

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on September 9, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at the Grinnell-Newburg Community High School in the Media Center, 1333 Sunset Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: Barbara Brown, Doug Cameron, Jeff Knobloch, Claire Moisan, Jonathan Nance, Jeff Smith, and Carol Wilhelm.

Members Absent: None

Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson and Board Treasurer/Secretary Lisa Johnson.

Administrators Present: Brian Conway.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Brown called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board Secretary Johnson called the roll. Seven members were in attendance. Board member Moisan read the district's Mission and Vision Statement.

2. Fiduciary Bills Summary

Board member Wilhelm had questions regarding the bills; Johnson responded. Brown asked about the FY15 final financials. Johnson stated financials are not yet finalized, but will be soon. Brown also asked about auditors visiting the District. Johnson explained the auditors were here during the summer for a pre-audit and will be returning in October to finalize the audit.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Smith to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Nance.

Wilhelm moved, seconded by Nance to amend minutes to read GHS student and GMS debate in the 8/13/15 minutes.

A. Approve/Amend Agenda

B. Minutes: 8/13/15 Minutes 8/27/15 Special Meeting Minutes

C. Claims and Accounts

D. Personnel:

1. Resignations: Paul Swick: Bus Driver

2. Offerings: Dwight Laidig: Student Council sponsor; Alana Gorsline: Literary Magazine (SWAG Advisor); Brad Shutts: ¼ Route Driver, Terry

Morrison: increase ½ to ¾ Route Driver; Scott Schmidt: ½ to 1.0 Route Driver.

3. **Upgrades:** Sharyl DeMeulenaere: BA to BA+15; Shelly Fitzgerald: MA to MA+15; Michelle Eckerman: .5 to .8 library para; Abby Allen: .8 to 1.0; Jennifer Vanderleest: BA to BA+15
4. **Open Enrollment Out:** Ethan Ehresmann: Kindergarten to BGM; Madison Swanson: 8th grade to CAM; Rhiannon Parker: 7th grade to Lynnville-Sully

Motion carried 7-0.

4. **Communication from the Public**

None

5. **Communications and Reports**

A. **Board**

Board member Cameron expressed excitement that the PPEL vote had passed.

B. **Superintendent**

Superintendent Abrahamson congratulated the new board members elected. He discussed a Communication Plan the District is working on, which will be new for the District. He also noted things are going well after the District Office move to the High School. Brown asked where the Communication Plan can be viewed by the public. Abrahamson explained it will be accessible on the website. Moisan suggested sending an email blast.

Abrahamson reported the High School roof project continues to progress, and will be done shortly. He noted he is working on a plan for the next step in facility improvements including some athletic field updates (Tennis, Baseball, Softball), High School window replacements, High School exterior panel replacements and a District Office renovation. Brown asked about the completion of hiring.

Abrahamson responded stating that hiring is complete as of the District's current needs. He also gave a preliminary view of enrollment, based on early counts, explaining enrollment is currently trending close to flat, but the official date is October 1st.

Board member Knobloch asked about the design contact from FEH. Abrahamson clarified that they have both demolition and design experts working on the projects, but Don Seymore, a demolition expert, is the District's main point of

contact.

Moisan suggested doing a survey to give to students who are open enrolling out to other districts or the online academy.

6. Old Business

A. Second Reading - 400 Policy

Wilhelm asked about a new policy for an after school program. Johnson stated when developed that policy could be brought to the board separately.

Motion by Nance, seconded by Moisan to approve the second reading of the 400 series policy.

Motion carried 7-0.

7. New Business

A. Reject All Bids for the former R&C property

Wilhelm asked if more than one bid was received. Abrahamson stated only one bid was received.

Motion by Moisan, seconded by Wilhelm to reject all bids received for the possible sale of school owned property located at 400 Sixth Avenue W in Grinnell, Iowa, the legal description of which is on file with the Board secretary the First Reading of the 400 Policy Series.

Roll call vote. Motion carried 7-0.

