

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Special Session on January 19, 2011 at 5:30 P.M. in the Community Room, Drake Library, 930 Park Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: President Jeff Smith, Vice-President Doug Cameron, Lynn Cavanagh, Barbara Brown, Leo Lease, and Carol Wilhelm. Also in attendance at the table: Board Secretary J.T. Anderson.

Members Absent: Jeannette Budding and Superintendent Edie Eckles

Administrators Present: Kevin Seney and Nancy Beck

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the special meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and the Secretary called the roll. Budding was absent.

II. Approve hiring a search firm to assist the board with conducting the superintendent search

Motion by Lease, seconded by Brown, to approve hiring a superintendent search firm. President Smith summarized the base service cost of the six consulting firms that submitted proposals as follows:

1. Client Growth and Associates (Grinnell firm)	\$15,000
2. Else Leadership Group	\$6,500
3. Hazard, Young, Attea, and Associates	\$18,000
4. McPherson and Jacobson LLC	\$6,500
5. Pace, Jones, and Gibson LLC	\$6,501
6. Ray and Associates, Inc,	\$6,500

Each board member was given an opportunity to state their recommendation. The discussion was narrowed down to Else Leadership Group and McPherson and Jacobson based on factors such as cost, experience, transparency, and retention rate. The majority of board members favored Else Leadership Group based on personality, experience in Iowa PK-12 education, and previous experience working in the Grinnell-Newburg district.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Cameron, to hire Else Consulting Group as superintendent search firm, but if Else Consulting declines offer, move forward and hire McPherson and Jacobson as search firm. Motion carried 6-0.

Original motion carried 6-0.

III. Adjourn

Motion by Brown, seconded by Cameron, to adjourn meeting at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.