

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Aitkin Independent School District No. 1
Aitkin, Minnesota 56431
December 15, 2014

MINUTES

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

The following agenda changes were presented to the Board: Add a Minnesota State High School League Meeting under Item 9A (Board members' reports). A motion was made by Mr. Hasskamp, with a second by Mr. Hughes, to approve the agenda as amended. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Business Manager Tiffany Gustin reviewed 2014-2015 budget information. The public was given the opportunity to comment and ask questions regarding the budget. No comments or questions were raised.

Scheduled presentations:

Student Council Representative Emilee Miller updated the Board on the activities happening during the 12 Days of Giving.

Jeff Manion, Wipfli LLP, presented the Audit Report for 2013-2014. Following the report, a motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Hasskamp, to accept the audit report as presented. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

Members of the Math Curriculum Review Team (Chancy Nordick, Steve Michaletz, Mark Mehr, Ben Schwarz, Gina Ostrowski, and Mike Statz) reviewed the work that has been done and the changes that have been made as part of the department's review process. Mr. Novak commended the team for the work they have done and continue to do.

On behalf of Kelly Blake and Chris Halvorson, Mr. Novak reviewed the schedule for the upcoming band and choir trip to New York City. Students have made their first payment toward the trip, and fundraising efforts continue. The trip is scheduled for May 31 - June 5, 2015.

Old business:

A motion was made by Mr. Hasskamp, with a second by Mr. Welshon _____, to approve a purchase agreement for the sale of the Palisade Elementary School property and authorize the signatures necessary to execute the agreement. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried. Superintendent Bernie Novak and Clerk Peter Welshons will sign on behalf of the Board. A copy of the purchase agreement will be available for review in the District Office once the buyer has signed the agreement.

New business:

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

- Minutes of the Special Closed Meeting held on November 17 and of the Regular Meeting held on November 17.
- Office receipts for the month of November in the amount of \$1,047,152.25.
- Report of expenditures for November including \$113,674.47 for bills and \$771,429.69 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(b).
- Insurance Account checks #13357-13380 in the amount of \$9,629.78.
- Collateral Report for December.
- Donations for November in the amount of \$1,292.60.
- Wire transfers for November in the amount of \$375,000.00.
- Approved a Youth Service Grant:
Marybeth Woodrow - Summer Reading Program - \$1,000.00
- Approved lane changes:
Chancy Nordick - from MA+45 to MA+60
Justine Nordick - from MA to MA+15
Lorelie Robinson - from BA+30 to BA+45
Aaron Samuelson - from BA+15 to BA+30
- Approved hirings:
Linsey Hyovalti - Bus Driver effective December 5, 2014
Lenore Jackson - Type III Driver effective September 2, 2014
Kristi Weston - 9-month H.S. Custodian effective November 25, 2014
- Approved extracurricular assignments:
One Act Play - Julia Real
Prom Advisor - Kenna Grater
- Considered/approved a request for a leave of absence:
Tara Proctor is requesting maternity leave from April 26, 2015, to the end of the 2014-2015 school year.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Hasskamp, with a second by Mr. Chute, to approve the 2014 payable 2015 levy certification, as proposed, in the amount of \$1,083,952.70. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

The consensus of the Board was to hold work sessions on the fourth Mondays of January, March and June 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The locations will be determined at a later time.

Administrative reports:

Board members' reports:

Mr. Chute reported on his attendance at the MREA Conference in November. He encouraged other board members to consider attending in the future. The conference conflicts with the November board meeting, so Mr. Orlowski suggested that the Board consider changing the November board meeting date in the future.

The board members reported on their thoughts and feedback following the first two public informational meetings for the January bond referendum election. The third and final meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17, 2014.

Mr. Burman reported on the Minnesota State High School League meeting that he attended. He reiterated the importance of having a district representative attend those meetings. High School Principal Chad Pederson will replace Mr. Burman on the committee.

Committee reports:

Mr. Welshons and Mr. Orlowski reported on Facilities Committee meetings held on November 20 and December 3. The group met with Kraus-Anderson and Scott Sosalla to plan and discuss the public information meetings and issues pertaining to the January referendum.

Mr. Chute and Mr. Welshons reported on a Transportation Committee meeting held on December 10. Based on the recommendation of the committee, Mr. Welshons made a motion, with a second by Mr. Chute, to approve the purchase of two 77-passenger buses according to the state bid. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried. A second motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Chute, to approve pursuing the lease of two buses for transporting special education students to replace current vehicles with expiring leases. One has a planned delivery date of spring 2015; the other has a scheduled delivery date of November 2015, but is being ordered soon due to concerns regarding production lead times. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

Superintendent's report:

Mr. Novak reminded the Board about the upcoming MSBA Conference (January 15-16, 2015). He informed the Board that he would be traveling to an IRRRB meeting on Thursday morning.

Principals' reports:

On behalf of Mr. Pederson, Mr. Novak reported on various activities happening at the high school. He also reported that a student at the alternative school completed the credits necessary to receive a diploma. He thanked Riley NAPA for the donation of various tools and equipment and announced that a letter had been received from a neighboring school commending the girls' basketball team on their behavior during a recent visit.

Mr. Novak also gave Mr. Peterson's update on several recent positive achievements and events that have occurred at the elementary school.

The upcoming meeting schedule was reviewed as listed in the agenda.

Comments from visitors:

Mark Mehr suggested that an announcement be made on Wednesday evening to remind parents attending conferences about the public informational meeting regarding the referendum.

Mr. Novak recognized the following school board members who will be leaving the Board at the end of year: Brian Orłowski (4 years), Tom Burman, (8 years), and Steve Hughes (8 years). He thanked them for their years of service to the district and its students.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Burman, with a second by Mr. Hughes. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Tiffany Gustin
Secretary