

Minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on Monday, December 14, 2009. The meeting was called to order by the president at 7:00 p.m. The recording secretary called the roll. Present were: Conley, Hicks, Boehne, Ottengheime, Konen, Foster. Absent: Palombo.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Conley to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2009 administrative code waiver public hearing and the minutes of the November 16, 2009 regular board meeting. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Megan Johnston and Ms. Kathy Novotney presented the F.F.A. student activities report. Megan reported on attendance at the National F.F.A. Convention, the different judging teams and results, conferences attended, club calf sale, after school ag program, fruit sales, and the harvesting of the F.F.A. plot.

Mrs. Sarah Montgomery, Mr. Duane Farnsworth, Mrs. Julianne Hogan, Mrs. Ros Richardson, and Ms. Molly Punke, presented the high school improvement plan.

Mr. Joe Malm and Mr. Duane Farnsworth gave an overview of PBIS. Local districts that use this program include Rochelle, Leland, Amboy, DeKalb, and Sycamore. One component is SWIS (school-wide information system) which provides more detailed information on disciplinary infractions. PBIS recommends at most three people enter data in the system. As a part of our district's exploration of PBIS, school visit teams reported during the June, 2008 school improvement day. Now, the next step is to determine how to implement the program and to figure out the training and costs. The cost for SWIS is \$250 per building per year and training is \$85 per person per session.

Mr. Mantzke gave the Shabbona Elementary principal's report. Family Reading Night was cancelled due to concerns about the temperatures and road conditions. It will be rescheduled in the spring. He also acknowledged Sue Jacobson and the fantastic work done on the Christmas program. Mr. Simpson and Mr. Mantzke reported that the 4th and 5th grades attended the women's basketball game at N.I.U. There was an educational program before the game where the N.I.U. athletes stressed staying in school, positive behavior, and reading. Books were also given to each school. This was the first year that our students attended this and it was a very beneficial program. There will be a state-mandated internet safety presentation on February 10, 2010 for third, fourth, and fifth graders with a parent component that evening. The presentation for students will be at Shabbona Elementary and the presentation for parents will be at Waterman Elementary. Babysitting services will be provided at the evening presentation so more parents can attend. J.B. Bowers from N.I.U. will give a presentation to elementary students on the civil rights movement on Martin Luther King Day.

Mr. Foster complimented both elementary principals for the interaction between the students in both schools for an easier transition to the middle school.

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Mr. Malm gave the middle school report. Middle school students sold 450 pies which raised about \$1600 for student council. An assembly was held to recognize the sellers and the classes and some of the teachers agreed to receive "a pie in the face." It is a very popular assembly. This year, Spirit Week had 100% participation. The students paid \$1 a day to participate and it raised \$1100 to shop for Christmas for a family that was adopted through the Salvation Army. Also on January 8 a holocaust survivor will be speaking at the middle school. The public is invited to attend. Finally, the "Breakfast of Champions" was held on December 4. The holiday concert will be held on December 15 at 2 p.m. for the students and 7 p.m. for the public. Mr. Foster thanked Mr. Malm for keeping things running smoothly while Mrs. Kennedy was on leave.

Mrs. Montgomery gave the high school principal's report. Several community service projects took place. Mrs. Fleming's class packed up items for the soldiers serving overseas. The student council had a canned goods drive for the N.I.C.E. Center. Caitlyn Dabbs collected donations for a family who lost everything in a fire. Caitlyn attends I.V.V.C. and the family has a student who attends I.V.V.C. An assembly will be presented on February 16, 2010 regarding "Stand Up! Change Teen Statistics". The program is a musical that discusses current issues of our day with powerful messages and sobering statistics. The board of education received a copy of a letter that will be sent to all high school parents for permission for the students to attend the assembly. There will be an alternative activity for those students who will not be participating.

BUSINESS

Mr. Foster noted that there is a correction on the Scariano bill and that it should read \$2,249. Mrs. Ottengheime asked questions about the bills regarding the two way radios that were purchased, the online classes tuition participation, conference registrations and travel, washing machine purchase and oven repair. It was moved by Boehne, seconded by Konen to approve the bills for the month of December accounts payable checks numbers 60766 to 60874 in the amount of \$240,059.34; payroll checks numbers 44136 to 44253 and 2321d to 2739d in the amount of \$470,128.22; the treasurer's report, imprest fund report, and community school fund report. Roll call vote: Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Boehne, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Konen, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Conley that the meeting adjourn into executive session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees and collective bargaining. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned into executive session at 8:46 p.m.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Hicks that the meeting reconvene into regular session. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned into regular session at 9:13 p.m.

It was moved by Boehne, seconded by Konen that the executive session minutes be approved as reviewed. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried.

