

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Special Session on November 30, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the Grinnell-Newburg High School Media Center, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: Jeff Smith, Barbara Brown, Doug Cameron, Jeff Knobloch, Leo Lease, Claire Moisan, Carol Wilhelm. In attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson, Business Manager JT Anderson, and Board Secretary Susan Kriegel, Also at the table were the facilitators from the IASB: Tom Downs, Harry Heiligenthal, and Galen Howsare

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: None

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the Board Development work session to order at 6:00 p.m. The Board Secretary called the roll.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Motion carried 7-0 to approve consent agenda.

3. Board Development – Iowa Association of School Boards

Tom Downs started the session by asking each board member why they ran for the school board and who are their constituents. The answers are listed below:

MOTIVATED

- Former administrator – asked
- School board in Sibley, asked, like to do
- Asked, considered before, foreign language ed.
- Retired teacher, encouraged by former students, with kids now, have the time
- Mother - President of school board, artist, life changed with child, family value to make a difference, recruited, working class district, “mother to all”
- Voted on when district had issues, ag, wife in district, 41 yrs in the district

GROUP

- Staff
- People who are not engaged, parents
- College faculty, families, children, equitable access
- Those who assume will do the right thing, busy people
- Students, College
- Those who have not been heard
- Technical students
- Business
- Chamber
- Retired

From the Board Development Packet, Mr. Heiligenthal reviewed page 3, Roles of the Board. On page 4, Code of Ethics, under Board Member Responsibilities and Board Member Responsibilities to School District Community, each person selected their top two responsibilities. Mr. Heiligenthal suggested that every semester the board take fifteen minutes to review the board member responsibilities.

The board did the same exercise for page 5 of the board packet; Relationship with Superintendent and Employees. Mr. Heiligenthal again reminded the board to review these items throughout the year.

The IASB staff reminded the board the Grinnell-Newburg policies are the constitution for the board to work from.

The IASB staff led the board members through the rest of the packet:

- Page 7, Sample Scenarios, discussed the first scenario on how to handle
- Page 9, Board / Superintendent Discussion Questions, reviewed 1. F.
- Page 9, discussed 3. a., b., c., regarding board committees
- Page 11, discussed Roles of the Board and Superintendent
- Page 13, discussed Board Agendas, what is considered academic, activities/athletics, adult-management, and social. Under How your board spends its time, what does the pie chart reflect for the Grinnell-Newburg meetings. Discussed presentations, how to deal with long presentations, is a monitor needed at the board meetings? The board was reminded that difficult questions for the superintendent need to be asked prior to the meeting.

Superintendent Abrahamson will receive a work session summary from Mr. Heiligenthal. Superintendent Abrahamson will forward the summary to the board members.

4. Adjournment

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by Cameron to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Calendar:

Fiduciary Meeting	5:30 pm, December 14, 2011
Regular Board Meeting	6:00 pm, December 14, 2011