

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on June 8, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room, Drake Library, 930 Park Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

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

Members Absent: Carol Wilhelm

Administrators Present: Nancy Beck, Kevin Seney, and Sara Hegg-Dunne

### **I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

President Smith called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and the Board Secretary called the roll. Wilhelm was absent.

### **II. Approval of Consent Agenda**

Motion by Lease, seconded by Brown, to approve the following consent agenda:

- A. Agenda
- B. Minutes: regular meeting 5/25/11
- C. Personnel:
  - 1. Offers: Jeff Kirby Elementary Principal; Heather De Goei, .75 FTE ESL Teacher; Ellen Grabe, .5 FTE Special Education; Amber Upah, 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls track and 8<sup>th</sup> grade head volleyball; Steve Glenn, 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls track
  - 2. Resignation: Christy Houselog
- D. Open Enrollment: 2011-2012 school year: Rachel Mineart, 4<sup>th</sup> grade from BGM

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Budding, to move contract offer to Jeff Kirby from consent agenda to separate action item, and to amend the meeting agenda moving approval of student achievement goals until after the report from the Student Improvement Advisory Committee. Motion carried 6-0.

### **III. Approve claims and accounts**

Motion by Brown, seconded by Lease, to approve the claims and accounts as of June 8, 2011. Motion carried 6-0.

### **IV. Communication from the Public**

None.

### **V. Action Items**

#### **A. Approve proposed Senior Year Plus proficiency assessment**

Motion by Brown, seconded by Cameron, to approve proficiency assessment. Principal Seney explained the reading, math, and science alternative measures of proficiency that Grinnell-Newburg students must achieve before being enrolled in any Senior Year Plus (SYP) coursework. Mr. Seney noted that the high school guidance counselors would monitor the proposed measures to ensure students meet the requirements to take SYP programming. Motion carried 6-0.

#### **B. Approve the K-12 science instructional materials purchase request \$318,388.09**

Motion by Lease, seconded by Cavanagh, to approve science curriculum purchase. Motion carried 6-0.

#### **C. Approve the 28E agreement with The Galaxy**

Motion by Budding, seconded by Cavanagh, to approve the 2011-2012 agreement with The Galaxy. Motion carried 6-0.

#### **D. Approve personnel offer to Jeff Kirby, Elementary Principal**

Motion by Budding, seconded by Brown, to approve offer to Jeff Kirby, Elementary Principal. Board member Cameron expressed his concern about approving the hiring of this administration position when the board is not sure on what the overall administrative structure is going to look like next year. Cameron also noted that the process and communication of determining the administrative structure has not been clear. Other board members agreed with Cameron's observations, but noted that the board's role in determining the administrative structure should be limited. The superintendent should have the primary authority to develop an appropriate administrative structure to serve students within the district. Cameron agreed, but said that a more clearly defined process should be used in the future. Motion carried 6-0.

## **VI. Presentations:**

### **A. DLR Group**

Vince Ward and Tom Penney from DLR Group presented the board with feedback they received from staff and community members regarding the facilities master planning process. The feedback indicated the following: strong support that the facilities master planning process is important for the school district, strong support to move the 5<sup>th</sup> grade out of the middle school, little support for maintaining the buildings and grade configurations as they currently stand, and strong support that plans must be in place for the repurpose or reuse if any school buildings are vacated. Mr. Ward said that the final bound report would be given to the board at the June 22 regular meeting.

### **B. Counseling Advisory Committee**

Paul Hutchison from the Counseling Advisory Committee addressed the board and said that the second elementary counselor at the elementary level has been essential to students and the committee recommends the continuation of the position even after federal funding is no longer available. Mr. Hutchison also informed the board that the committee and counselors are developing a survey tool to solicit information from parents. The purpose of the survey is to get parents' impressions, observations, and other information about the counseling program, which the committee would then use to improve the counseling services district-wide. The committee hopes to include the survey in the registration materials going out to parents in July/August.

### **C. Student Achievement Data**

Kevin Seney, Sara Hegg-Dunne, and Nancy Beck presented student achievement data from their respective buildings. Data from the core subjects of reading, math, and science were presented for all the grade levels. The administrators noted several positive results from the data, as well as some areas for concern. Board members were able to ask questions about the data presented.

### **D. Report from the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)**

Paul Hutchison, member of SIAC, recommended the following 2011-12 student achievement goals to the school board:

- All FAY students in grades 4, 8, and 11 will meet or exceed typical NSS growth on Iowa Testing in math and reading
- All FAY students in grades 8 and 11 will meet or exceed typical NSS growth on Iowa Testing in science
- The district will develop a common language and process to assist students in goal setting to promote individual growth in K-12

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Brown, to approve 2011-12 student achievement goals as recommended by SIAC. Motion carried 6-0.

## **VII. Discussion: IASB Membership**

Board Secretary Anderson noted that the invoice for the 2011-2012 IASB membership arrived in the mail. Membership costs for Grinnell-Newburg amount to \$4,831 for the year. Board members tabled the discussion to the June 22 meeting so all members, and possibly the incoming superintendent, are present to interject into the conversation.

**VIII. Closed Session Under Iowa Code 52.1(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 Brown, to move into closed session. Motion carried 6-0.

**IX. Action pursuant to closed session**

No action taken as a result of closed session.

**X. Adjourn**

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Brown, to adjourn meeting at 9:30 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

**Board Calendar:**

Board meeting	5:30 pm, June 22, 2011
Finance Meeting	4:00 pm, June 23, 2011