Brown asked to clarify the process for the public. Abrahamson stated the detailed discussion happened in closed session. He stated the board was approached and wanted to entertain any offers. The future of the property will be discussed at a later date with the new board to determine what the property will be used for or if it will be made available for sale. Traditionally, minutes of a closed session would be made public once there is a final transaction completed. As there was no final transaction, Abrahamson stated he would check on the legalities as to when the closed session minutes should be allowed to be made public.

B. Alliant Energy High School Easement

Motion by Moisan, seconded by Cameron to approve the Alliant Energy High School Easement.

Wilhelm requested the work be done while school is not in session. Abrahamson responded, stating the District could contact Alliant Energy regarding their safety procedures.

Motion carried 6-1 (Wilhelm voted nay)

C. First Reading - Policy 303.2 Administrative Qualifications, Recruitment, Appointment

Motion by Moisan, seconded by Cameron to approve the first reading of Policy 303.2 Administrative Qualifications, Recruitment, Appointment.

Wilhelm expressed that one of the sentences in the policy was confusing. Wilhelm moved and seconded by Moisan to edit the policy to move the third clause to the beginning of the sentence.

Motion carried 7-0.

D. Establish a Poweshiek County Conference Board Representative

Brown stated we need a temporary representative while the county hires a new assessor.

Motion by Moisan, seconded by Nance to approve Cameron as the Poweshiek County Conference Board Representative.

Motion carried 7-0.

E. Timberline Contract

Dann Stevens of Timberline Billing Service, explained why Medicaid services are provided by schools. The District is able to submit for reimbursement for services it provides to a child, which relieves staffing costs. Dann explained the addendum to the contract. These additional services were requested and provide for a few clients in 2011. He continued, explaining that these additional services help schools to identify students the District could better serve and be reimbursed for. Cameron asked about the costs. Dann explained their fee is 6% of the Federal reimbursement. The cost of the additional services is 2%. Knobloch asked about how the changes at the State level will affect this. Dann stated school based services are under the regular fee for services so there is no impact.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Nance to approve the Timberline Contract.

Motion carried 7-0.

F. Interfund Loan from General to Nutrition

Johnson stated this is a loan that must be repaid by October 1st. The amount is for 1 month of salaries. She explained cash flow is usually low in the summer due to employee salaries spread out over 12 months, so there are still payments in the summer when there is little to no revenue. The cash is already available to pay back, so the October 1st deadline will not be an issue.

The district will need to make some adjustments throughout the year in order to prevent a larger issue next year. The District cannot choose to supplement the Nutrition fund with the General fund. If the board would like to pursue this option a proposal would need to be brought to the SBRC for approval. Johnson continued, explaining that if the District does not make some adjustments and could not repay an interfund loan we would have to appear before the SBRC and they could require us to make adjustments.

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by Wilhelm, to approve the Interfund Loan from General to Nutrition.

Motion carried 7-0.

8. Board Discussion

Smith mentioned there was a good turnout at the polls. Wilhelm noted the turnout was over 10% of the registered voters.

9. Board Talking Points

Abrahamson stated Clustering and IB will be items on the next agenda. Wilhelm asked about IASB Convention attendance planning. Brown noted the homecoming parade will be on August 24th after the new members are sworn in. Brown also stated the board was planning a work session on October 7th.

Abrahamson stated there is a group working on a Bus Behavior document. The group will be riding some routes to see the behavior first hand. He stated the driver's primary responsibility is driving. He is also authorizing some extra time for drivers to review video tapes. Cameron asked about the stops, and Abrahamson responded stating they are

also looking into the stops as well.

Moisan asked about emergency procedures document. Abrahamson stated it is being updated with current personnel and will be sent out soon. There are also drills at the buildings for staff and students.

Wilhelm asked about the sound at board meetings, explaining that acoustics in a library do not amplify sound adequately for a public meeting. Abrahamson explained that board meetings would soon be moving to the ICN room to resolve the issues of sound quality.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Nance, seconded by Knobloch to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0.
Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Board Calendar:

Policy Advisory Meeting	3:30 p.m., September 11, 2015
Annual Organizational Meeting	6:00 p.m., September 23, 2015