

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on August 14, 2013, 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, Leo Lease, and Claire Moisan, Carol Wilhelm. Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson, Business Manager Lisa Johnson, and Board Secretary Susan Kriegel

Members Absent: none

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Smith called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board Secretary Susan Kriegel called the roll. Seven members were in attendance.

2. Fiduciary

There was discussion and a request to review the policy for payments between \$10,000 and \$25,000. The limit use to be \$5,000. There should be a review of the routine and non-routine bills in this range.

Business Manager Johnson stated she is finalizing year-end activity. The district continues to process bills for year-end. September 15, 2013, is the deadline for finalizing year-end activity.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

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

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

H. Contract upgrade: Donna Godar BA+30 to MA

A. Approve/Amend Agenda

B. Minutes: Regular Meeting 7/10/13

C. Financial Reports

D. Claims and Accounts

E. Personnel:

1. Offerings: Jaclyn Lussenhop: Counselor Davis School; Leon Drake: Assistant coach 7th grade football; Kim Sieck: Head cook high school; Jill Meyers: Strat II teacher high school; Sharaeah Sharp: 9th grade volleyball coach

2. Resignation: Nancy Martino Ford: Para-educator

F. Open Enrollments In: Ethan Leach: Kindergarten from BGM; Diane Boyd Kindergarten from Newton; Olivia Hermanstorfer: 5th grade from Newton

- G. Open Enrollments Out: Sean Lunk: 7th grade to Iowa Connections Academy; Olivia Long: 10th grade to Iowa Connections Academy; Katelyn Long: 11th grade to Iowa Connections Academy
- H. Contract upgrade: Jill Allen MA+15 to MA+30

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

4. Communication from the Public

No comments.

5. Communication and Reports

A. Board

Doug Cameron reported on the recent GNEE golf tournament. The evening was very successful. The GNEE has donated over \$250,000 to the school district. Cameron also mentioned a school board member needs to also serve on the GNEE board. The GNEE board meets the second Tuesday of every month at noon.

President Smith mentioned the task force has been going well. He encourages the public to attend the upcoming public forums.

B. Superintendent

Superintendent Abrahamson handed out a booklet from RSP & Associates to each board member. The city and chamber will have a copy of the booklet. There will be public forums to discuss the building project on Wednesday, August 28, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the high school auditorium and on Thursday, August 29, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Kyle C. Jones mini-theater, middle school.

C. Principals

Principal Kevin Seney and Sara Hegg-Dunne explained the upcoming 1:1 roll-out scheduled for Tuesday, August 20 for middle school and high school students. Principal Kirby gave details from the survey regarding the 1:1 program. The results indicated: 94% have internet access at home; one to two hours are spent online after school; 31% use the computer for social media, 78% of the parents are not concerned about safety while on-line. About 393 students and 260 parents responded to the survey. During the next school year, the plan is to have the staff take the survey.

The Canvas training has been going well. Staff for 7th – 12th graders will be using Canvas. Parents can access Canvas to observe activity in the classroom.

The district needs measurable goals for computer usage. The district needs to continue to educate the parents on technology.

D. Director of Instruction

No report.

6. New Business

A. FEH AIA Document

Superintendent Abrahamson indicated the district lawyer has reviewed the document. The buildings will be removed on the RC property. During demolition the materials will be recycled and salvaged as much as possible.

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Brown to approve the FEH AIA Document. One abstention vote, Wilhelm. Motion carried 6-0.

B. Preschool Contracts

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Brown to accept the Preschool Contracts. These contracts are with the community partner preschools. Motion carried 7-0.

7. Suggestions for next agenda

A report on the 1:1 rollout for the middle school and high school students, share best practices, and showcase technology. The board will have meetings on September 11, September 18, and September 25. The September 11 meeting will be discussing two options for the proposed building project.

Before there is a change regarding board members, the board needs to meet with Superintendent Abrahamson on the status of the district.

8. Decision Points

9. Adjournment

Motion by Cameron, seconded by Lease to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

10. Close Session per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(j): To discuss the purchase of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the government body would have to pay for that property.

Board Calendar:

Special Board Meeting

6:00 p.m., September 11, 2013

Special Board Meeting
Annual & Organizational Meeting

6:00 p.m., September 18, 2013
6:00 p.m., September 25, 2013