

Proposed Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
February 14, 2011

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President Van Sickler called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the commons.

Members present: Freeman, Keyes, Palmer, Ryckman, Van Sickler, McNerney arr. at 7:05 p.m.

Members absent: Peglow

Administrators present: Beal, Hubbard, Weaver

Administrators absent: none

Visitors present: Tara Johnson, Tracey Reed, Melissa Benavidez, Damien Benavidez, Neicko Benavidez, Mary Lu Throop, Edward Morey, Janice Jourdan, Greg Jourdan, Jamie Fockler, Larry Koutz, Bonnie Walker, Dianne Wilson, Bill Walker, Brent McQueen, Amy McQueen

Motion by Freeman, support by Keyes to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion CARRIED 5-0

Recognition of Guests

Kyle Deal, 6201 Yankee Rd., Vestaburg - student – here on behalf of the high school student council to present the board with certificate of appreciation to Leona's.

Brent McQueen, 6884 E. Schmeid Rd., Vestaburg, asked if the board has made any decisions on the mowing bids for the next school year. Last year the district did not have bids because of the construction.

Questions on Building Reports: none

Communications

Thank you to Ice Mountain

Mr. Beal explained to the board and the guest in attendance about the water test that came back showing lead in the water. The school district shut down the drinking water in the high school and cafeteria. Mr. Beal contacted Ice Mountain to see if they could help out the district in this time of need. Ice Mountain was more than generous and donated 8 pallets of water for students to drink and also cooking water in the kitchen.

Mr. Beal also wanted to thank Doug Freeman for taking time out of his day to pick up and deliver the water to the school.

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Kristen Davenport – 5th grade marble runs

Mrs. Davenport's 5th grade students showed the board their marble run projects using gravity and friction. The board members enjoyed seeing the student's projects.

Principals' Appreciation – Mr. Beal

Mr. Beal expressed his thanks to Mrs. Weaver and Mr. Hubbard who are taking on a 3 principal job. They work very hard for the students of Vestaburg. Mr. Beal presented the principals with a certificate of appreciation.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Freeman, support by Palmer to approve minutes of the Regular meeting held January 10, 2011 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Motion by Ryckman, support by Keyes to approve the Executive Session I Minutes of the Regular meeting held January 10, 2011 as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to approve the Executive Session II Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held January 10, 2011 as presented

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Treasurer's Report- February

Motion by Van Sickler, support by Freeman to approve the bills as monies become available.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Consent Agenda

A. Resignation

1. John Huckins – Varsity Football Coach

B. Employ

1. Sarah Cross – Part Time Title 1 Para-Pro

C. FMLA

1. Jodi Fessenden
2. Anna Spindler

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

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New Business

Mid-Year Graduation (5th Year Seniors)

Beal explained to the board from time to time we have a few seniors that are short 1 or 2 credits to graduate in May. During their 5th year those students that complete the graduation requirement during 1st semester would be allowed to graduate at that time instead on having to complete the entire school year.

Motion by McNerney, support by Freeman to approve 5th year senior that have completed their graduation requirements to graduate after 1st semester.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Adoption 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

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to approve the Neola Policies as presented.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Superintendent's Evaluation Process

Beal explained to the board the superintendent's evaluation process. Beal used the projector to show the audience on how the superintendent will be evaluated. Beal explained that 15% of the evaluation is based on data. This will be used for all administration; this is required by the state.

Board Retreat

Beal stated that the board will complete the evaluation by the end of February at the retreat. Then present the results of the evaluation at the March board meeting. Beal stated that the ISD offered the board to use one of their conference rooms. The board is tentatively looking at February 28th at 5:00 p.m. Van Sickler asked that Mr. Beal let Mr. Peglow know the date and time.

Other Business

School Improvement Presentation

Mr. Hubbard and Mrs. Weaver presented to the board a power point presentation on School Improvement. The committee looked at the schools needs, weaknesses, etc.

How do we identify our needs? District rubrics, data profile and analysis, surveys from students, staff and parents. Plan of attack is to stay off the PLA list. Focus on individual student improvement.

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Vestaburg District Website

Mr. Beal talked to the board about the new school and that it is an attractive place to learn. Now the district needs to update the cyber curb appeal. Beal showed the board the new website that is in the works. Beal would like this website to be more up to date. Beal stated he would like this to go live by March.

Items for Discussion

Election of Officers Mid-Year

Beal stated that normally the board holds the organizational meeting in July. Beal would like to postpone the election of officers until the January board meeting after the November elections.

Part Time Transportation

Beal explained to the board that this really hits us during the winter months during inclement weather. During inclement weather Bill is coming in at 3:00 in the morning and working until 5 or 6 o'clock that night. Currently Bill is bringing in a sub during the time that the buses are on the roads to answer phone calls and bus radio questions. Bill could be plowing or driving a bus and is not able to answer the phones at all times.

Ryckman stated his vision of the future, why is the district not utilizing the maintenance staff, why are they not answering the phones on days that they are needed. The maintenance and transportation staff all needs to be on the same page.

Van Sickler stated a year ago this month the district made several cuts to staff, including the transportation director to try to balance the budget.

Beal stated that we as a board have had to make tough decisions on budget cuts this year and the district is not spending money frivolously.

Keyes believes that the whole staff should work together to make sure that everything is covered. There should be cross training done to ensure that everything is covered.

McNerney stated that you need to think about all of the cuts that we made and that maybe we made a mistake and an area needs to be covered. Maybe it is not a full time position, but at least a part time position to cover an area. Beal stated he never wants Bill to say he is not doing the job justice, because Bill is out there killing himself trying to make sure the area is clear and safe for the children.

Certificate of Completion

Beal stated the board will have to address this before the end of the school year. The state requires that all students will be required to pass. That will not be possible for some students in the CI program.

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Naming the Track after Ron Cain

Motion by Freeman, support by Palmer to approve naming the track after Ron Cain on a date to be determined, preferably the first home track meet of the season.

Motion CARRIED 6-0

Works in Progress

- D. Bus Replacement Schedule
- E. Bid Process for Auditor

Recognition of Guests

Bonnie Walker 181 Michigan Ave., Vestaburg, She would like to thank the board for looking into Bill's work load. Even on a good weather day Bill is putting in 12 hour days. Also, Bonnie mentioned the Alumni Basketball game is coming up on February 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Larry Koutz, P.O. Box 353, Vestaburg, thanked the board for making the decision on naming the track after Ron Cain. Also, Bethel College will be presenting a Swing Jazz Program this Saturday at 7:00 p.m. in the commons/cafeteria. Free refreshments.

Mr. Hubbard stated the raffle for athletics drawing is this Friday if you have not picked up a ticket yet.

Items for next Board Meeting March 14, 2011

- Election of officers in January
- Superintendents Evaluation
- Principal contract extensions

Motion by Freeman, support by McNerney to adjourn at 8:53 p.m.

Karen S. Grover
Recording Secretary