



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLACK RIVER FALLS

Inspiring Excellence

Minutes of meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Black River Falls on December 16, 2013 at 6 p.m. at the School 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, Amy Hoffman, Patty Jacobson, Laurel Meek, Mary Jo Radcliffe, Mary Jo Rozmenoski.

Board Members Absent: Todd Stittleburg

Meeting commenced with the Verification of Public Notice.

During Public Comment, Faith Hanson spoke about her concerns regarding her daughter who is a 7th grader and has encountered bullying on the school bus. Shelly Severson has investigated the situation and it has been addressed.

Focus on Purpose: Jen Bolger spoke about “The Tiger Way” and how it’s relating to second and third grade students. She presented a video where the Third Street students spoke about what “The Tiger Way” means to them.

Student Senate Report: Rebecca Simpson presented information to the School Board about the Student Senate. On November 26 they attended workshops sponsored by the Wisconsin Association of School Councils. The students have been bell ringing and working with Project Christmas. They also held town hall meetings within the school where they spoke to all students about the things they were working on.. They are looking into working with Pine View Care Center to develop an “Adopt a Grandparent” program.

The Board approved to move the Discussion Items Requested by the Public, Common Core State Standards, forward in the agenda. Betsy Sedelbauer reported on information she has researched regarding the Common Core State Standards.

Axel Dressler moved to approve the consent agenda. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. The consent agenda included the minutes from the November 14, 2013 Special Meeting, and the November 18, 2013 Regular Meeting, and monthly expenditures. Shelly Severson spoke about Gifts/Grants. Sue Leadholm has received two grants. One is for \$1,000.00 and will be used for the universal breakfast program the high school will be beginning in February. The second grant is a 3 year subscription for the Fitnessgram software which is

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worth \$2,500.00 per year for 3 years. These grants come from the work Sue has done with the Fuel Up to Play 60 program.

Laurel Meek moved to approve the second reading of Policy 533 Professional Staff Recruiting/Hiring. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Mary Jo Radcliffe moved to approve the second reading of Policy 532 Professional Staff Contracts. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Axel Dressler moved to approve the second reading of The Teacher Handbook. Patty Jacobson seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve three student's requests to participate in Youth Options courses in the spring. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to pursue the Open Enrollment Survey which will be conducted by Springsted Company. Amy Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. The information that will be gathered will tell the District what to focus on to improve our open enrollment numbers, both in and out, in the future. The cost of the survey will be \$5,000.00.

Shelly Severson commended our current and retired staff for their involvement in Project Christmas.

Shelly Severson reported that Miron Construction has been hired as the District's Construction Management Company. She stated they will not receive payment of any kind until a referendum is passed.

Shelly Severson stated that students will now need to have three math and three science credits in order to graduate. The Department of Public Instruction will give school districts a framework to go by to qualify classes for these credits. It is possible that Career and Technical Education areas may qualify.

Congratulations to the Gebhardt School Principal, Michael Lichucki, on completing his Doctorate Degree.

Chad Stanley, Principal at Forrest Street School, reported that Forrest Street's Christmas concert went well. Forrest Street had Grinch Day where everyone could dress in green. Friday will be Polar Express day and they will have activities related to the movie. Parent/Teacher conferences will be February 11, 2014.

Richard Dobbs, Third Street Principal, reported that they had great attendance at their Christmas concert. Students will have the opportunity to eat lunch with their parents on Thursday. Third

Street School collected 457 boxes of Macaroni and Cheese for Project Christmas. They had a short dance party for students to celebrate.

Dr. Michael Lichucki, Gebhardt School Principal, reported their Christmas concert will be on Tuesday. He wants to acknowledge Christy Roush for the great job she does with “Tech. Thursdays” where teachers can get together and work out issues they are having. Gebhardt’s 1st quarter STAR Assessment results show marked improvement.

Dave Rouu, Middle School Principal, reported the Pizza Hut Celebrity Wait Staff Nights went well for Project Christmas. The school’s Christmas concert was a success. The 8th graders are gearing up for their trip to Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, MN.

Tom Chambers, High School Principal, reported that they had their Madrigal Dinner and it went well. Their winter sports seasons are also going well. They will be having a pep assembly on Thursday. Last Friday, teachers reviewed the Explore Tests. The High School will be doing MAPs testing this week but only with students that need mid-year testing. The High School Holiday Concert will be in January.

Jill handed out copies and reported on the Audit Reports for year ended June 30, 2013 from Johnson Block & Co.

There were two discussion items requested by the Board:

1. First Reading: Support Staff Handbook – The Board completed the first reading of the Support Staff Handbook
2. Stephanie Brueggen reported on the Smarter Balanced Assessment Readiness. This test will be given to 3rd through 8th graders in the spring of 2015 and will be administered in the last twelve weeks of the school year. The testing will involve English Language Arts, Literacy and Math. She described the process and what we know it will involve at this time.

Several Board Members and Administrative staff will be attending the 2014 Wisconsin State Education Convention in Milwaukee from January 22-24.

The Policy Committee has been discussing weapons on school grounds.

The Public Affairs Committee will not have a December meeting.

The Curriculum and Instruction/Student Achievement Committee had a 1:1 presentation by Mary Byrns. They will be looking at summer school programs and year around schooling.

There were no conference/workshop attendance reports.

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There were no Other Reports.

Future Agenda Items:

Shelly will continue working with members of the Ho-Chunk Nation on information on the Ho-Chunk advisory position. There should be more information at next month's meeting.

Next School Board meeting is January 13, 2014.

Architect Firms will be interviewed in January.

Discuss Bullying.

The WASB Resolutions will be shared with Board Members and Administrators to gather input prior to Mary Jo needing to go to represent the School District of Black River Falls in the delegate assembly where she will cast her vote.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Axel Dressler seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Axel Dressler, Clerk

Marti Herzberg, Recording Secretary