

Proposed Minutes of the Regular Meeting
December 13, 2010

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President Van Sickler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school classroom #2113.

Members present: Freeman, Keyes, McNerney, Palmer, Ryckman, Van Sickler

Members absent: Peglow

Administrators present: Beal, Hubbard, Weaver

Administrators absent: None

Visitors present: Tracey Reed, Bill Bloomfield, Steve Lott, Darby Weaver, William Gillaspie, Larry Koutz, James Hodges, Connie Marshall, Bonnie Walker, Adam Arntz, Tara Marsh, Jody Zinn, Brian Zinn, Jody Johnston Vissman, Kellie Adams, Nancy Valenta, Kendra Dalrymple, Cody McNulty, Hallie Rentsman, Melissa Benavidez, Akisha Benavidez, Kristi Wainman

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion CARRIED 6-0

Recognition of Guests

Connie Marshall 8615 Crystal Rd, Vestaburg – teacher – she understands people need to come to the board meeting to speak about their conflicts, she would hope that this is something that could be dealt with Mr. Beal in a private meeting instead of a public meeting.

Tara Marsh 11029 S. Winn Rd, Shepherd, parent, has had a problem with a teacher, she is not worried about her own students safety but she is concerned about the other students safety. She would like to make sure something is done to take care of this situation.

Brian Zinn 4324 Pine Grove Rd, Edmore, parent/spouse, back in September the board decided to layoff the current technology director and go with the ISD to cover the technology needs of the district. He is concerned that the technology needs are piling up. Mr. Zinn wanted to make sure that there is a tracking system for the technology requests that have been requested. Mr. Zinn would like to sit down and talk with someone to make sure that this is taken care of before it gets out of hand.

Questions on Building Reports

None

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Communications

Mr. Beal stated that with the cancellation of school today the presentation from the 5th grade will be rescheduled to next month.

Mr. Van Sickler read a thank you letter from Sharle Wilmot for listening to her concerns and responding to her questions.

Mr. Van Sickler brought to the board's attention that the transportation department received a certificate of excellence for passing their school bus safety inspections.

Mr. Hubbard announced that there is a plaque that was dedicated in memory of Chester Throop. It will be on display above the washer, dryer and stove that was donated to the school from Chester's Throop's scholarship fund. Mr. And Mrs. Throop were here tonight to accept the plaque and spoke about the scholarship fund.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by McNerney, support by Ryckman to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting held November 8, 2010 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Motion by Freeman, support by Palmer to approve the minutes of the Executive meeting held November 8, 2010 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Treasurer's Report- December

Mr. Van Sickler presented to the board the treasurer's report. Motion by Van Sickler, support by Freeman to approve the bills as monies become available.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Consent Agenda

A. Employ

1. Bill Johnson – Junior Varsity Softball Coach

2. Scott Marshall – Varsity Baseball Coach

Motion by McNerney, support by Keyes to approve Bill Johnson as the JV Softball Coach

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Motion by McNerney, support by Palmer to approve Scott Marshall as the Varsity Baseball Coach

Freeman would like to table Consent Agenda number 2 until the January board meeting.

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New Business

Mr. Beal went over a proposed amended budget for 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Beal explained some of the increases in cost and some areas of savings.

Mr. Beal stated by the end of the school year the fund balance will be 17%. Beal is asking the board to accept the amended budget for the 2010-2011 school year.

Motion by Freeman, support by Ryckman to approve the amended general fund budget for the 2010-2011 school year.

Freeman thanked Mr. Beal for his hard work on amending the budget.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

High School Media Center Recommendation

Beal had given the board some suggestions on how to cover the high school media center at the November board meeting. Beal stated that he cannot make a recommendation at this time. The district has cut positions, cut hours and the district is still running in the red so he does not believe that the district should hire a new employee at this time. Mr. Hubbard stated that Doris Johnson covers the elementary media center 3 days a week and the high school media center 2 days a week. The high school media center is also covered periodically from other paraprofessional staff. Beal wanted to thank all of the paraprofessional staff for the hard work with getting the high school media center ready. Mrs. Weaver stated the both media centers are open everyday. Weaver also stated that they are looking at having a book fair for the high school to earn money for new books. The elementary media center raised \$1500.00 for new books from the book fair they held this fall. McNerney asked if there are any parent volunteers that could help with the physical labor of setting up. Freeman asked if the school district has talked with the Richland Township Library to coordinate with them for availability.

