

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BELOIT
October 27, 2009

The Board of Education held its regular meeting on October 27, 2009 at the Kolak Education Center in the Board Room. President Ramsdail called the meeting to order at 7:58 p.m.

Members Present: John Acomb, Jessica Everson, Missy Henderson, Tia Johnson, Michael Ramsdail, Shannon Scharmer and John Winkelmann. Also present: Milt Thompson, Superintendent.

Scharmer moved approval of the agenda. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Acomb led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Johnson announced upcoming activities in the district. She announced a reminder that there is no school on October 29 and 30th for students due to the annual convention for the Wisconsin Education Association. Upcoming events you won't want to miss include the Aldrich Middle School Cultural Fair on November 12th, the high school fall play, Dark of the Moon on October 30 and 31st, two flu clinics will be hosted at Converse on November 3rd and Aldrich on November 4th. Parents are also invited to a series of Reading Partner Workshops throughout the year with Marcia Jordahl. The first session will be held on November 3 at Robinson Elementary.

Melissa Badger with Dick Vogel recognized Jason Smith, student at Beloit Memorial High for his heroics in saving his father's life. When his father was choking one evening, he used the skills he learned in Vogel's health class to provide CPR. Badger recognized Emily Busam who was named a semi-finalist in the National Merit Scholarship program. Badger, along with Stephanie Jacobs recognized Ian Fields for his heroic effort in alerting his family to a fire in their home. He woke his parents so that all of his family and their animals were able to safely exit the home. Badger, recognized JoAnn Polito for having been chosen as Teacher of the Year followed by a close runner up, Michelle Hendrix-Nora. Polito indicated that it truly feels good to be honored by her colleagues and the students. She also indicated that "life is short, art is long", by Cicero, is her motto in life. She truly feels that teaching is what teachers love to do and wouldn't want to do anything else. She agrees with Cicero that what you leave behind lasts a very long time and the hope is that it's a good impression.

Ramsdail opened the podium for citizens or delegations to speak on items not on the agenda. No one came forward to speak.

Thompson updated the board members and community on strategic planning. He indicated that he has opportunities in the next month to inform the community about the upcoming strategic planning. He highlighted the first step of obtaining recommendations for persons to serve on the initial planning team who will determine a mission, beliefs and strategies for the district and community. He indicated that over the next few weeks, 30-50 persons will receive invitations to participate in the planning and development of the district's strategic plan. He also indicated that there will be many opportunities for the community and families to be involved in the action teams and strategic plan.

John Kaminski, Administrator at BMHS, was not present to report on the New Directions program at the high school. It was noted that he was under the impression his report was for November.

Melissa Gile, senior at BMHS, highlighted the boys' soccer team and Jazz Band I activities. Students are concerned with the way AP classes are being graded. Daniel Luebke, senior at BMHS highlighted challenge day activities at the high school with positive reviews and life changing for some students. He also highlighted the play at BMHS last week and indicated that the first Incremental Issue was published last week. Scharmer asked the student's to explain the selection process. Members welcomed the two students and appreciate their interest in serving.

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

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

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

Henderson moved approval of the consent list: 1) Bills, Payroll and Cash Position Statement; 2) Special Board Meetings of September 22, October 6, October 13, October 20 and October 22, 2009; 3) Regular Business Meeting of September 22, 2009; 4) Reading is Fundamental Grant Proposal; and 5) Initial Educator Mentoring Grant Proposal. Seconded by Acomb Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Winkelmann moved approval of the donation from the Stateline Community Foundation for use in the Beloit Memorial High School Lunch and Learn Program. Seconded by Scharmer. Motion carried 6-1 with Acomb abstaining.

Acomb moved approval of the donation from Target for books to be used at Merrill Elementary School. Seconded by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Henderson moved approval of the donation from Linda Lyman and the Converse PTO for a bench to be placed outside of Converse Elementary School. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Johnson moved approval of spending maintenance budget dollars for the 2009 New Holland skid steer as received in the bidding process. Seconded by Everson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Everson moved approval of the purchase order for the 2009-10 SBS System Lease from MJ Care, Inc. Seconded by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Scharmer moved to lay this item on the table due to late submission of information. Seconded by Johnson. Members discussed times for all members to meet again before the October 31st deadline. Members agreed to meet at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday p.m. October 29th. Ramsdail made a friendly amendment to meet on October 29th at 4:30 p.m. for a 30 minute meeting. Accepted by Scharmer and Johnson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Acomb moved approval of the 2008-09 Children at Risk Report as presented. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Acomb moved approval to include Graphic Communication courses in the computer education credit requirement. Seconded by Henderson. Question was asked about FTE for this course. McNeal explained that it's an existing course that is now being requested to give students computer credit for the course. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Acomb moved approval of the appointment of the Assistant Superintendent of Educational services as the School District of Beloit representative for the Youth Options Program 2009-10. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Winkelmann moved approval of the Youth Options applications for second semester 2009-10. Seconded by Johnson. It was noted that this is one of the unfunded mandates and should be revisited with legislators. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Acomb moved to terminate the Ad Hoc Gifted and Talented Committee. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Winkelmann moved approval to accept the Enhancing Education Through Technology grant award. Seconded by Scharmer. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Winkelmann moved approval of hiring three part-time para educators at Converse Elementary School from Title I funds and hiring three part-time para educators at Cunningham Elementary School from Title I funds. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Scharmer moved approval of the revision and layover of Policy 342.10 Homeless Education Program for first reading. Seconded by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Henderson moved approval of the revision and layover of Policy 342.10 RULE 1 Homeless Education Program for first reading. Seconded by Winkelmann. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Henderson moved approval of the revisions of Policy 362.2 Video Media Usage in the Classroom for final reading. Seconded by Johnson. Scharmer made a friendly amendment to add language back in that was inadvertently left out. Accepted by Henderson. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Henderson moved approval of the 2009-10 Affirmative Action Report for October, 2009. Seconded by Scharmer. It was noted that further conversation on this information occur at a later date as well. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Scharmer moved to table the approval of the revised "crystal reporter" position to the recommended position of Manager of Academic Information Systems. Seconded by Acomb. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Henderson moved approval of the personnel recommendations Exhibit A as revised and printed at the committee meeting. Seconded by Scharmer. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Items requested for future agendas included rates to senior citizens at extra curricular events, information/answers community organizations grants and funding opportunities,

parental/community input recording and tabulating attendance at parent teacher conferences in district, WASB legislative conference on November 7, school funding reform, IBMM's items, brief retraining of Robert's rules of order for board and supt., board meeting statutes training for administrators, short term hiring time tables, and a staff absence report.

Ramsdail announced future a special joint BEA/BOE meeting on Tuesday, November 3 and a special board meeting on November 10, 2009, a joint City Council/Board of Education meeting on Monday, November 9 and the Board Business meeting will be held on November 24, 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Michelle Shope, Board Secretary

Approved at the regular meeting of November 24, 2009

Michael Ramsdail, President