

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Special Session on February 27, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 927 4th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: Jeff Smith, Doug Cameron, Barbara Brown, Jeff Knobloch, Leo Lease, Claire Moisan (arrived at 6:15 pm), and Carol Wilhelm. Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson, Business Manager JT Anderson, and Board Secretary Susan Kriegel

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Kevin Seney and Jeff Kirby

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the regular meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Board Secretary Susan Kriegel called the roll. Six members were in attendance.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Brown, seconded by Knobloch to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Education Discussion

Superintendent Abrahamson updated the board on the lawsuit, R&C Industries Property, Building Project, State Tournament Participation – Boys Basketball.

Superintendent Abrahamson indicated there will be public meetings during March and April to discuss the building project.

6:15 pm Moisan arrived.

Superintendent Abrahamson indicated an elementary structure is most important.

The suggestion boxes have been placed in every building. Superintendent Abrahamson is having faculty meetings every other week in the school buildings.

Superintendent Abrahamson updated the board regarding the color printer situation. Per a recent meeting, every building will be getting a color printer. Davis School will be getting the color printer from central office, as Davis has the oldest printer. Central office will be getting a smaller printer. This project should be completed by the end of March.

Discussion held regarding the reading ability of some students.

Tech support has indicated things are going well for them. Discussion was held on the tracking of tech trouble tickets. It was reported 90% of reported trouble tickets are user error.

The JMC system is still being used. Discussion was held on the Campus system.

Superintendent Abrahamson updated the board on the bus routes. Data has been collected. A bus policy needs to be established. The policy committee and transportation committee will work on a bus policy for the start of the 2013-2014 school year.

Discussion was held regarding the upcoming state basketball tournament. The board reviewed the suggestion of moving the PD day to Tuesday, March 5, and students attend school on Monday, March 4. Teachers will have their PD until noon on Tuesday, March 5. This change will not take time away from students. There should be a policy on situations that occur at the state level. Previous boards unable to put a policy into place.

Superintendent Abrahamson explained the changes in his leadership. He places education first, student achievement, concerned about reading ability of some third graders. Indicated the entire district is not 100% focused on the right educational material.

It was reported there is public concern that taking Tuesday, March 5 off would have an impact on the SINA designation.

The board would like a SINA update at every meeting.

President Smith appreciated the input from the administrators on the proposal for March 4th and March 5th.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Brown seconded by Lease to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Calendar:

Regular Board Meeting

6:00 p.m., March 13, 2013