

EMMONS SCHOOL DISTRICT #33
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 23, 2009

The following were present:

Damian England, President	Michele Reiser
Dan Jordan, Vice President	Jackie Zogran
Jim Fischer, Secretary	Dr. Robert Machak, Superintendent
Michele Poss (7:39pm)	
	Carla Pratt, School Secretary

Also present were staff members Michele Kanya, LeaAnn Kercheval, Cynthia Thielen, Cheryl McCameron, Jennifer Wu, and Sydney Ryan, community members Justine Atkison and Laurie Christopherson, and Mr. Ben Grey of School District 220.

President England called the meeting to order at 6:05pm with roll call.

Motion to move to Closed Session by Dan Jordan. Second by Michele Reiser. Yes: Jordan, Reiser, Zogran, Fischer, England. No: 0.

The Board moved to Closed Session at 6:06pm.

The Board reconvened open session at 7:09pm.

Visitors to Be Recognized:

Mr. Ben Grey, the technology director of Barrington District 220, gave a presentation on electronic communication.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda with the deletion of Item III A, Phil Delany, Insurance Program Update, by Michele Reiser. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: 5, No: 0.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve both the Open minutes and Closed minutes dated February 19, 2009 by Dan Jordan. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: 5, No: 0.

Approval of Bill List:

Motion to approve the Bill List by Michele Reiser. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: Zogran, Fischer, Jordan, Poss, Reiser, and England. No: 0.

Superintendents Report:

Financial Report:

The three year expenditure comparison shows that we are well within range for this time of year. Our overall budget is showing 77% expended with our Operation and Maintenance at 68% expended. Dr. Machak and Dennis Meza will be meeting with a couple of vendors over Spring Break to find prices on cleaning machines that ServiceMaster now provides. Also, Dennis Meza and Kathy O'Connor met with Warehouse Direct to look into the costs of paper products and other supplies. As far as we can tell at this point, they could save us about \$149.00.

One of the concerns is Special Education Supplies. Dr. Machak met with Dr. Bill Delp of SEDOL, and his opinion is that we will have money coming in for these supplies due to the Federal Stimulus Package.

The gas consortium that Emmons belongs to has been working to negotiate a better price for the start of next school year for electric and gas supplies.

The State was planning on changing the formula used for determining the amount money given for the per capita library grant. Rather than changing the formula, they decided to use the old formula. As a result, instead of the \$700 we were expecting for the library grant, we received \$269.

The lunch program continues to do well. Dr. Machak is hoping to go out for bid by this time next month.

Dr. Machak and Cyndy Thielen will be visiting the Jeanine Schultz School soon to check on their program, the building, and how the student we have placed there is developing.

Village Zoning and Planning – Annexation:

Dr. Machak spoke with a member of the Village Planning and Zoning Commission regarding Diamond Development and the annexation plans for Emmons. Diamond Development has asked for another continuation and the Village seems frustrated with the amount of inaction. Dr. Machak will speak with Mr. Neilson from the Village about new avenues to pursue regarding the annexation.

Treasurer's Report:

Dr. Machak met with Jennifer Nolde to talk about the possible need for tax anticipation warrants. She is not yet sure if we will need to use them, but she is confident that if we do, we can get them on a "next day" basis from State Bank of the Lakes. She feels that by the end of the year, we should have a nice positive balance across all funds.

Principal's Report:

Dr. Vandrush was unable to attend due to illness, but Dr. Machak gave the Board information about graduation and other 8th grade activities planned for the end of the school year.

The 8th grade team has been meeting weekly with Dr. Machak to plan the 8th grade trip. They are planning an overnight trip but may need to scale back to a day trip due to funding. A legacy day is planned for June 1st. A dinner followed by a dance is scheduled for June 2nd, and Graduation is scheduled for June 3rd.

The last day of Kindergarten classes will be on June 3rd. Dr. Machak, Dr. Vandrush and Ms. O'Connell, as well as the rest of the K/2 team have been meeting to re-evaluate the way we do pre-screening for Kindergarten. Rather than continuing with the evening meeting in May, registrations will be mailed home at the end of April. In June, we will invite incoming Kindergarten parents to spend some time in the classroom with Ms. O'Connell for an overview of Kindergarten. Incoming Kindergarten students will be screened in August, before the start of the school year, for a more accurate picture of where they are.

