

## **Eau Claire Board of Education Minutes**

**Monday, April 20, 2015**

*Generated by Patrice Iverson*

Members present:

Richard Spindler, Wendy Sue Johnson, Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Kathryn P Duax, Charles Vue, Chue Xiong

### **1. REGULAR MEETING - CALL TO ORDER**

President Spindler started the meeting out with a moment of silence in honor of City Councilman David Duax who recently passed away.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Spindler called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Board Secretary Patti Iverson confirmed that the meeting had been properly noticed and was in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

### **2. PUBLIC FORUM**

Collin Danielson is a sophomore at North High who spoke on behalf of the Student Council. The council asked the Board to consider reducing the costs of parking passes at each high school. He added that Memorial and North have very different parking forms and students asked that they be consistent between schools. At North many students don't purchase passes because cars are never ticketed. This is unfair to those who do purchase the pass.

### **3. BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

#### **3.1 Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Hardebeck reviewed the Board's calendar of upcoming events. She announced that the Eau Claire Area School District will host a Community Conversation for community stakeholders to discuss empowering our youth with disabilities through employment and community involvement. This free event will take place on Wednesday, April 29, from 8-10 am, at Dove Healthcare West on Truax Blvd in Eau Claire.

Dr. Hardebeck recognized the following staff members who were present:

Ian Jolley, Northstar Middle School social studies teacher, has been selected for the 2015 Junior Division Behring Teacher of the Year Award which recognizes outstanding National History Day teachers. Only one middle school teacher is selected each year in Wisconsin. Mr. Jolley was recognized for his development and use of creative teaching methods that interest students in history and helps them make exciting discoveries about the past.

Sue Devine was the recent recipient of the Kohls Educational Foundation Fellowship. Recipients are chosen for their superior ability to inspire a love of learning in their students, their ability to motivate others, and their leadership and service within and outside the classroom.

Dr. Hardebeck said that North High School was named DPI's/Badgerlink Library of the Month. In 2014, the ECASD had the second highest clicks to the BadgerLink website! To increase reading interest at North High School's media, the library is set up like a book store. There are areas for local interest, post-secondary readiness, classics, an exceptional collection of Sci Fi and Fantasy, as well as a newly expanded graphic novels collection. North also spends time working on research projects. Recently North HS received grants for some fun technology projects. These STEM projects engage students in problem solving, critical thinking, and useful applications for science.

Three teams from the Eau Claire Area School District recently won the Odyssey of the Mind State

Championship in their divisions. Two will compete at the World Finals at Michigan State University May 20 – 23. Twenty-five different countries will participate at this event. The two teams heading to World Finals are the North/Memorial and the Manz Elementary School teams.

### **3.2 Communications to Superintendent/Board President**

President Spindler congratulated Wendy Sue Johnson for serving on the Board for the past six years and presented her with a commemorative plaque.

WASB will hold a Spring Academy on May 2nd. Anyone interested in attending should contact Patti Iverson to get registered.

## **4. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

### **4.1 Student Representative Report**

Hannah Winegarden said many students at North don't purchase parking passes because they can't afford it but also realize that it is not enforced. However, she felt more would purchase the passes if the cost was lower. Hannah asked why the money that students pay for fines or book replacement costs goes into the general fund rather than being used for the items that were damaged or lost. AP registration was held last week during fifth hour and students were excused from classes to attend. She felt the attendance was much greater because students didn't have conflicts with jobs and athletics.

Jonah Giese congratulated the Odyssey of the Mind teams that made it to nationals. He also spoke about the student parking situation at Memorial. He said parking is strictly enforced at Memorial. He noted the inconsistencies between the two high schools. Jonah said that AP registration was a positive experience this year. He encouraged the schools to keep emphasizing AP classes because they push students to be the best they can be. Jonah asked that the Board consider adding a student representative to the School Day Start Time Committee.

## **5. OTHER REPORTS**

### **5.1 Board Committee Reports**

The Budget Development Committee reviewed budget projections, which are not favorable. Whether the District uses realistic projections or zero percent increase projections, it has a revenue problem. The committee recommended that the Board use its May Work Session to discuss if an operational or capital referendum should take place and if so, if they should occur at the same time. The Board may also consider having a recurring or nonrecurring referendum. President Spindler said this item will be put on the agenda for the May Work Session.

