

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Aitkin Independent School District No. 1
Aitkin, Minnesota 56431
Aitkin High School Cafeteria
August 17, 2015

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Hasskamp with all members present.

A motion was made by Mr. Hoge, with a second by Mr. Burgstaler, to approve the agenda, moving consent agenda #9 to item D, adding consider/approve insurance rates effective September 1, 2015 as item E and removing item 5B (Report on Technology). All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Scheduled presentations:

Cora Fastner and Emilee Miller talked with the Board about upcoming homecoming activities, which will take place the week of September 7, 2015. There will be no school picnics this year.

Old business:

A motion was made by Ms Hills, with a second by Mr. Janzen, to approve a contract with Foster Jacobs and Johnson, Inc. (FJJ) to assist the District in the development and adoption of a facility plan for the District, as amended. On a roll call vote, Mr. Janzen, Ms Hills, Mr. Hoge, Mr. Burgstaler, Mr. Chute, Mr. Welshons and Mr. Hasskamp voted in favor, and the motion carried.

New business:

A motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Hoge, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 20.
- Office receipts for the month of July in the amount of \$763,239.81.
- Report of expenditures for July including \$671,542.00 for bills and \$403,160.16 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(b).
- Insurance Account checks #13555 - 13584 in the amount of \$9,166.83.
- Collateral Report for August.
- Donations for July in the amount of \$5,750.00.
- Wire transfers for July in the amount of \$1,200,000.00.

- Accepted resignations:

Amber Hunt - Elementary Teacher at Rippleside, effective immediately
Tamara Novak - ECFE Teacher at Rippleside, effective immediately
Michele Plagman - Teacher at the Alternative School, effective 8/07/2015
Teresa Hyytinen - Spec. Ed. Para at Rippleside, effective 8/06/2015

- Approved hirings for the 2015-2016 school year:

Brielle Bredsten - Community Education Youth Director
Jason Cline - Secondary Teacher and Activities Director
Kristy Hoge - Fourth Grade Teacher at Rippleside, at Step 1, BA Lane
Teresa Larson - Business and Computer Applications, contingent on receiving a community expert variance
Jason Long - Fifth Grade Teacher at Rippleside at Step 10, MA+15 Lane
Jenny Mickelson - moving to Technology Communications Specialist position
Shanen Weimer - Fourth Grade Teacher at Rippleside at Step 1, BA Lane, contingent on receiving an Elementary Education license
Melanie Boyd - Long-term Sub for Kayla Host from 8/31/15 to 11/04/15
Carol Femling - Long-term Sub for Sarah Emery from 9/21/2015 to 1/22/2016, contingent upon receiving a variance as a long-term sub
Lorelie Robinson - Long-term Sub for Katie Dotzler from 8/31/15 to 11/23/15

- Considered/approved a request for FMLA leave:

Melissa Domben - Elementary Teacher, on or about December 9, 2015, to March 21, 2016

- Set the date for a Truth in Taxation Public Hearing as part of the December board meeting on December 21, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Hoge, to approve the Long-Term Facility Maintenance Application submitted by staff to the Minnesota Department of Education on Friday, August 14. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Hoge, to remove the Local Optional Levy, keeping the \$300 Board-approved levy that has been included in the levy in the past. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Hoge, with a second by Mr. Welshons, to eliminate the position of H.S. Media Center Assistant (most recently held by Sally Allison). All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Burgstaler, with a second by Mr. Chute, to approve the health and dental insurance renewal rates, effective September 1, 2015. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

Administrative reports:

Board members' reports:

Committee reports:

Mr. Welshons and Mr. Hasskamp reported on the July 28 meeting of the Personnel Committee. The group discussed current vacancies and ongoing hiring processes, along with the possibility of addressing the need for long-term electronic document storage.

The Facilities Committee met on July 28. Mr. Welshons reported that the ventilation project at Ripplside is progressing well, and the maintenance and technology staff members are making great progress on getting the high school prepared for the start of school.

Mr. Janzen reported that the Policy Committee met on July 29 and is presenting the following policies to the Board for a first reading:

Policy 427 Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers
Policy 503 High School Attendance Policy

Mr. Burgstaler, Mr. Hoge and Mr. Welshons reported that progress is being made in the negotiation of a contract with Education Minnesota – Aitkin, the District's teachers' union.

Superintendent's report:

Mr. Novak reviewed the schedule for the teachers' workshop; the schedule includes Top 20 Training.

Mr. Novak also reviewed the progress on water damage repairs at the high school.

Principals' reports:

Mr. Karelis reported on the upcoming Activities Night/Orientation. He also reported that schedules would be available through InfiniteCampus very soon.

Mr. Peterson reported that entrance conferences are scheduled for September 8 and 9, and KinderCamp will be held on September 3.

The Board discussed Policy 510 Scholastic Eligibility and Attendance Requirements for Participation in the Aitkin High School Extracurricular Program. The consensus of the Board was to have the Policy Committee review that policy at its next meeting and bring recommendations back to the Board for consideration.

Mr. Welshons made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hoge, to approve the 2015-2016 Student-Parent Handbook as presented. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

A thank you was extended to all staff and community members that helped clean and prepare the high school building for the start of school after the water damage sustained in July.

Mr. Hasskamp presented the upcoming meeting schedule as listed in the agenda, adding a Districtwide Parent Advisory Committee meeting on August 26 at 11:30 a.m. at the Aitkin Public Library.

Comments from visitors:

No public comments were made.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms Hills, with a second by Mr. Janzen. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Tiffany Gustin
Secretary