

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Aitkin Independent School District No. 1  
Aitkin, Minnesota 56431  
August 18, 2014

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Brian Orłowski with six members present. Mr. Hasskamp was absent.

The following agenda changes were presented to the Board: Add Tashana Husom – H.S. Counselor and Judy Anakkala – Payroll Clerk to consent agenda item #10 (Approve hirings for the 2014-2015 school year); add “Approve the recommendation to hire a Community Education Director on a full-time basis for teacher days (180 days) and on a half-time basis for the summer” under Committee reports – Personnel Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Hoge, with a second by Mr. Welshons, to approve the agenda as amended. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Scheduled presentations:

Kathy Hakes-Fastner reviewed the updates that have been made to the Strategic Implementation Plan: Creating the World’s Best Workforce. The Board will consider the plan for approval in September.

Mr. Hasskamp arrived at 7:11 p.m.

Old business:

A motion was made by Mr. Burman, with a second by Mr. Hughes, to approve the following policies:

- Policy 505 Distribution of Nonschool-sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees
- Policy 514 Bullying Prohibition Policy
- Policy 904 Distribution of Materials on School District Property by Nonschool Persons
- Policy 906 Community Notification of Predatory Offenders
- Policy 907 Rewards

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

New business:

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

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 21.
- Office receipts for the month of July in the amount of \$750,013.86.

- Report of expenditures for July including \$654,541.59 for bills and \$332,950.70 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(b).
- Insurance Account checks #13231-13252 in the amount of \$5,542.12.
- Collateral Report for August.
- Donations for July in the amount of \$7,459.50.
- Wire transfers for July in the amount of \$950,000.00.
- Accepted resignations:
  - Carol Breunig - H.S. Paraprofessional, effective immediately
  - Wendie Carlson - Payroll Clerk, effective August 15, 2014
  - Tim Espeseth - Bus Driver, effective immediately
  - John Hodson - Community Education Director, effective August 27, 2014
  - Barry Sullivan - H.S. Paraprofessional, effective immediately
- Considered/approved requests for leave of absence:
  - Cindy Christensen - H.S. Paraprofessional, to care for a sick family member from September 2, 2014, through October 17, 2014
  - Cara Samuelson - Elementary Teacher, maternity leave from approximately January 6, 2015 for six weeks after the baby arrives
- Approved hirings for the 2014-2015 school year:
  - Tom Plagman - Bus Driver
  - Marty Butcher - Bus Driver
  - Ashley Beck - ECFE/School Readiness Teacher at Rippleside
  - Heather Anderson - Third Grade Teacher at Rippleside
  - Tashana Husom – H.S. Counselor
  - Judy Anakkala – Payroll Clerk
- Set the date for a Truth in Taxation Public Hearing as part of the December board meeting on December 15, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.
- Approved the Resolution Relating to the Election of School Board Members and Calling the School District General Election.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Burman, with a second by Mr. Chute, to not pursue revenues through the local optional levy which would have authorized up to \$424 per pupil unit. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Administrative reports:

Board members' reports: No Board members' reports were given.

Committee reports:

Mr. Welshons and Mr. Orlowski reported on the Facilities Committee Meeting held on August 13. ARI will be coming to speak with the high school staff about possible renovations at the high school during the first or second week of school. ARI is still working according to the calendar that would allow for a January referendum election.

Mr. Orlowski and Mrs. Gustin reported on the Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 14 where remaining vacancies for the upcoming school year were discussed. The committee discussed options for filling the Community Education Director position and brought a recommendation to the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Hughes, with a second by Mr. Hoge, to hire a Community Education Director on a full-time basis for teacher days (180 days) and on a half-time basis for the summer. The position will be advertised without a salary range. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Superintendent's report:

In Mr. Novak's absence, Mrs. Gustin gave the Board an update on the fall staff workshop schedules. The bus driver workshop took place earlier in the day, and the teaching staff will return on Monday, August 25, with paraprofessionals reporting the following day.

Principals' reports:

Mr. Pederson reported that the annual Activities Night/Orientation for 7th graders and new students will be held on Wednesday, August 27 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Peterson reported that the building project is coming together, and entrance conferences will be held on Tuesday, September 2 and Wednesday, September 3. Classes will start at Rippleside on September 4. He extended an invitation for Board members to attend the entrance conferences to welcome parents and students. The maintenance staff and high school football team were thanked for all of their hard work to prepare the building for the start of school.

A motion was made by Mr. Hasskamp, with a second by Mr. Chute, to approve the Student-Parent Handbook for 2014-2015. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The upcoming meeting schedule is listed in the agenda.

Comments from visitors: No comments were made by visitors.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Burman, with a second by Mr. Hoge. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Tiffany Gustin  
Secretary