

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN, FEBRUARY 7, 2011  
PRESIDENT CRAIG PRESIDING**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Craig called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Secretary Patti Iverson confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed and was in compliance with the open meeting law.

Roll call was taken and the following commissioners were present: Craig, Duax, Faanes, Janke, Johnson, Shiel, and Wogahn. Absent: None. Student Representative Rebecca Giles was present; Joe Luginbill was not present.

**NOTICE OF CLOSED SESSION**

President Craig announced that the Board would go into closed session following the committee meeting under 19.85 (1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and 19.85 (1)(f) to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Nancy Brenner, 1405 Virginia Lane, spoke on behalf of restoring art to 60-minutes in the elementary schools. She said as elected officials, the Board should be good stewards of the District's money and children's education.

**BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Heilmann said that states across the country are dealing with major fiscal challenges and are having problems balancing budgets. He shared information he received from *The Daily Beast* that ranks the 50 states in five-year amounts for debt. It showed that Wisconsin ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> of the 50 states, which was the lowest in the Midwest. Illinois was ranked #4; Indiana #8; Michigan #27 and Minnesota #32.

On March 16, 2011, WASB will host the "Day at the Capital." There will be a state budget briefing on the 2011-13 budget as well as a legislative panel, state superintendent luncheon, and visits with legislators at capital committee hearings. Any

Board members who are interested in attending should contact Patti Iverson to get registered.

Dr. Heilmann reported that the Governance Board of the ENGAGE Charter School has requested an extension of the planning grant until December 2012. He will keep in touch with Mike Huggins and Jo Ellen Burke on this request and keep the Board informed.

Lakeshore and Longfellow elementary schools have received Schools of Recognition Grant Awards. The Department of Public Instruction received over 65 proposals statewide and found that the proposals from these two schools clearly met the grant program objectives to provide opportunities to create new, innovative programs in order to increase teacher effectiveness, close the achievement gap and increase graduation rates. The two schools will collectively receive \$267,470.

Sam Davey Elementary School was 1 of 32 schools that received a nation-wide grant from the National PTA Association for its "Take Your Family to School Week" activities. There will be special events scheduled during the week of February 14<sup>th</sup>.

Meadowview Elementary School recently held an Impressions Art Gallery, which was an all-school event that showcased many artistic entries. The theme was "Outer Space."

#### Communication to Superintendent/Board President

WASB will hold an Effective Bargaining Seminar on March 18<sup>th</sup> in Eau Claire.

#### Student Representative Report

Becca Giles and Joe Luginbill have been working with their principals to coordinate State of the School meetings. Memorial's event will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. North has not confirmed the date for their event yet. The purpose of the meetings will be to share with students and the public information on the referendum, changes in the technology policy, changes in testing and the District's focus on PSR.

#### Other Reports

##### *Policy and Governance Committee*

The next meeting will be February 10<sup>th</sup> so there was nothing new to report.

##### *Budget Development Committee*

The committee had a preliminary meeting last week and they received an overview of three different budget scenarios and had a briefing on PSR. There will be a follow-up meeting next week.

## **CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA**

Board members asked to pull Resolutions 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 from the consent agenda.

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Shiel, to approve the consent resolution agenda consisting of the following items:

- ◆ The minutes of Board meeting of January 24, 2011 as mailed.
- ◆ The minutes of closed session of January 24, 2011, as mailed.
- ◆ The matters of employment of February 7, 2011, as presented.
- ◆ CESA 10 Contract for 2011-12

Consent resolution agenda items approved by unanimous roll call vote.

## **INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTIONS**

### Resolution #4 – Restoration of 2.1 Elementary Art FTE Effective with the Onset of the 2011-12 School Year

The Board discussed the process for adding this item back into the budget. There is a possibility of using fund balance or perhaps making a reduction somewhere else. Dr. Heilmann said the topic will likely come up again during PSR discussions. That will be the framework for future budget discussions and decisions will be made based on that.

The Teaching & Learning Department will be doing a core program review during the 2011-12 school year and recommendations will be made in 2012-13. Working with all schedules will be done with groups of teachers and others in 2011-12 and implementation in 2012-13.

Com. Janke moved, seconded by Com. Duax, to restore 2.1 elementary art FTE effective with the onset of the 2011-12 school year. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

### Resolution #5 -- Preliminary Notice of Teacher Nonrenewals

Com. Duax had a question about one of the staff members who will be receiving a preliminary notice of nonrenewal. Dr. Weissenburger explained that people on the list are those who were hired under an emergency or one-year contract either on a full or part-time basis. He noted that this was just a preliminary notice and if there was an error, it can be corrected before the final notice is sent out.

