

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SCHOOL  
DISTRICT OF BLACK RIVER FALLS ON MARCH 19, 2012 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE  
DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM.

The regular meeting was called to order by President Ramie Bakken at 6:01 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present: Ramie Bakken, Don Mathews, Susan Olstad, Mark Thomley,  
Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Lois Corey, Laurel Meek

Board Members Absent: None

Meeting commenced with the verification of Public Notice.

Public Comment – Gaylord Opegard requested that a quality speaker system be put in place so the public can clearly hear all conversations at meetings.

President Ramie Bakken asked the board for permission to amend the agenda so that item 7.7 (Request for Approval to seek Physical Education Grant) and 9.2 (Reading Recovery Presentation) could be started immediately after the Student Senate Report. She also asked the board for permission to defer item 7.3 (Open Enrollment Applications), 7.4 (Foreign Exchange Student Providers), and 7.6 (WI Act 114 Establish Open Enrollment Class Size Criterion for Regular and Special Education) if needed.

No one was in attendance to give the Student Senate Report.

Jim Rufsholm explained the Fitnessgram and the benefits to implementing this program. Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the request to seek physical education grants from the Ho-Chunk Nation and Walmart in order to purchase the Fitnessgram. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

One discussion item requested by administration included a Reading Recovery Presentation (Denise Eddy, Patty Harelson, Kirsten Meier, Laura Simonson).

Mark Thomley moved to approve the field trip request from Mary Byrns. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-1 (Lois Corey).

Don Mathews moved to approve the consent agenda. Susan Olstad seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0. The consent agenda included the February 13 regular meeting minutes, the March 5 special meeting minutes, monthly expenditures, employment recommendations (Jason Janke resignation), and gifts/grants (Ho-Chunk Nation).

Mark Thomley moved to approve the second reading of proposed revised Policy 364.1: Acceptable Use Information Technology and Communication Resources. Susan Olstad seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the 3.0 FTE Literacy Collaborative Push-in Model. Susan Olstad seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Lois Corey moved to approve the CESA 4 contract for 2012-2013. Don Mathews seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mark Thomley moved to approve the WI Act 114 open enrollment class size criterion for regular and special education. Susan Olstad seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The District Administrator's Report consisted of the following district news and an Open Enrollment Report:

- The district is currently operating at full strength in speech and language pathologist staffing.
- The BRAGS symposium will be held on Thursday, March 22 at 6:00 pm in the BRAGS classroom in the Forrest Street portables.
- Each building has or is still in the process of completing the first round of AdvancEd surveys. The results will make up part of the base line data that will be used to set goals and assess levels of future success.
- The eighth grade Science Expo is scheduled for the end of this month in LaCrosse.
- The PTO school carnival was a huge success; they raised approximately \$6,000 on March 8.
- The PTO school board candidate forum has been moved from Thursday, March 22 to Thursday, March 29 at 6:30 pm at the middle school.
- Paraprofessional Appreciation Week during the week of March 12-16 was a success.
- Spring sports are underway.
- The supplemental pay committee continues to work on tying teacher fulfillment of expectations to the teacher evaluation tool.

Other discussion items requested by administration included a 2012-2013 Budget Presentation (Jill Collins and Ron Saari) and a first reading of proposed new Policy 751.21: Use of Video and Audio Monitoring Systems on School Buses (Ron Saari). The Art Presentation and Nation Presentation were cancelled.

There were two discussion items requested by the board:

1. Board Self-Assessment – The board decided to use the AdvancEd Governance Standards Rubric as a self evaluation tool which is to be completed and returned to Maureen Ruka no later than March 31, 2012 to be reviewed at the Regular April Board Meeting.
2. Development of Community Survey of Board Performance – In previous years, the Board had declined doing this. As the district moves into the AdvancEd School District Improvement Model (next year), a survey instrument will be used. Each of the buildings AdvancEd surveys have board evaluation questions embedded into the them. This information will be shared with the board.

There were no discussion items requested by the public.

No WASB events were attended. Susan Olstad attended a WSPRA Conference.

The Policy Committee is scheduled to meet on April 2, 2012 at 4:00 pm.

The Public Affairs Committee is scheduled to meet on April 9, 2012 at 4:00 pm. Susan Olstad reported on the following efforts by the district to improve interpersonal relationships:

- District-wide weekly notes to staff every Friday (also on blog)

- Board meeting notes to staff every month
- Informal weekly meetings between superintendent and a staff member chosen at random
- American Education Week activities for everyone, Board visited classrooms, Community Night with staff recognition of awards and involvement
- Employee of the Season
- Staff interviews on WWIS
- Monthly appreciation weeks (food service, custodial, bus drivers, paraprofessionals, administrative professionals, teachers, board)
- District-wide holiday party (masters degrees recognition)
- Weekly administrative articles highlighting a staff member (BJ, Chamber, blog)
- Capturing events on camera (still) photos
- Personal contract delivery by superintendent
- Frequent school visits by superintendent (Wednesdays)
- District-wide staff recognition/gifts at end of year for milestones and retirements
- New committee structure
- First floor/District Office building meetings
- Teacher cabinet meetings the last Thursday of every month
- Mid-year administrative meetings
- Dale Carnegie training

The Curriculum and Instruction/Student Achievement Committee is scheduled to meet on April 10, 2012 at 4:00 pm.

A monthly report was given to the board with Conference/Workshop Attendance information.

There were no other reports.

Don Mathews moved to approve the open enrollment applications as presented. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Ramie Bakken moved to approve Youth for Understanding as a foreign exchange student provider. Susan Olstad seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Future agenda items that were identified include: the board self-assessment report, the Art Presentation, the Nation Presentation, and the speaker system options.

Susan Olstad moved to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Lois Corey seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

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Maureen Ruka, Recording Secretary

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Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Clerk