

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on October 10, 2012, 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, Carole Wilhelm, and Leo Lease. Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson, Business Manager J.T. Anderson, and Board Secretary Susan Kriegel

Members Absent: Claire Moisan

Administrators Present: Kevin Seney

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Business Manager J.T. Anderson called the roll. Six members were in attendance.

2. Fiduciary

Business Manager J.T. Anderson discussed the financial reports and the line item budget. He indicated the certified enrollment would be down 60 or more students. The 2012 graduating class had 144 students. The incoming kindergarten class has 120 students. The open enrolled students are a positive growth. The board discussed the importance of community relations with potential employees moving to Grinnell for Brownells and GMRC. Currently the high school has twelve empty classrooms. Business Manager Anderson will work on a breakdown for the board regarding this financial impact. The board indicated the importance of contacting the local legislatures.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Brown, seconded by Lease to approve the consent agenda.

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

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

E. Personnel:

1. Offerings: Valarie VanOtegham; paraeducator transfer from high school to Bailey Park, Tanya Thompson; paraeducator at high school

H. Contract upgrade: Chelsey Kolpin: BA+15 to BA+30

I. Approval of Contract: Contracted Services Agreement with Iowa Valley Community College

A. Approve/Amend Agenda

B. Minutes: regular meeting 9/12/12; special meeting 9/26/12

C. Financial Reports

D. Claims and Accounts

E. Personnel:

1. Offerings: Casey O'Rourke; ½ head and ½ assistant coach 7th grade boys basketball, Josh Wardenburg; assistant coach 7th and 8th grade wrestling, LuAnn

- Volk; paraeducator transfer from Bailey Park to high school media center, Aimee Eital; paraeducator transfer from high school to Davis
2. Resignations: Paula Kellogg; high school paraeducator, Rhonda Morris; preschool paraeducator
F. Open Enrollment In: Samantha Norris; 7th grade from Newton
G. Open Enrollment Out: Hunter Van Dee; 5th grade to Montezuma
H. Contract upgrade: Chris Moliter; BA+15 to BA+30, Jeanne Marshall; MA+15 to MA+30

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

4. Communication from the Public

None to report.

5. Student Recognition

None to report.

6. Staff Presentation

None to report. The board extends its support to Rosemary Jobses on the recent death of her husband.

7. Communication and Reports

A. Board

None to report

B. Superintendent

Superintendent Abrahamson explained the appraisal is done on RC Industries. There will be a closed meeting to discuss the findings. FEH has met with the Building and Grounds Committee. Revisions have been made to the schematic drawing. Superintendent Abrahamson indicated he is planning on bringing the original DLR committee together in November to discuss the plans. He and Business Manager Anderson have been working on the financials for this project. Schedules for the middle school and the high school are being reviewed and discussed. There will be discussions on semester vs. tri-semester schedules.

Superintendent Abrahamson indicated the PLTW program needs to have a format more towards a bio-medical core versus an industrial tech core. Currently the 'Geek Squad' is all male. The tech committee does have Lori Francis and Sandra Faulkner as members.

C. Principals

Principal Kevin Seney had several shout outs for the fall sports teams, band competitions, and the upcoming fall play.

Dave Kubalsky had several comments regarding the recent tech changes. Kubalsky reported on Friday, October 12, Mediacom will be increasing the bandwidth. There has been discussion on starting parent orientations regarding the 1:1 format. The orientation can be a time to explain all the available features on the laptops.

D. Director of Instructions

Chris Coffman explained SINA is a whole district concern. The district's overall scores are good, the sub category scores are low. The focus continues to be on all students. There is a possibility the district could become a DINA. He is working on what the teachers teach and how to teach it, getting resources for teachers, and getting parents more involved.

The board received their MacBooks.

8. Old Business

None to report.

9. New Business

A. Bus Lease

Motion by Lease, seconded by Cameron, to approve the bus lease of leasing four buses every three years. The district will have the option of selling or returning the leased buses. There will be a savings in maintenance costs with this lease plan. The district may work with Blue Bird or a bank, with the interest rate not to exceed 2.9. Motion carried 6-0.

B. Line Item Budget

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Knobloch, to approve the Line Item Budget. Motion carried 6-0.

C. Student Achievement

The board held a discussion regarding student achievement: have a forum for teachers and parents, send them information regarding the Common Core, discuss assessments, do a format similar to the breakout sessions from the IASB, provide parents with a handbook, need to get the parents with children in the sub categories involved in meetings and discussions.

Coffman reported the Iowa Assessment will be held in February 2013. This test may be the last one using the existing format.

10. Suggestion for next agenda

During the November board meeting there will student recognition and staff presentations. Knobloch suggested a presentation on impact testing that he and Mr. Gallo have done for the high school athletes. Cameron suggested an update regarding the Mental Health Center.

11. Decision Points

President Smith clarified the bus leasing will be on a three year rotation with four buses leased at a time. This change allows the fleet to be on an established schedule.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Board Calendar:

Board Development Session
Regular Board Meeting

6:00 p.m., October 24, 2012
6:00 p.m., November 14, 2012