Com. Johnson moved, seconded by Com. Duax, to authorize administration to issue a preliminary notice of nonrenewal to the certified staff members listed as on emergency contracts as of February 7, 2011. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Craig, Faanes, Janke, Johnson, Shiel, and Wogahn. Nay: Duax.

Resolution #7--Initial Resolution Number I Authorizing General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$51,850,000

Larry Bray from Bray Associates shared the site plan for DeLong and some minor changes that were made to the elementary plans. He shared a four-page summary of the scope of work proposed at DeLong.

Com. Janke asked about the possibility of utilizing a white roof. Mr. Kramer explained that Wisconsin is right on the border as far as the payback for going with that type of roof. He said it will be bid as an alternate but in the past prices came in about 20% higher for that roof.

Board members asked specific questions about certain areas in the design and Mr. Bray shared those details.

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Faanes, to adopt initial Resolution Number I authorizing general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$51,850,000. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Craig, Duax, Faanes, Johnson, Shiel, and Wogahn. Nay: Janke.

Resolution #8--Initial Resolution Number II Authorizing General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$3,900,000

Com. Duax felt the District should explore leasing a facility instead of buying one. She didn't think the District should commit to something at this time. Com. Shiel shared similar concerns but felt it should be put on as a referendum question. He said that even if it passes and the Board changes its mind about purchasing this site, it would not have to collect the money to proceed.

Com. Johnson said the Demographic Trends group has had some limited discussion about the Early Learning Center. As far as a different building, she said that even if one of the catholic schools closed, it is unlikely that facility would work for the District. She said the Epiphany building would work well for the District and it is available for an amazing price. Com. Wogahn said if the community approves this question, it gives the Board an option to either make an offer on the Epiphany building or pursue another building with the money. The District would have five years to spend the money, which would provide flexibility. He felt it made sense to have an Early Learning Center and noted that the District will need the extra classroom space that could be provided in the future.

President Craig felt this was a good opportunity and would be a good investment for future use and specifically for an Early Learning Center. However, she felt the Board should be committed to the Epiphany site and to tell the public this is where the money would be invested. She added that she wasn't sure if this was the time to do future investing but the community will be given the opportunity to answer that question.

Com. Faanes moved, seconded by Com. Johnson, to adopt resolution authorizing general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$3,900,000. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Craig, Faanes, Johnson, Shiel, and Wogahn. Nays: Duax and Janke.

Resolution #9--Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Questions of the Approval of Initial Resolutions Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$55,750,000

Com. Janke moved, seconded by Com. Faanes, to adopt resolution providing for a referendum election on the questions of the approval of initial resolutions authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$55,750,000. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution #10--Financial Support for the Joint Services Commission on Shared Initiatives Efforts for the Development of a Future Work Plan

The Board discussed this request. Given the current budget constraints, some were concerned about moving this forward. Coms. Craig and Duax are on the Joint Services Commission and said this would help the city, county and school district to make a plan that would best utilize resources for all three entities. Because each group has its own barriers, Craig Rapp helps cities develop a plan and get around barriers of state statutes and policy decision making to provide efficient use of tax dollars. The commission has already looked at demographic studies, transportation study, health services, technology collaboration, safe routes to schools, and recycling initiatives. The group is trying to figure out how far to move ahead with this collaboration without violating its responsibilities. The cost to participate would be approximately \$8,500.

Administrators from the city, county, and school district have felt that the commission gets bogged down by obstacles and barriers that have hindered success. The goal is to find an expert to develop a plan that is more efficient including community input. Mr. Rapp came highly recommended by Mr. Huggins and Mr. McCarty. There was some concern by Board members that the proposal as it was written didn't match the intended outcomes as stated by President Craig.

Com. Faanes moved, seconded by Com. Wogahn, to grant financial support for the joint services commission on shared initiatives efforts for the development of a future work plan. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Craig, Duax, Faanes, Johnson, Janke, and Wogahn. Nay: Shiel.

Regular meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Patti Iverson, Board Secretary

**COMMITTEE MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN  
FEBRUARY 7, 2011**

1. Call to Order – Committee Meeting

Board Members present: Craig, Duax, Faanes, Janke, Johnson, Shiel, and Wogahn. Absent: None. Student Representative Rebecca Giles was present; Joe Luginbill was not present.