### **5.2 Legislative Update**

Chris Hambuch-Boyle said the Joint Finance Committee rejected a motion to remove all K-12 non-fiscal policy items from the Governor's budget. The JFC adopted a motion which delays for two years the ending dates for renewal of existing policies and for filing claims under the local Government Insurance Fund. Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald said that he and fellow Republican senators want to restore much or all of the \$127 million cut from public schools in the first year of the proposed state budget.

Com. Hambuch-Boyle shared a copy of an article entitled, "Great Example of Community Advocacy." The Appleton School District authored a column on school funding that was posted in their local paper. It was a great example for districts to use in community advocacy on behalf of their schools.

## **6. CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA**

Motion by Wendy Sue Johnson, second by Kathryn P Duax, to approve the following consent resolution agenda items:

- Minutes of April 6, 2015
- March 2015 Financial Report
- March 2015 Gift Report
- March 2015 Bill Payable
- Revisions to Board Policy 183 - Voting

Final Resolution: Motion carried

Yes: Richard Spindler, Wendy Sue Johnson, Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Kathryn P Duax, Charles Vue, Chue Xiong

### **6.1 Human Resources - Employment Report**

Motion by Wendy Sue Johnson, second by Chue Xiong, to approve Human Resources - Employment Report for April 20, 2015.

Final Resolution: Motion carried

Yes: Richard Spindler, Wendy Sue Johnson, Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Kathryn P Duax, Charles Vue, Chue Xiong

## **7. INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTION(S)**

### **7.1 Reaffirm 2015-2016 Health & Dental Renewal Rates**

Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, and Charles Vue left the room due to a conflict of interest.

Motion by Wendy Sue Johnson, second by Chue Xiong to reaffirm approval of 2015-16 health and dental insurance rates as presented on March 16, 2015.

Final Resolution: Motion carried

Yes: Richard Spindler, Wendy Sue Johnson, Kathryn P Duax, Chue Xiong

Abstain: Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Charles Vue

Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, and Charles Vue returned to the meeting.

### **7.2 School Day Start Time Committee Charge**

Board President Spindler proposed that the makeup of the School Day Start Time Committee include a student representative from each high school along with the initial list that was compiled. Com. Vue suggested having students from CVTC or UWEC serve on the committee to get their input on the issue. Com. Cummins said she would not vote for the charge because she doesn't support the committee. She felt there would be costs for implementing the findings and given the budget constraints, money and administrator time shouldn't be used to implement a change.

Motion by Wendy Sue Johnson, second by Kathryn P Duax, to approve the School Day Start Time Committee Charge and Committee structure.

Motion by Wendy Sue Johnson, second by Chue Xiong, to amend motion to add student representatives from each high school. Final Resolution: Motion carried

Yes: Richard Spindler, Wendy Sue Johnson, Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Kathryn P Duax, Charles Vue, Chue Xiong

Motion with amendment carried as follows:

Yes: Richard Spindler, Wendy Sue Johnson, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Kathryn P Duax, Charles Vue, Chue Xiong

No: Trish Cummins

### **7.3 McKinley Charter School Contract Extension**

Motion by Chris Hambuch-Boyle, second by Trish Cummins, to approve McKinley Charter School Contract Extension as presented.

Final Resolution: Motion carried

Yes: Richard Spindler, Wendy Sue Johnson, Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Kathryn P Duax, Charles Vue, Chue Xiong

### **7.4 Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School Contract Extension**

The Board discussed the five-year contract length. Some felt the length of the contract along with the five-year auto-renewal was too long. Others said the contract is fluid and could be changed by either party at any time mutually. It was noted that the contracts would be reviewed by the Charter/Choice Committee each year.

Motion by Kathryn P Duax, second by Trish Cummins, to approve the extension of the Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School contract as presented.

Final Resolution: Motion carried

Yes: Wendy Sue Johnson, Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Kathryn P Duax, Charles Vue, Chue Xiong

No: Richard Spindler

## **8. ADJOURN TO COMMITTEE**

## **9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **9.1 Demographic Trends Committee Update**

President Spindler said Mike Falch was going to give an update on the Demographic Trends Committee, but he was unable to attend. Mr. Spindler is a member of the committee and shared the update. In the fall the committee discussed the capital needs of the District and Charlie Kramer gave an update on facility needs. The group discussed what could go on a capital referendum and examined data regarding variables in resources between the two high schools and the enrollment gaps between those two buildings. They talked about options to alleviate some of those situations.

