

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on October 9, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 927 4th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: Jeff Smith, Barbara Brown, Kirsten Fisher, Jeff Knobloch, Claire Moisan, Jonathan Nance, and Carol Wilhelm. Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson, Business Manager and Board Secretary Lisa Johnson

Members Absent: none

Administrators Present: none

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board Secretary Lisa Johnson called roll. Seven members were in attendance.

2. Fiduciary

No questions.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

- A. Approve/Amend Agenda
- B. Minutes: Regular board meeting 9/25/13
- C. Claims and Accounts
- D. Personnel:
 - 1. Offerings: Marjena Sloan: Head Cook – Davis Elementary; Mark Kivett: 9th grade girls basketball coach; Olivia Queathem: Volunteer Assistant Technical Director Fall Play
- E. Open enrollment out: Carlie Tratchel: 4th grade to Lynnville-Sully; Thomas Tratchel: 7th grade to Lynnville-Sully

The 9/25/13 board minutes were amended under Section 8. E.

9/25/13 board minutes Section 8. E. originally written: Motion by Wilhelm, seconded by Brown to approve Donald L. Schild and Gruhn Law Firm – District Counsel. Board minutes under Section 8. E. were amended to read: Motion by Wilhelm, seconded by Brown, I move to appoint Donald Schild, Gruhn Law Firm, and Ahlers Law Firm as District Counsel.

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

4. Communications from the Public

None to report.

5. Communication and Reports

A. Board

Barbara Brown will be the board representative to GNEE. Kirsten Fisher has given several presentations to the public regarding the facility project. Superintendent Abrahamson stated there will be discussions at the upcoming public forum. Brown asked that Student Council Representative Zane Strawser be a regular item on the board agenda to discuss student issues.

B. Superintendent

Superintendent Abrahamson discussed the student enrollments for the current school year. Currently, the count is 1,699 compared to 1,727 in October 2012. Sixteen students are attending one of the on-line schools. In 2012, twelve students attended the on-line schools. The formula of the number of students allowed to attend an on-line school is one percent of the district's students. Based on this calculation, the district is allowed 17 students to attend the on-line schools.

The public forum will be Wednesday, October 16 at 6:00 p.m. in the Grinnell High School auditorium. Smith, Brown, and Knobloch along with Abrahamson, Johnson, and Maintenance Director Shawn Edelen will be answering questions. Smith stated it is important the board hear from the community at the October 16 publicforum, and at any additional public forums.

Superintendent Abrahamson stated he has asked the building administrators to attend the second monthly school board meeting. The second monthly board meeting will also have presentations from teachers and students.

6. Committee work

Brown, Wilhelm, and Fisher will be members of the policy committee. This committee will meet monthly. Knobloch, Smith, and Nance will be members of the facility committee. This committee is a combination of the former transportation committee and the former buildings and grounds committee. Knobloch and Smith will be members of the negotiation committee. Moisan, Fisher, and Nance will be members of a new committee, called the academic committee.

7. Old Business

A. Donald L. Schild, Gruhn Law Firm, and Ahlers Law Firm – District Counsel

Motion by Brown, seconded by Nance to approve Donald L. Schild, Gruhn Law Firm, and Ahlers Law Firm – District Counsel. Motion carried 7-0.

8. New Business

A. School Board Advisory Committees

Motion by Brown, seconded by Fisher to approve the school board advisory committees.
Motion carried 7-0.

9. Suggestions for next agenda

Open forum discussions, transparency, information presentation, searchable website, archiving meeting minutes and agendas.

10. Decision Points

No discussion.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Wilhelm, seconded by Brown to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0.
Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Board Calendar:

Regular Board Meeting 6:00 p.m., October 23, 2013