2. Committee Reports/Items for Discussion

A. Discussion of a Proclamation of Support for Reducing Under-Age Drinking

ATODA Coordinator Jean Christianson and Betsy, a Memorial student involved in the Students Against Destructive Decisions group, have been working with “It’s Just Not Worth the Risk” campaign. They asked the Board to adopt a proclamation of support for the “Parents who Host Lose the Most” and “It’s Just Not Worth the Risk” projects. A community survey showed that 85% of parents agree that under-age drinking is a problem.

Betsy said that students have taken part in a number of activisms in the community and have targeted 12 to 17 year olds. Alcohol is the leading cause of deaths for young people.

Com. Janke urged the Board to be careful not to be too strident in denouncing things. He said that alcoholism is a complex issue. Ms. Christenson said that everything that is utilized comes from evidence-based programs and information from the US Department of Health & Human Services as well as the Surgeon General.

Many Board members felt there was a great deal of evidence to support that kids shouldn’t be consuming alcohol and the majority supported this effort. Becca Giles added that as she has progressed through high school, she has seen alcohol ruin a lot of lives and felt it just wasn’t worth the risk.

The proclamation will be brought back at the next meeting for approval and will be read aloud.

B. Equity & Post-Secondary Readiness Presentation Made at the WASB Convention

Members of the Teaching & Learning Department gave a presentation at the WASB Convention on equity and post-secondary readiness and the

District's work in this area and the Board asked them to share this information.

Tim Leibham said that in 2001 the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (No Child Left Behind) was reauthorized. It was the first time any legislative body defined a specific educational outcome. Each state could define an acceptable level of reading and math to be sure that by 2014 every child would be at grade level in reading and math. Over time that got into the concept of preparing all kids for post-secondary education (PSE). This is a goal set by the national government and is reinforced by the state government.

The components of post-secondary preparation include: 1) social/emotional learning; 2) academic proficiency, 3) career awareness, and 4) aptitude and interest.

Mr. Leibham went on to say that educational organizations are full of systems: the District is a system; each school is a system; each classroom is a system; each program is a system; each lesson plan is a system. Everything we do as an organization is a system. Each classroom builds on what is there before, based on what is to come. Systems will always produce an outcome.

The District wants to be sure that all staff members are going in the same direction to prepare students for PSE. He said that without knowing the direction or what the outcomes should be, it is hard to define the right direction. To prepare all children for PSE the District needs to organize its resources and thinking in a way that supports the education program. Starting with pre-kindergarten, children are instructed to acquire and perform specific skills. These skills are then further developed as the child progresses from one grade level to the next.

Mr. Leibham said the traditional school system wasn't designed to prepare all kids for PSE, it was predicated on the bell curve. Those above the curve were pushed further, but those below it were not. The model now being followed has teachers assessing student performance and adjusting instruction based on the students' understanding and performance. Academic interventions are used to accelerate a student's learning if the child is not progressing to meet the academic or behavioral benchmark.

Ann Franke shared data that showed that traditionally the ECASD is above state test score averages in almost all grade levels and is meeting the benchmarks. But when you disaggregate the information, you see the disparity between English speaking and English Language Learners in meeting proficient and advanced levels. The same can be seen between white students and students of color, special education students and

students living in poverty. The District analyzes the data and it seems that scores don't seem to change. Ms. Franke said ECASD is no different than other districts in the state and nation in this area.

The WKCE doesn't measure a student's readiness for PSE. In October the District decided to give the EXPLORE and PLAN tests, which are a subset of the ACT. Discrepancies between these different groups were expected and they were seen. This information is being disaggregated and analyzed. The District continues to accelerate learning of those who are learning at high levels and gets students who are not at benchmarks to that point to help close the gaps.

Robyn Criego said that four years ago the District was identified as having a disproportionate number of students of color in certain special education areas. The District had to decide if this was because of family issues or if it was a district/system issue. The District saw that disproportionality is a symptom of issues going on in our District.

To help bring PSE to light, there is a transformative delivery of eight components of college and career readiness: need to have post-secondary aspirations for kids, academic planning, exploration and selection processes, enrichment and extra-curricular engagements, assessments, affordability planning, admission procedures, and transition from high school to post secondary enrollment. The required elements for each component include context, cultural competence, multilevel interventions, and data. The goal would be to have equitable outcomes for each student in ECASD.

