

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Aitkin Independent School District No. 1  
Aitkin, Minnesota 56431  
Aitkin High School Band Room  
February 8, 2016

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Hasskamp with four members present. Mr. Hoge, Ms Hills and Mr. Welshons were absent.

A motion was made by Mr. Burgstaler, with a second by Mr. Janzen, to approve the agenda, removing item #5B (Technology Report by Jason Roos). All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Scheduled presentations:

Senior High Student Council Representative Taylor Courier reported that the Council's SnoDaze events, including the dance, were very successful. Plans are underway for Mr. AHS and Teacher Appreciation Week.

Middle School Student Council Representative Madison Buisman informed the Board that the proceeds of a Valentine's Day fundraiser will be going to Kinship. Several male teachers agreed to wear dresses to school if the \$300 fundraising goal is reached.

Old business:

No old business was discussed.

New business:

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

- Minutes of the Special Closed Meeting held on January 11 (Supt's Evaluation), the Organizational/Regular Meeting held on January 11, the Special Closed Meeting held on January 11 (Property), the Work Session held on January 25, and of the Special Closed Meeting held on January 25.
- Office receipts for the month of January in the amount of \$1,272,304.28.
- Report of expenditures for January including \$420,432.48 for bills and \$747,932.51 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(b).
- Insurance Account checks #13709-13729 in the amount of \$13,137.32.
- Collateral Report for February.
- Donations for January in the amount of \$5,755.28.

- Wire transfers for January in the amount of \$900,000.00.
- Approved Youth Service Grants:
  - Kelly Blake - U of M Choir Festival - \$635.00
  - Fifth Grade - Long Lake Field Trip - \$1,000.00
  - Julie Asmus - ASK Program - \$1,000.00
- Accepted resignation/retirement:
  - Laura Guimont - Rippleside Paraprofessional, resigning effective February 9, 2016
  - Susan Howe – Rippleside Paraprofessional, retiring effective April 8, 2016
- Considered/approved request for leave:
  - Jen Burgos requested maternity leave from April 18, 2016, to the end of the school year.
- Approved Independent Contractor Agreements for the musical, “Grease”:
  - Eric Johnson - Play bass guitar for the musical rehearsals and performances
  - Doug Landsverk - Play guitar for the musical rehearsals and performances
- Approved hiring fall head coaches:
  - Football - Tom Sanford
  - Tennis - Jen Waldorf
  - Volleyball - Steve Michaletz
- Approved spring extracurricular assignments per the list.
- Approved the Resolution Directing the Administration to Make Recommendations for Reductions in Programs and Positions and Reasons Therefor.
- Approved the 2016-2017 School Calendar and tentative 2017-2018 School Calendar.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Burgstaler, with a second by Mr. Chute, to designate Assistant High School Principal Chad Pederson and Activities Director Jason Cline to be the District’s Minnesota State High School League representatives. 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 2015-2016-2017 Master Agreement with the Aitkin Principals’ Association. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

No Board action was taken to rescind the motion made October 15, 2015, to purchase two new propane buses from United Truck Body or consider the purchase of two new propane buses from Høglund Bus and Truck Company.

Administrative reports:

Board members' reports:

Mr. Burgstaler reported on the MSBA Phase I and II Training that he attended on January 12-13.

Mr. Hasskamp reported on the MSBA Leadership Conference that he attended with Mr. Novak on January 14-15. Heated debate was held in the session relating to high school teachers teaching college classes.

No report was given on the Parent Advisory Council's meeting, as Mr. Hoge was absent.

Committee reports:

Mr. Novak reported that the Safety Committee met on January 18, where the group discussed winter safety concerns, such as icy surfaces. The District has purchased a salt spreader for use in parking lots.

Mr. Chute reported on the Meet and Confer Committee meeting that was held on January 20. Discussion took place on the school calendars and facilities' concerns at Rippleside.

Mr. Janzen reported that the Policy Committee met on January 28. The group is presenting Policy #806 Crisis Management Policy and Crisis Management Plan to the Board for a first reading.

The Personnel Committee met on February 2. Discussion took place on a possible request for a leave of absence and staffing needs, including the replacement of Transportation Supervisor Gary Ladehoff who is planning to retire.

Superintendent's report:

Mr. Novak reported that discussion will be held on whether summer school class options should be considered. He also discussed the action taken during last week's bomb threat.

Principals' reports:

Mr. Peterson reported that OLPA testing (MCA practice tests) has been underway at Rippleside. The elementary traveling sports teams are very busy.

Mr. Karelis reported on a recent meeting held at the Northeast Service Cooperative pertaining to homeland security, ongoing Learning Management System (LMS) product demonstrations, staff evaluations, and student registration for 2016-2017. He also reported that the number of student behavior issues has been declining. The issues are being dealt with in a timely fashion.

Mr. Hasskamp presented the upcoming meeting schedule as listed in the agenda, adding a fifth Task Force Meeting on February 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Comments from visitors:

Brian Smith, a parent of a Rippleside student, who had formerly complained about a student issue, said that things are going well now. However, he remains frustrated on how the situation was handled by administration. A meeting will be set up to discuss the issue at a later date.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Janzen, with a second by Mr. Chute. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Tiffany Gustin  
Secretary