It was moved by Hicks, seconded by Konen to accept the resignation of Erin Runkle as social worker effective December 18, 2009. Roll call vote: Hicks, yes; Boehne, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Conley, seconded by Boehne to approve Ashley Moore as social worker. Roll call vote: Boehne, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Hicks, seconded by Konen to approve Deborah Bruno as part-time bookkeeper. Roll call vote: Ottengheime, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Boehne, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Boehne, seconded by Konen to approve Daniel Anderson as 8th grade girls basketball coach. Roll call vote: Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Boehne, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Hicks, seconded by Boehne to approve Paul Waitkoss as high school girls softball coach. Roll call vote: Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Boehne, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Konen, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Hicks to approve Ashley Moore as assistant high school girls softball coach. Roll call vote: Hicks, yes; Boehne, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Conley to approve the 2009 tax levy at \$6,159,088. Roll call vote: Boehne, yes; Ottengheime, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Hicks, seconded by Boehne to resolve to appoint Ms. Pamela Rockwood as respondent to counties regarding the 2009 tax levy after the submission date. Roll call vote: Ottengheime, yes; Konen, yes; Conley, yes; Hicks, yes; Boehne, yes; Foster, yes. 6 yes, 0 no. The motion carried.

It was moved by Boehne, seconded by Konen to appoint Shari Conley, Charlie Foster, and Pamela Rockwood to receive O.M.A. training electronically. Also, the F.O.I.A. law has been rewritten with transparency for all and goes into effect January 1, 2010. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Ms. Rockwood gave the superintendent's report. She commended the bus drivers on their safe driving during this weather and especially during the early dismissal due to snow. The delivery of the new bus will be tomorrow. She attended the Breakfast of Champions at the middle school and the I.V.V.C. meeting. Trenton Nielsen took second place in the Skills competition. There was a meeting on insurance attended by Ms. Rockwood and Julie Rowland with the Gallagher Group. The renewal overall was a 3% increase which was good. A meeting will be set with the insurance committee in January. The request for waiver of school code for exceeding administrative costs was approved by I.S.B.E. and sent on to the general assembly for its approval. A field report was filed on the middle school list of repairs for Glenbrook Group. They were told they need to fix the problems or allot money for the district to fix them. The architect has not yet certified the last request for payment by Glenbrook Group. There was a problem with the skylight at the middle school and it was fixed. The middle school staff has moved back in the office and it looks great. The first ever community progress report is almost completed and ready to take to Copy Service in DeKalb. Ms. Rockwood gave special thanks to Jennifer Rhodes and Ehren Mertz for their help. Money saved by putting the newsbrief online will more than help pay for this one printing at Copy Service. The report will be mailed to every district resident in the early part of January.

Mrs. Conley gave the I.V.V.C. report. The audit was presented. The state has not come through on the C.C.I. grant money at this time. The budget was prepared with and without those funds.

Mr. Hicks said that the Whiteside County vocational center filed for bankruptcy. This means that the Sterling school district will pay.

Discussion was held on bringing back some classes to the home high schools. However I.V.V.C. does a phenomenal job and does have some classes that the high school cannot offer.

I.V.V.C. is holding back on purchasing a mini bus.

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Mrs. Conley spoke of the workshops she attended at the school board convention. One she attended was on when you wear the parent hat and when you wear the school board member hat. She found it very helpful.

Mr. Hicks spoke on the Generation X & Generation Y presentation and the collective bargaining session. There was quite a discussion on the no strike legislation. He also spoke about the emergency alert system that Sandwich uses to notify parents. He will have the Sandwich technology person contact Ms. Rockwood.

Mrs. Konen said that the general session speakers were excellent. She also attended sessions on past practice and contractual obligations.

Mrs. Ottengheime wanted to attend a session on facebook, twitter, etc. and was disappointed that there wasn't room for her to get in. She was hoping that popular sessions would be offered twice during the convention. She was also disappointed in the session on "Whose decision is it anyway?" She felt that they were selling a service. She also attended one on the "balcony perspective" and it said the board should always ask "What, why, and how much?"

Mr. Mantzke attended a session on educational issues and looking at national learning standards and assessments. There were lots of questions and no answers. There was also discussion on the impact on state testing and students. Our district is fortunate because we have an external coach from N.I.U. on RtI and PBIS who is advising our district at no cost. It is encouraging where Indian Creek is at compared to other schools.

Ms. Rockwood liked the GenY session and recommended further reading "Generations At Work" by Ron Zemke. She also enjoyed a session on the community engagement process that denoted a process we could use in a variety of situations.

Mr. Foster thought the Gen Y information was applicable to college-age students. He also attended the state of the state but thought it was a political stomp. Budgets and where the state was at were discussed. There don't seem to be any cutbacks. Not much has changed and it seems to be business as usual. He also attended a session on Twitter and found it to be scary. There is a lack of control and unauthorized people can access. After attending a meeting for school board presidents, Mr. Foster felt good about our school board and the district.

Ms. Rockwood also attended a session on protecting school revenue and was pleased that Indian Creek has been doing or is implementing almost everything on the checklist.

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Mr. Mantzke and Ms. Rockwood took pictures of the board of education for the community progress report.

Mr. Foster said that there was not much to report on intergovernmental communication. The primary update was that the Village of Shabbona has moved ahead with exploring the feasibility of a T.I.F. in the downtown area. The feasibility study could run up to \$20,000.

Mrs. Ottengheime read a thank you note from the Helen Cox family and from Shriners Hospital.

It was moved by Konen, seconded by Conley that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, all members voted yes. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Ottengheime, Secretary