SEDOL:

Cyndy Thielen accompanied Jackie Zogran to the last SEDOL meeting and their "Grant-a-rama".

IASB:

There will be an IASB dinner on May 6th at Millburn Central. This will also be the joint school board night. More specifics will be available next month.

Goals Reports:

Administrative Evaluation:

The committee plans to meet soon. No updates at this time.

Organizational Structure:

No updates at this time.

Fiscal Accountability:

Dr. Machak would like the committee to be part of any discussions regarding the hiring of a business manager of the need for tax anticipation warrants.

Policy Update and District Mission:

The committee is bringing policies for review and first reading this evening.

Academic Excellence:

The committee came up with a suggestion for minor changes in scheduling for next school year in an attempt to provide time for articulation between grades. The revised schedule was voted on by staff members. The result of that vote will be addressed at the next faculty meeting on March 25th, and the Board will receive an update next month.

Communications:

No update at this time.

Facilities Management:

The committee plans to meet soon and will have an update on the end of the school year plans next month.

Administrative Practices:

A meeting is set for April 6, 2009 at 1:30pm.

Unfinished Business:

Approve Computer Re-distribution:

As scheduled in the technology plan, we will be replacing 45 computers this year. Rather than selling the replaced machines, the Technology Committee recommends that we redistribute them to classrooms. They will be out of warranty, so if they break down, the plan would not include having them fixed. Classrooms could use them as long as they are in working order.

Motion to re-distribute the replaced machines to classrooms rather than sell them to the community by Jackie Zogran. Second by Dan Jordan. Yes: Fischer, Jordan, Poss, Reiser, Zogran, and England. No: 0.

New Business:

2009/2010 Calendar:

A draft copy of the school year 2009/2010 calendar was given to the Board in their packets. If we want to keep it as presented, we will need to apply for waivers for some of the legal holidays, but keeping it as is would end the year two days earlier than this year. The Board will look at the calendar and bring any questions, comments or concerns to the April meeting. We will hold a vote on the calendar at that time.

First Reading of Policies:

The Board held a first reading of updates for policies 4:55, 4:130, 4:170, 5:35, and 7:60.

Approval of Certified Teacher Resignation:

Motion to approve the resignation of Mary Ann Bojan by Jim Fischer. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: 6, No: 0.

Hiring of Long Term Substitutes:

Dr. Machak recommended hiring Carole Delany and Gabriella Perez as long term substitutes.

Motion to approve Gabriella Perez and Carole Delany as long term substitutes for the remainder of the school year by Jim Fischer. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: Jordan, Poss, Reiser, Zogran, Fischer, and England. No: 0.

Visitor Participation:

Cyndy Thielen was grateful for the chance to attend the SEDOL meeting with Jackie Zogran. It was a great avenue for making contacts in the Special Education field and to get help with knowledge about the availability of grants, etc.

Motion to return to closed session by Jackie Zogran. Second by Dan Jordan. Yes: 6, No: 0. The Board moved to closed session at 8:26pm.

The Board reconvened Open Session at 9:25pm.

Motion to accept Dr. Vandrush's request for retirement and the recommended retirement package by Dan Jordan. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: Reiser, Zogran, Fischer, Jordan, Poss, and England. No: 0.

Motion to grant tenure to Kathy Blake by Michelle Reiser. Second by Michele Poss. Yes: Zogran, Fischer, Jordan, Poss, Reiser, and England. No: 0.

Motion to grant tenure to Sarah Posey by Dan Jordan. Second by Michele Poss. Yes: Fischer, Jordan, Poss, Reiser, Zogran, and England. No: 0.

Motion to grant tenure to Rachel Kunzer by Jackie Zogran. Second by Jim Fischer. Yes: Jordan, Poss, Reiser, Zogran, Fischer, and England. No: 0.

Motion to approve non-renewal of contract to Craig Seaver by Dan Jordan. Second by Michele Reiser. Yes: Poss, Reiser, Zogran, Fischer, Jordan, and England. No: 0.

Motion to approve non-renewal of contract to probationary teacher, Julie Podgorski by Dan Jordan. Second by Michele Poss. Yes: Reiser, Zogran, Fischer, Jordan, Poss, and England. No: 0.

Motion to adjourn by Dan Jordan. Second by Michele Poss. Yes: 6, No: 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Pratt
School Secretary

President

Date

Secretary