

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on September 21, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room, Drake Library, and Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: Jeff Smith, Barbara Brown, Doug Cameron, Lynn Cavanagh, Leo Lease, Carol Wilhelm, and Jeanette Budding. Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson, Business Manager JT Anderson, Student Representative Hannah Whitney, and Board Secretary Susan Kriegel.

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Kevin Seney, Sarah Seney, Sara Hegg-Dunne, and Jeff Kirby

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Board Secretary called the roll.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Lease, seconded by Cameron to approve the consent agenda. President Smith read the following amended items for the consent agenda: spelling correction Manley to Manly, last name correction Sampson to Barker, remove Kathy Zeimis as para educator, an offer to LuAnn Volk as para-educator and Christina Norenberg as para educator, open enrollment for Ricky Farris to Lynnville-Sully, and contract upgrade of Lori Francis from MA + 30 to MA + 45.

- A. Approve/Amend Agenda
- B. Minutes: regular meeting 8-24-11
- C. Financial Reports
- D. Claims and Accounts
- E. Personnel:
 - 1. Offers: Kathy Zeimis, para educator: Shawn Sampson, para educator, Travis Smith; 7th grade language arts one year substitute position
 - 2. Open Enrollment: Alexander Snook, 5th grader from BGM; Arianna Stevens, kindergarten from BGM
 - 3. Resignations: Deanne Grabinski, Lacy Hall, Janelle Spragg, Nancy Guinane
 - 4. Contract upgrades: Debra Yellick-Manley MA to MA + 15, Robin Brierly BA to MA, Nicole Tews BA + 30 to MA, David Ford MA + 15 to MA + 30
 - 5. Volunteer: Neal VanErsvelde, volunteer middle school football coach

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

3. IASB Presentation

IASB CEO Tom Downs and CFO Galen Howsare gave a brief presentation about the IASB. They explained their experience with education, their current job responsibilities, and their goals for the IASB. They also answered questions from the board regarding the IASB. Mr. Downs gave each board member literature regarding the IASB.

4. Communication from the Public

President Smith explained the revised document regarding how a meeting is run and how the public can participate in meetings. For board meetings this document will be placed on the back of the monthly board agendas.

President Smith asked for comments from the public. Several in the audience voiced their opinion about the recent photography contract decision. President Smith thanked the audience members for their comments. He indicated the board could not take action on this item, as it was not part of the board agenda. He stated the board would discuss this concern.

5. Adjournment of Retiring Board and Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Education

A. Call to Order and Roll Call by the Secretary of the Board of Education; Announce Election Results.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Cavanagh to adjourn the retiring board. Motion carried 7-0.

The election results were read with director at large Knobloch 478 votes for, district 3 Shane Hart 168 votes for, Carol Wilhelm 343 votes for, district 4 Claire Moisan 470 votes for, and the revenue purpose statement 468 votes for, 48 votes against.

B. Administration of the Oath of Office to new members of the Board of Education

The board secretary read the Oath of Office to new board members, Jeff Knobloch and Claire Moisan.

C. Election of the 2011-2012 President of the Board of Education and Administration of the Oath of Office

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Lease to nominate Jeff Smith as board president. Motion carried 7-0.

The board secretary read the Oath of Office to President Smith.

D. Election of the 2011-2012 Vice President of the Board of Education and Administration of the Oath of Office

Motion by Wilhelm, seconded by Brown to nominate Doug Cameron as Vice President of the Board. Motion carried 7-0.

E. Establishment of Day, Time, and Place of Regular Meetings, Educational Meetings, and Work/Budget Sessions.

Motion by Lease, seconded by Knobloch to approve the calendar of upcoming board meetings.

Superintendent Abrahamson has created a calendar for the upcoming board meetings. He proposed the board have one regular monthly board meeting. There will also be several committee meetings. Discussion followed regarding monthly board and committee meetings. Business Manger Anderson indicated one regular board meeting would work better for accounts payable.

Motion carried 7-0.

F. Adopt Robert's Rules of Order and Procedures of Conducting Board Meetings

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Moisan to adopt Robert's Rules of Order and Procedures of Conducting Board Meetings. Superintendent Abrahamson indicated he always includes Roberts Rules of Order in board packets.

Motion carried 7-0.

G. Establishment of Poweshiek County conference board representative

Motion by Brown, seconded by Smith to establish a Poweshiek County conference board representative. Doug Cameron was nominated as the Poweshiek County conference board representative.

Motion carried 7-0.

6. New Business

A. Approve a Board of Director to attend the IASB 2011 Delegate Assembly on Wednesday, November 16, 2011

Motion by Lease, seconded by Brown, to approve a Board of Director to attend the IASB 2011 Delegate Assembly on Wednesday, November 16, 2011. Wilhelm was nominated to attend the IASB 2011 Delegate Assembly.

Wilhelm encouraged other board members to attend. The delegate is the only one with voting privileges. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Appoint board treasurer

Motion by Brown, seconded by Knobloch to appoint JT Anderson as board treasurer.
Motion carried 7-0.

C. Designate the Depositories: Wells Fargo Bank - \$10,000,000, Grinnell, IA; Iowa School Joint Investment Trust (ISJIT) - \$5,000,000

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Lease to designate Wells Fargo Bank - \$10,000,000 and Iowa School Joint Investment Trust - \$5,000,000. Motion carried 7-0.

D. Appoint Donald L. Schild, Gruhn Law Firm, and Ahlers Law Firm as district counsel

Motion by Brown, seconded by Moisan to appoint Donald L. Schild, Gruhn Law Firm, and Ahlers Law Firm as district counsel. The board had already approved Gruhn Law Firm. Superintendent Abrahamson indicated it is a good decision to stay with Ahlers Law Firm for their expertise with construction projects. Mr. Schild will continue to work with the booster clubs. Superintendent Abrahamson will use the IASB for their legal advice at no charge for small situations. Motion carried 7-0.