Motion by Freeman, support by Palmer to enter Executive Session to Discuss Correspondence from Thrun Law Firm (P.A. 1976 Amended by Act. No 256 of 1978, per 15.268, Section 8, paragraph e.) at 7:41 p.m.

Roll call: Freeman – yes, Keyes – yes, McNerney – yes, Palmer – yes, Ryckman – yes, Van Sickler - yes

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Motion by Freeman, support Palmer to re-enter regular session at 8:20 p.m.

Roll call: Freeman – yes, Keyes – yes, McNerney – yes, Palmer – yes, Ryckman – yes, Van Sickler - yes

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Other Business - None

Old Business - None

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Items for Discussion

Shared Services Co-Op MAISD

Beal spoke to the board about Shared Services. This is something that the state is pushing. What the district is looking at is forming a co-op to provide services like the district is doing with technology. With the technology the ISD has hired another part-time person at their expense to help with the back log of technology issues. The ISD would like to form a committee and would like 1 board member from each school district. Beal stated that Dr. K will be coming to the board meeting next month to discuss some of these ideas.

McNerney stated that he is upset that the district paid 5000.00 above and beyond the technology director's current salary to complete a bond project and the new technology person is finishing bond issues and trying to do the day to day needs of the district. Beal stated that other districts are watching Vestaburg and Montabella to see how the shared services are working because they are looking at the same issues with budget cuts.

1st Reading of Neola Policies #0167.3, 0168.3, 2260, 2260.01, 2623, 3122.02, 3160, 3362, 3419.02, 3430.01, 4122.02, 4140, 4160, 4362, 4419.02, 4430.01, 5136, 5517, 9160
Beal stated this is the first reading and he would like them to look them over during the next month for the 2nd reading in January.

Work in Progress

Bus Replacement Schedule
Election of Officers Mid-Year
Bid Process for Auditor

Recognition of Guests

Beal stated that if you speak during public comment, you will receive a letter inviting you to come in to meet with Mr. Beal about those issues

Connie Marshall, 8615 Crystal Rd., Vestaburg, teacher, talked about airing dirty laundry during a public meeting earlier tonight. Then during the consent agenda you ask for part of the agenda to be tabled. Marshall stated that board members receive their board packet the week before. Board members should have had time to check with Mr. Beal for clarification before the meeting.

Steve Lott 8828 Second St., Vestaburg, parent, he would like to thank the board and Mr. Beal for the uncomfortable position that they have been put in by having to deal with this situation.

Jody Zinn 4324 Pine Grove Rd., Edmore, teacher, she would like to thank Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Beal for listening to the middle school staffs concern about the reading attack program and having Mr. Cook's help.

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Brian Zinn 4324 Pine Grove Rd., Edmore, parent/spouse, stated that earlier one the board members talked about parent volunteers. He is not sure who is in charge of volunteers but he would like to help.

Kristi Wainman, 11374 Crystal Rd., Vestaburg, parent, she questioned if parents have a concern, and she knows there is a chain of command. If you don't feel like a situation is not being handled in a timely manner with the principals, the parents then go to Mr. Beal. Isn't the Board of Education the next step?

Beal stated yes by all means, go to the teacher first, then to the principals, then to the superintendent. If you do not feel that your questions are being answered then by all means you should come to the board. Wainman stated that we are all very passionate about making sure that our kids are safe. McNerney stated that he is thankful that they are passionate about that. Beal stated to please come and see him.

Kelly Adams, 1010 Archambault Lane, Vestaburg, parent, the thing that she loves about this school is that there is a lot of parent involvement and the school is very open to that. She stated that as a board member you need to handle situations appropriately. She stated that two different board members were questioned by students about the current situation. The one board member handled it very appropriately and stated that he did not know what was going on at this time and when the teacher would be back. The other board member told students that the teacher was going to be fired. If you have students at home, you need to be careful what you say in front of them because they will talk to other kids.

Items for next Board Meeting January 10, 2011.

- Superintendent's evaluation
- Dedicating the track in Ron Cain's name
- Scott Marshall Varsity Baseball Coach
- 5th Grade Presentation
- Mr. Koutz Quiz Bowl Team

- Mr. Beal stated that the board will have their own competition with the Quiz Bowl Team

Motion by McNerney, support by Freeman to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Karen S. Grover
Recording Secretary



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Jeff Beal, Interim Superintendent

Karen Grover, Administrative Assistant, Central Office

Bonnie Walker, Business Official

Brandon Hubbard, High School/Middle School Principal

Kim Whitney, Administrative Assistant, High School/Middle School

Darby Weaver, Elementary Principal

Kathy Gates, Administrative Assistant, Elementary