Many districts have been looking to ECASD for support for PBIS and staff members have done many presentations at state and national conferences to embed all of this in the PBIS framework. The District has been recognized for leading the way in implementing this model.

US Education Secretary Arne Duncan has reported that education is an economic issue. Wisconsin would save more than \$202 million in health care costs over the course of the lifetimes of each class of dropouts had they earned their diplomas and nearly \$1.6 billion would be added to Wisconsin's economy by 2020 if students of color graduated from high school at the same rate as white students. If Wisconsin's high schools graduated all students ready for college, the state would save almost \$86.2 million a year in community college remediation costs and lost earnings. Wisconsin's economy would see a combination of savings and revenue of about \$101 million in reduced crime spending and increased earnings each year if the male high school graduation rate increased by just 5%. The ECASD is aiming to make a change in that data.

Kris Dimock shared the Bibliography, which cited research that formed the foundation of work in this area. She shared several different frameworks that the District utilizes for PSR and explained them: Personal/Classroom/School Framework, Education Structural Framework, Education Program Framework. She noted that the entire packet can be found on the District's website.

Ron Heilmann said the Board will be asked to make decisions on everything moving forward through the PSR lens. This is a change from past practice to resource allocation methodology. In the area of PSR not all departments/operations are created equal.

Com. Johnson said she accepts the premise to prepare every child for post-secondary education and that it's an economic issue. However, she felt it was not only an economic issue and she challenged administration to broaden that concept because she has difficulty making budget decisions through the lens of not all departments being equal if we are only looking out for economics. She felt that if we only focus on the third of a student based on economics, she won't use that to make decisions.

Com. Shiel agreed that there seems to be a lot of emphasis on economics. He said the District uses EXPLORE and Plan tests and that the ACT does a good job predicting grades in college but he wondered what grades in college predict. Mr. Leibham said the District uses ACT scores because of the connection to the common core curriculum. WKCE testing will be discontinued in the state in the next several years. He said it is difficult to determine what happens to a student after the first year in college. A student's ability to problem solve and interact with others goes beyond their grade point average and has nothing to do with economics. Mr. Leibham said other than retention rates, universities don't have that data but given that 60% of students attending the technical colleges typically need remediation, that would indicate they aren't ready for post-secondary education.

Mr. Leibham said that every child should have a choice after high school and that a four-year college isn't the end all/be all for students. When students look at the program of study they must incorporate all things so they better understand the opportunities they will have after high school. The District prepares students so they can leave high school with the requisite skills or the ability to assess what they may be interested in doing.

Com. Faanes said he didn't see this as predominately an economic discussion but as accepting the responsibility and obligations to students moving forward. As the Board sets its meeting agendas it should know that there are things the Board needs to be aware of but there are perhaps classes or services that aren't achieving those goals to get to a student's

post-secondary experience. He felt those things should be emphasized to make sure we are focusing dollars and services appropriately while keeping in mind that our budget is limited and we can't be everything to everybody. He asked that the Board get regular updates on how PSR is progressing.

President Craig said this will allow the Board to be more pro-active in budget deliberation knowing the long-term picture rather than being reactive. This will help in prioritization.

Becca Giles said that PSR is a great idea and it has elicited an enormous response among students. She is seeing a lot of activism.

Dr. Heilmann recommended having two Board members assigned to Teaching & Learning for more active involvement with the PSR initiative and a third Board member added to the Budget Development Committee. The Board was in favor of adding another person to the Budget Committee but preferred that the entire Board be engaged in discussions about PSR.

#### C. Review of Community Feedback from Referendum Presentations

Dr. Heilmann shared the informational referendum DVD and Patti Iverson took the Board through the referendum website and explained how it will be used to inform the public and provide detailed information. Dr. Heilmann discussed the many opportunities that will take place to inform the public at various forums and with presentations to service organizations, neighborhood associations and the Chamber of Commerce.

The Eau Claire Association of Educators has made a contribution to Promote the Vote.

#### 3. Request for Future Agenda Items

There was a request to hear information about the STEPS program.

#### 4. Other Business

#### 5. Motion to Adjourn Committee Meeting

Com. Johnson moved, seconded by Com. Wogahn, to adjourn committee meeting. Carried by unanimous voice of acclamation.

#### 6. Motion to go into Closed Session

Com. Shiel moved, seconded by Com. Duax, to go into closed session under 19.85 (1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business,

whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and 19.85 (1)(f) to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Craig, Duax, Faanes, Johnson, Shiel, and Wogahn. Nay: Janke.

7. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 pm.