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Ramsdail moved approval and layover of Policy 751 Student Transportation and 751 RULE 1 General Transportation Guidelines for first reading. Seconded by Acomb. Winkelmann is

concerned what the fiscal impact is going to be. Winklemann moved to table this policy. Seconded by Johnson. Motion to table carried unanimously of the members present.

Winklemann moved approval of the revision of Policy 661 RULE 1 School District Depositories for final reading. Seconded by Ramsdail. Motion carried 6-0-1 with Acomb abstaining.

Winklemann moved approval of the revision of Policy 671.2 RULE 1 Guidelines Regulating Expense Reimbursement for final reading. Seconded by Gard. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Gard moved approval of the revision of Policy 691 Purchase, Sale and Disposal of Materials and Equipment for final reading. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

Ramsdail moved approval of the revised personnel recommendations, Exhibit A. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried 6-1 with Scharmer voting in the negative.

Items for consideration at future meetings requested included 2012-13 budget, and a Gifted and Talented update.

Scharmer announced future meetings on Tuesday, November 8, and the Board Business meeting will be held on November 22, 2011. She also announced upcoming listening sessions.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Michelle Shope, Board Secretary

Approved at the regular meeting of November 22, 2011

Shannon Scharmer, President