

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on March 13, 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, and Carol Wilhelm. Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson and Business Manager JT Anderson

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Kevin Seney, Jeff Kirby, and Chris Coffman

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Knobloch arrived at 6:03 pm; Wilhelm arrived at 6:05 pm. Business Manager JT Anderson called the roll. Seven members were in attendance.

2. Fiduciary

Business Manager Anderson answered questions about the monthly financial statements and list of bills. He also gave board members some preliminary budgetary information in preparation for the March 20, 2013 budget work session.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Cameron seconded by Lease to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 7-0.

President Smith noted the following amended items to the consent agenda:

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

F. Open Enrollment In 2013-2014: Keller Thompson; kindergarten from Newton
Open Enrollments Out 2012-2013: Madison Cooley; 2nd grade to BGM, Logan
Cooley; 3rd grade to BGM

G. Contract upgrade: Ila Willis standard para-educator level to specialized
para-educator level

Motion by Brown, seconded by Cameron to approve the amended consent agenda.
Motion carried 7-0.

E. Personnel:

1. Offerings: Travis Smith; volunteer coach girls tennis, Eugene Peart; volunteer
coach girls and boys soccer, Deirdre Triplett; head cook middle school

2. Resignation: Brian Chitwood; basketball coach 8th grade boys

F. Open Enrollments In 2013-2014: John Ashing; kindergarten from Newton, Trent
Smothers; transitional kindergarten from Montezuma, Taelyn Garringer;
kindergarten from BGM, Kylee Bond; kindergarten from Newton, Delanie Roland;
kindergarten from East Marshall, Keagan Neighbors; kindergarten from BGM
Open Enrollment In 2012-2013: Jordann Garber; 1st grade from East Marshall

Open Enrollments Out 2012-2013: Ethan Swanberg; kindergarten to Montezuma, Madison Swanson; 6th grade to CAM
Open Enrollments Out 2013-2014: Taylor Thomas; kindergarten to East Marshall, Gabrielle Foreman; 10th grade to North Mahaska, Joseph Clement; 1st grade to Waukee, Nikolai Taylor-Phillips; 6th grade to Clayton Ridge Academy, Josiah Taylor-Phillips; 7th grade to Clayton Ridge Academy, Madison Swanson; 7th grade to Clayton Ridge Academy, Caitlin Cline; 4th grade to Clayton Ridge Academy, Kyle Kinmonth; 11th grade to Iowa Connections Academy, Kameron Kinmonth; 10th grade to Iowa Connections Academy

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Knobloch to move into closed session. Motion carried 7-0.

4. **Closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 22.591)(c): To discuss strategy with counsel matters that are in litigation, where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the District in that litigation.**

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Knobloch to come out of closed session. Motion carried 7-0.

5. **Communication from the Public**

Emily Loudon, para-educator, thanked the board and administration for resolving the color printing issues within the buildings.

6. **Student Recognition - None**

Kevin Seney mentioned several high school groups and individuals that received special recognition for high achievement in their respective activities.

7. **Presentation - Skip Lowe**

Skip Lowe, from Bernie Lowe & Associates, presented information on the Affordable Care Act and the impact this legislation could have on the school district. Lowe noted that the district's health care costs could increase about \$900K over the next five to six years based on normal health care cost trends and other components from the Affordable Care Act. Board members stated the district needs to take more intentional steps to promote health and wellness for both staff and students.

8. **Communication and Reports**

- A. **Board**

The board acknowledged they received a letter from the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce that supported the district's efforts to consolidate school buildings.

- B. **Superintendent**

Superintendent Abrahamson updated the board on the following items; color printers being placed back into buildings, eminent domain process, and conversations with a firm (RSP) to assist the district with projecting future enrollments. Abrahamson said this process would help communicate to the public “why” and “how” the district is considering a new facility. The process would also include geographic data, achievement data, financial data, and configuration scenarios. Results of this process would be communicated to the public in a forum type event.

C. Principals

Principal Kirby updated the board on where the district is with the SINA process. Kirby noted he is optimistic based on the preliminary student testing results that he has reviewed.

Principal K. Seney provided the board with mid-year student data from the high school.

D. Director of Instruction

Coffman answered questions from the board on several instructional and curricular items going on within the district.

9. Old Business

None to report.

10. New Business

A. Out of state travel for GHS Debate Team to attend National Debate Competition in Alabama

Motion by Moisan, seconded by Wilhelm to approve the out of state travel for GHS Debate Team to attend the National Debate Competition in Alabama. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Out of state travel for Administrative Team to attend ASCD conference in Chicago, IL

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by Cameron to approve out of state travel for Administrative Team to attend ASCD conference in Chicago, IL. Motion carried 7-0.

C. Iowa Girls’ High School Athletic Association request to renew existing Cooperative Sharing Agreement; Soccer, Swimming and Diving with BGM

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Knobloch to approve the Iowa Girls’ High School Athletic Association request to renew existing Cooperative Sharing Agreement; Soccer, Swimming and Diving with BGM. Motion carried 7-0.

D. Iowa High School Athletic Association application for renewal of cooperative sponsorship of an activity; Swimming and Soccer with BGM

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by Lease to approve the Iowa High School Athletic Association application for renewal of cooperative sponsorship of an activity; Swimming and Soccer with BGM. Motion carried 7-0.

E. Lease Agreement with City of Grinnell for Ahrens soccer facility from April 1, 2013 to May 31, 2013 for \$1,800

Motion by Brown, seconded by Lease to approve the Lease Agreement with City of Grinnell for Ahrens soccer facility from April 1, 2013 to May 31, 2013 for \$1,800. Motion carried 7-0.

F. Vehicle - Van

As recommended by the Transportation Committee, purchase of Chevy ¾ ton van from Wes Finch in the amount of \$26,323. Motion by Brown, seconded by Cameron to purchase Chevy ¾ ton van from Wes Finch for \$26,323. Motion carried 7-0.

G. 900 Series - 1st Reading

Motion by Lease, seconded by Cameron to approve at first reading the 900 Series. Motion carried 7-0.

11. Suggestions for next agenda

The 2nd Reading of the 900 Series, school cancellations due to teams participating in state tournaments, the future plan for New Horizons, and Chief of Police Dennis Reilly

12. Decision Points

Per President Smith the information regarding the Health Care Reform and its impact on the district staff and students.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Lease to move out of open session. Motion carried 7-0.

13. Closed Session per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i): To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Lease to come out of closed session. Motion carried 7-0.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Cameron seconded by Brown to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Calendar:

Budget Work Session
Regular Board Meeting

6:00 p.m., March 20, 2013
6:00 p.m., April 10, 2013