

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on September 8, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room, Drake Library, 930 Park Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: President Lynn Cavanagh, Vice President Doug Cameron, Jeanette Budding, Barbara Brown, Carol Wilhelm, and Jeff Smith. Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Edie Eckles, Board Secretary J.T. Anderson, and student representative Meredith Kalkbrenner.

Members Absent: Leo Lease

Administrators Present: Kevin Seney, Nancy Beck, and Matt Marietta

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Cavanagh called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and the Secretary called the roll. Lease was absent.

II. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Brown, to approve consent agenda as follows:

- A. Agenda
- B. Minutes: regular meeting 8-25-10
- C. Claims and Accounts
- D. Personnel:
- E. Open Enrollment
- F. Policy: approve at third reading the following policies:
 - 1. Employee Conflict of Interest (401.2)
 - 2. President (206.1)
 - 3. Vice President (206.2)
 - 4. Annual Meeting (210.1)
 - 5. Regular Meeting (210.2)
 - 6. Board Meeting Minutes (215.1E1)
 - 7. Physical Education (603.6)
- G. Student teaching contract with Grinnell College
- H. Pool and locker room facilities rental agreement with Grinnell College for high school boys and girls swimming (\$1,200)

Motion carried 6-0.

III. Communication from the Public

None.

IV. Action Items

A. Approve the addition of one .8 FTE paraeducator position

Motion by Brown, seconded by Budding, to approve an additional .8 FTE paraeducator position as dictated by student's IEP. Motion carried 6-0.

B. Approve the addition of the following positions funded by the federal education jobs funding:

- 1. 2-year position for technology infrastructure specialist (2010-2012)**
- 2. 2-year position for 5th grade special education teacher (2010-2012)**
- 3. 2-year position for K-2 counselor (2010-2012)**
- 4. 1-year extension of the teacher on special assignment position (2011-2012)**

Motion by Budding, seconded by Cameron, to approve additional positions. Carol Scott, GNEA Co-President, addressed the board and requested that district administration and the board of education solicit input from GNEA and other staff on ways the one-time federal money can be spent before making a final decision. Scott noted that during past budget reduction processes staff was given the opportunity to express ideas and that a similar process should be in place when the district has the ability to add items to the budget. Administrative staff explained that there are some areas, such as technology, that should be addressed sooner than later. Board members agreed there are areas that need immediate attention, but also acknowledged the need for more input from staff. The board asked administration to gather input from building-level staff and bring it for discussion at the next scheduled board meeting.

Motion by Wilhelm, seconded by Brown, to table proposed action item "B." Motion carried 6-0.

C. Approve 2010-2011 line item budget

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Brown, to approve 2010-2011 line item budget. Business Manager Anderson presented the FY2011 line item budget summarizing that the district is in a strong financial position with revenues exceeding expenditures in fiscal year 2009 and a similar trend projected for fiscal year 2010 and 2011. Motion carried 6-0.

D. Approve overnight travel for science teachers to attend the National Science Teachers' Association Conference on Education in Kansas City, October 28-30.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Smith, to approve travel related to science conference. Motion carried 6-0.

V. Discussion Items:

A. Principal's and Superintendent's Reports

Administrators Nancy Beck, Matt Marietta, and Kevin Seney updated the board on professional development that was occurring at their respective buildings. Beck and Marietta noted that Chris Coffman, the teacher on special assignment, has been instrumental in assisting teachers with Curriculum Manager and helping them understand the data that is reported from this software. Principal Beck also mentioned that district staff has been meeting with AEA 267 to address Davis Elementary as a school in need of assistance. Beck said that the school is currently going through an intensive audit process that should identify areas that will be included as part of the "work-out" plan. This audit process will be completed by September 17.

Principal Seney presented a handout to the board that detailed the high school's Iowa Core Plan for continuous improvement. The handout described four areas that related to the

Iowa Core and target dates for implementing each area. The areas included curriculum alignment, assessment, characteristics of effective instruction, and student interventions.

B. Hire Mike Schmoker to deliver an address to the faculty

Superintendent Eckles and the board discussed whether or not to bring in Mike Schmoker, a nationally-renown speaker on public school education, as a guest speaker to the district. The board heard Mr. Schmoker speak at the 2009 IASB Convention and thought his message would have a positive impact on the district. Eckles recommended that if the board chooses to move forward with this action, that it be advertised as a community-wide event. Board member Brown was charged to research Mr. Schmoker's availability and costs associated with his services.

VI. Adjourn

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Smith, to adjourn meeting at 7:32 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Upcoming Schedule

Vision Committee Meeting	September 9, 2010 @ 4:00 p.m.
Board Workshop	September 11, 2010 @ 8:00 a.m.
Policy Committee Meeting	September 13, 2010 @ 6:00 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting	September 22, 2010 @ 5:30 p.m.
Finance Committee Meeting	September 23, 2010 @ 4:00 p.m.