E. Approve overnight travel for local FFA Chapter to attend the National FFA Convention, October 18-22, 2011

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Lease for the local FFA Chapter to attend the National FFA Convention, October 18-22, 2011. Motion carried 7-0.

F. Approval from the Grinnell-Newburg Board of Directors to authorize Grinnell-Newburg administration to investigate alternative uses for district buildings for long-term district planning.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Lease to authorize Grinnell-Newburg administration investigate alternative uses for district buildings for long-term district planning. Remarks indicated the consulting firm had completed their work, now is the time to move forward. Superintendent Abrahamson has met with city officials to discuss facilities. He plans on meeting with the original facilities committee. Sub committees may be formed to assist with facility planning. Motion carried 7-0.

G. Approve 2011-2012 Title I application

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Brown to approve the 2011-2012 Title I application. Superintendent Abrahamson indicated the Davis principal always completes the Title I application. Motion carried 7-0.

H. Approve request to School Budget Review Committee for allowable growth and supplemental aid payment for district's 2010-2011 special education deficit of \$135,054.45 (balance approval is subject to Department of Education adjustment upon review)

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by Brown to approve request to School Budget Review Committee for allowable growth and supplemental aid payment for district's 2010-2011 special education deficit of \$135,054.45. Motion carried 7-0.

I. Approve 2010-2011 Transportation Report

Motion by Lease, seconded by Knobloch to approve the 2010-2011 Transportation Report. Business Manager Anderson indicated the report will be filed with the state. Transportation costs increased

during 2010-2011. Part of the increase is the transportation of some students for services outside of the district. Motion carried 7-0.

J. Approve purchase of food service equipment from Martin Brothers in the amount of \$20,519.78

Motion by Brown, seconded by Moisan to approve purchase of food service equipment from Martin Brothers in the amount of \$20,519.78. Business Manger Anderson explained the equipment that needed to be purchased. Motion carried 7-0.

K. Approve 2011-2012 Line-Item Budget

Motion by Lease, seconded by Brown to approve the 2011-2012 Line-Item Budget. Business Manager Anderson indicated the Line-Item Budget was discussed during the earlier fiduciary meeting.

Motion carried 7-0.

L. Approve Grinnell-Newburg Superintendent to join the Iowa Leadership Academy Superintendent's Network

Motion by Brown, seconded by Knobloch to approve the Grinnell-Newburg Superintendent join the Iowa Leadership Academy Superintendent's Network. Superintendent Abrahamson indicated he had previously been involved with this organization. This network allows for feedback from other administrators and teachers, good instructions, and discussion with others regarding SINA buildings. He will be attending one meeting per month. Motion carried 7-0.

M. Election of Director District #9 Representative to the AEA 267 Board of Directors

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Wilhelm as a move to discuss, but no mention of a name for election of Director District #9 Representative to the AEA 267 Board of Directors. Per Superintendent Abrahamson this person will represent the board at the AEA. Motion carried 7-0.

7. Discussion Items

There were no discussion items to report.

8. Reports

A. Board

President Smith indicated there would be board training for the new board members. If any board members are interested in attending the convention on November 16 and November 17, please contact the board secretary.

B. Superintendent

Superintendent Abrahamson expressed a thank you to outgoing board members Cavanagh and Budding. He also extended a welcome to new board members Moisan and Knobloch. He has visited several school buildings and transportation. He will be visiting the high school. Superintendent Abrahamson will continue giving presentations at several local organizations.

Superintendent Abrahamson indicated the need to develop a plan for the PLC. He has met with several different groups regarding the PLC format.

He plans on bringing the PLC to a vote. He understands he won't please everyone with his proposal. With the group of teachers he met earlier in the day, they are urging the start of the PLC plan.

Superintendent Abrahamson asked that everyone remember the students in the district. On Friday he will be meeting with the Galaxy staff to discuss what can be offered during the proposed PLC one-hour period. Superintendent Abrahamson indicated there will be a special meeting in October to discuss the PLC format.

Mr. Rich Smith who is associated with Solution Tree will be presenting the PLC format to the administration and staff on October 5, 2011. The public will be invited to listen to Mr. Smith.

Superintendent Abrahamson indicated to schedule an early out for the PLC training would be extremely difficult. The current transportation schedule is very difficult, it will take awhile to develop an easier schedule. Again, Superintendent Abrahamson indicated there would be a special meeting in October to discuss the PLC. He also explained a SINA school. If the district does not correct the situation, the state will get involved a SINA school.

Superintendent Abrahamson discussed the technology needs and the infrastructure issues. It appears the infrastructure is having difficulty handling the recent upgrades. The infrastructure will be assessed by an outside firm.

Several administrators will be participating in a celebrity-grocery bagging event at Hy-Vee. Superintendent Abrahamson met with several high school students to build a student group. He also thanked Hannah Whitney for being the new student representative.

The principals explained their reports and answered any questions. Chris Coffman discussed SINA, the time that is needed for this project, and achievement data. Students need to be involved in their own learning.

9. Board Talking Points

Each board member shared comments; IASB, inspired by the reports from the administration, focus on the future, technology, DLR report, data driven, financial report, and working on improving community relationships.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Lease, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm.
Motion carried 7-0.

Board Calendar:

Fiduciary meeting	5:30 pm, October 12, 2011
Regular board meeting	6:00 pm, October 12, 2011