



Minutes of meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Black River Falls on October 21, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

The regular meeting was called to order by President Mary Jo Rozmenoski at 6:01 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present: Axel Dressler, Patty Jacobson, Laurel Meek, Mary Jo Radcliffe, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Todd Stittleburg.

Board Members Absent: Amy Hoffman

Meeting commenced with the verification of Public Notice.

Laurel Meek moved to have the Student Senate Report prior to the Focus on Purpose portion of the agenda so the students could attend their choir concert. Mary Jo Radcliffe seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Comment – None

The School Board commended Peggy Gordon, Ben Woof, Travis Hendrickson and Shawn Pergande for their hard work with the 1:1 Initiative. Also recognized for her assistance with the 1:1 Initiative was Tammy Rush. Tammy and her family came in extra to help with the laptops going out to the High School students. Chanda Janke and Tess Johnson were recognized for their hard work on the Tiger Cub Run/Walk that was held on Saturday, October 12, 2013. Everyone was given a certificate of recognition from the School Board.

Joey Barnett, Senior, President of the Student Senate, and all the class Senators introduced themselves to the School Board. The Student Senate plans to do a quarterly report at the School Board Meetings. They will be emphasizing the importance of volunteering with activities such as bell ringing at Christmas time. They are also working on getting a microwave in the lunch room at the High School. They hope to return for the December School Board meeting to keep the School Board up-to-date on their projects.

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Patty Harelson reported on the District's intervention programs. Each School has intervention time scheduled. She discussed the types of interventions that are happening at each school and how they change as the child gets older and their needs change.

Axel Dressler moved to approve the consent agenda. Todd Stittleburg seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. The consent agenda included the minutes from the August 30, 2013 Special Meeting, the September 10, 2013 Special Meeting, the September 16, 2013 Regular Meeting, monthly expenditures, and three out of state and overnight field trips. Two gifts of \$1300 were accepted from the BRF Letterman's Club and the BRF Wrestling Improvement Fund to use for wrestling warm ups.

Laurel Meek moved to approve the second reading of Policy 811.1 Native American/Legal Guardian Involvement. Mary Jo Radcliffe seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to approve the second reading of Policy 251.1 Organizational Chart. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the second reading of Policy 185.1 Board Policy Committee. Patty Jacobson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to approve the second reading of Policy 531.8 School Social Worker Job Description. Todd Stittleburg seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Jill Collins reported the Certification of Annual Tax Levy should be tabled because we do not have exact numbers yet. Jill will have the numbers by the first part of November. Jill shared an estimate of what the Governors decision will do to the tax levy. It was decided that the School Board will meet again for the Certification of Annual Tax Levy once the official numbers are known.

Shelly Severson and Steve Markee discussed that, in the past, the students graduating from the Renaissance Program have been given High School Diplomas. Mr. Markee explained that the students must pass a test to show their proficiency before completing the program and receiving the diploma. Mr. Markee spoke of the need for the Board Members to make an official decision to allow the Renaissance Program graduates to continue to receive their High School Diplomas. Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to allow the students of the Renaissance Program to continue to receive High School Diplomas upon completion of the program. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Shelly Severson spoke about the new open enrollment figures. This is the first year since 2007 that the District has seen a reduction in the number of students opting to enroll outside of our district. We continued to see an increase in the number of students choosing to open enroll into our district as well. She feels part of the reason for this is that last year all the principals called every family. She also thinks the Virtual School option has helped enrollment.

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Shelly Severson reported on the new DPI data website, WISEdash. It is the data warehouse for public schools in the state of Wisconsin. It is open to the public. <http://wisedash.wi.gov>

Chad Stanley, Principal at Forrest Street Elementary, reported they are almost done with PALS testing and some of the staff will attend a symposium on PALS. Their students received fire safety instruction with some of our local firemen. Students also went to Cain's Orchard and the School Forrest recently. They are looking forward to their School Christmas Program in December.