The Committee Chair and Facilitator will put together a report and share it with the Board in May or June. The Committee will look at the APL enrollment data projections and compare those numbers to school capacity at all levels. They will also discuss the use of Little Red School.

The Committee agrees that an operational as well as a facility needs referendum is needed. South is nearly identical to DeLong so a similar project is needed there. The five-year capital needs are backlogged because the operational budget for maintenance isn't enough. In addition, there are needs for secure entrances. Once the group gets the enrollment projections, it may find that some elementary school expansions may be needed. These discussions will be brought back to the Board in the Work Session.

### **9.2 Strategic Planning Update**

Dr. Hardebeck suggested that a core Strategic Planning Team consist of 7 Board Members, Superintendent, 4 representatives from the District Leadership Team (Student Services, Assessment, Business and Human Resources), 4 Principals (one high school, one middle school, one elementary school, and one charter school), 4 representatives from various work groups, 1 parent representative from PAC and 1 student representative.

She shared the proposed schedule for the four Strategic Planning Meetings:

Meeting 1 - May 18, 2015. The Strategic Planning Team will review the vision, mission, beliefs, core values and goals. They will identify a list of data to examine and a process for obtaining and organizing the data for use in the second meeting.

Meeting 2 - June 22, 2015. This meeting will consist of a data review and discussion of implications for the vision, mission, goals and areas for action. They will be asked to develop a matrix for invitations to participate in a community forum and to develop a process for communicating with/inviting those who will be involved in the community forum.

Meeting 3 - July 27, 2015. The Community Forum will provide a protocol for input and reflection from representative groups from the community - staff, families, students and business partners.

Meeting 4 - August 10, 2015. The Strategic Planning Team will develop the final strategic priorities and directions for action teams.

The Board discussed the importance of including a continuous improvement plan to track progress being made for each action plan. Dr. Hardebeck noted that per discussions related to Key Works, one of the major responsibilities of the Board is to monitor and receive updates about progress.

## **10. ADJOURN TO WORK SESSION**

The Board adjourned to the Work Session at 8:06 p.m.

## **11. WORK SESSION**

### **11.1 Key Works - Collaborative Relationships/Community Engagement**

President Spindler said that as a continuation of a previous Work Session, the Board would be discussing Collaborative Relationships/Community Engagement from Key Works and various strategies to engage the community. The Board talked about its achievements that it would like to communicate to the community and parents. Some ideas included:

- "Good news" information that is shared by Dr. Hardebeck at Board meetings
- The type of information included in the Chamber of Commerce's Community Profile
- Considering what the public would gain from having great local schools and ways to explain the needs for improvement
- Graduation rates, attendance rates, survey results
- Interesting statistics
- Getting students and parents to take ownership
- Utilize businesses as ambassadors
- Utilize PTO/PTA in more creative ways
- Get benchmarks from similar-type communities (strong business community, university, public school system, supportive public)
- Look to alumni to provide a way to look at things we can get better at.
- Find multiple ways to share the messages
- Get personal stories from students and parents

- When there are common issues, stakeholders will get involved
- Tell the community how public education in general benefits society

Using the Jamie Vollmer model, after determining achievements and stories a consistent message should be developed. There are many ways to get those messages out and it was stressed that the same message be used by everyone in the District. Stakeholders could be utilized to help draft that message.

A business card for Board members that would include fun facts about the District is being designed. It would have contact information for Board members as well as Dr. Hardebeck and include achievements, facts and demographic information.

It was noted that there is a list of names of business people and key stakeholders that was developed when a previous discussion took place about having a Community Conversation. That will be updated.

## **12. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests for future agenda items.

## **13. OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no other matters brought before the Board.

## **14. ADJOURN**

Motion by Wendy Sue Johnson, second by Kathryn P Duax, to adjourn meeting.

Final Resolution: Motion carried

Yes: Richard Spindler, Wendy Sue Johnson, Trish Cummins, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Kathryn P Duax, Charles Vue, Chue Xiong

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.