Rick Dobbs, Principal at Third Street Elementary, reported that thru the STAR Assessment, the school has growth goals they will be working on throughout the year. They will be working on keeping their teachers on the same page and tracking common behaviors.

Shelly Severson reported for Gebhardt Elementary. Some of the teachers have hosted visitors from other schools to share what our teachers have learned and how they are putting things in place within our new Literacy Collaborative Framework. The PTO provided a meal during teacher conferences and it was greatly appreciated.

Jason Janke reported for the Middle School. They are currently transitioning from Fall to early winter sports.

Tom Chambers, Principal at the High School, reported that other School Districts have come to view our intervention program. The BRAGS students have been helping the first graders at the School Forrest. The High School had a successful homecoming week and they have received some very positive community responses to "The Tiger Way". There will be a flag raising at the High School on November 4, 2013. The flags that will fly will be the United States flag, Wisconsin State flag and the Ho-Chunk Nation flag.

Shelly Severson reported on the Community Forum that was held at the Public Library. Shelly spoke to the community about the many building maintenance projects that are needed in the District. She feels the community was very positive and they are interested in talking about options for buildings in our School District. Shelly spoke about the benefits of having a Construction Manager to oversee the building project. The Board will interview Construction Management firms. Shelly feels that the timing with this new school referendum will be good because the building debt from 1995 will fall off the tax roll in 2015. Mary Jo Rozmenoski suggested including some community members on the committee when the time comes. Todd Stittleburg and Mary Jo Rozmenoski will be part of the committee.

Shelly Severson reported on the District and School report cards. She showed the comparisons between our buildings and the State average. She also showed the difference between our report cards and student growth in 2011-2012 school year compared to 2012-2013 school year. Our district report card meets the state expectations and our attendance is above the state average.

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There were eight discussion items requested by the board:

1. Stephanie Brueggen reported on the Common Core Staff Survey Results. 82% of our staff participated. The majority of our staff feel a direct connection to the Common Core Standards. Stephanie went thru the staff survey results. The School Board Members feel that the survey was very positive and informative and that Shelly and our staff should move forward with our curriculum.
2. Interventions in place – The Board felt that Patty Harleson’s explanation earlier in the meeting covered this topic.
3. First Reading: Policy 523.5 – The Board completed a first reading of the HIPPA Privacy Policy.
4. First Reading: Policy 251 – The Board completed a first reading of the Organization for Administrative Purposes.
5. First Reading: Policy 343.4 – The Board completed a first reading of Course Options.
6. First Reading: Policy 425 – The Board completed a first reading of Non-Resident District Full Time Enrollment.
7. First Reading: Policy 422 – The Board completed a first reading of Admission of Nonresident Students.
8. First Reading: Policy 343.3 – The Board completed a first reading of Home Based or Private Schooling.

There were no discussion items requested by the public.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski reported that she has been to several WASB meetings. This included the Above & Beyond Award presentation. Shelly Severson and Mary Jo Rozmenoski will be attending a WASB conference on Friday, October 25, 2013 on Superintendent evaluation systems.

Policy Committee – Mary Jo Rozmenoski stated they are working on making sure everything is updated and lawful.

Public Affairs Committee – Axel Dressler reported that they have been thinking of some fun things to do at the schools for American Education week. The Tiger Tribune Newsletter will be done at the District Office and mailed out.

Curriculum and Instruction/Student Achievement Committee – Laurel Meek reported they are working on approach to students and interventions. They feel it is very helpful having teachers on the committee.

There were no Conference/Workshop attendance reports.

There were no Other Reports

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Future Agenda Items:

Patty Jacobson would like to know how many times kids are tested, what do all the tests mean & why do we do them.

A Special Board Meeting will need to be scheduled to approve the tax levy once Jill Collins gets the information she needs. This must be done by November 1, 2013.

The Board would like Kris Geier and Laura Trachsel to come to a School Board Meeting and speak.

Axel Dressler moved to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Patty Jacobson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

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Axel Dressler, Clerk

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Marti Herzberg, Recording Secretary