

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN, SEPTEMBER 27, 2010  
PRESIDENT CRAIG PRESIDING**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Craig called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Secretary Patti Iverson confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed and was in compliance with the open meeting law.

Roll call was taken and the following commissioners were present: Craig, Duax, Janke, Johnson, Shiel, and Wogahn. Absent: Faanes. Student Representatives Joe Luginbill and Rebecca Giles were also present.

**NOTICE OF CLOSED SESSION**

President Craig announced that the Board would go into closed session following the committee meeting under 19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility to discuss administrative compensation and contracts and to monitor the Superintendent/Board Performance Goals and 19.85 (1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session to discuss mediation with Local 560, Buildings & Grounds Employees.

**PUBLIC FORUM** - No one signed up to speak.

**BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Heilmann reminded the public to fill out a Board feedback form to let the Board know how the meeting went and place it in the box outside the Board Room. The feedback is designed to be anonymous.

The WASB will hold a Legislative Advocacy Conference on November 13<sup>th</sup> in Wisconsin Dells. Dr. Heilmann thought it would be beneficial for Board members to attend this.

Feedback on the acceptable use of technology policy was received from the Parent Advisory Council. Parents felt it may result in higher levels of student engagement and research and will get students ready for technology at the next level. However, there were concerns about issues such as equity, cheating and the interaction of student's technology with the district's technology. It was felt that teachers should be trained first to ensure their comfort level and parents should understand their roles and responsibilities as well. Parents wondered how they could help to monitor their student's social networking.

The second community roundtable event for the referendum was held. There were several opportunities for the group to give feedback on a number of issues and Dr. Heilmann shared their comments with the Board.

The Flynn Flyers are holding a kickball game with the Board of Education on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Alliance for Strong Communities, the Realtors Association of Northwestern Wisconsin and Community Television are sponsoring a forum for candidates running for state offices on September 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Memorial High School's Little Theater.

Dr. Heilmann recognized *Volume One* for naming schools and teachers as the number one "Best Use of Taxpayer Dollars Last Year" in its *Best Of* edition.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Eau Claire Exposition Center there will be a Festival de Cultura starting at noon until 8 pm. This event is sponsored by the ECASD, Center of Connection of the Chippewa Valley, UW-Extension, UW-Eau Claire, City of Eau Claire and Supermercado Sandoval.

#### Communication to Superintendent/Board President

President Craig shared two anonymous letters that were received by the Board.

President Craig said that the purpose of the Flynn activity is to promote the District's wellness program and its plans to increase wellness and decrease insurance costs. The Board wants to support that effort and get out and build relationships with staff.

Two articles were shared with the Board about closing the achievement gap and the value of preschool programs.

The Wisconsin Association of School Boards is offering school districts an objective method through which to analyze organizational effectiveness. It is called the PAR program: Prepare, Assess, and Respond.

The WASB's Employment & Labor Law seminar will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The WASB Regional Meeting will take place on October 12<sup>th</sup> in Menomonie. Commissioners Duax and Johnson will attend.

#### Student Representative Report

Becca Giles said that Dr. Heilmann and Bob Scidmore will be attending Memorial's Student Council meeting next Wednesday to discuss what is happening with the acceptable use policy and how students can get involved with work on a revised policy. Joe Luginbill will replicate that process at North.

## Other Reports

### Policy and Governance Committee

The committee will set a date for its next meeting.

### Budget Development Committee

Com. Shiel said the budget for 2010-11 is almost done and the District is waiting for the state to finalize its aid numbers. It is anticipated that approximately \$90,000 of fund balance will be utilized; the stimulus money was very helpful in balancing the budget. In terms of budget development, changes have been made. There is now a management approval order for budget items. The committee will work on tying the budget to the Board's goals and current strategies.

## **CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA**

Board members asked to pull Resolutions 2, 6, 7 and 8 from the consent agenda.

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Shiel, to approve the consent resolution agenda consisting of the following items:

- ◆ The minutes of Board Forward meeting of August 16, 2010, as mailed.
- ◆ The minutes of closed session of September 13, 2010, as mailed.
- ◆ The gifts in the amount of \$2,025.86 for the period August 1, 2010, through August 31, 2010, as presented.
- ◆ The budget adjustments as presented.
- ◆ Recreation of Central Media Position with Additional Responsibilities

Consent resolution agenda items approved by unanimous roll call vote.

## **INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTIONS**

### Resolution #2 – Approval of Minutes

President Craig asked for clarification on two items in the minutes from the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting as she was not present at that meeting.

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Shiel, to approve minutes of Board meeting of September 13, 2010, as mailed. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Duax, Janke, Johnson, Shiel and Wogahn. Abstained: Craig.

### Resolution #6 - Matters of Employment

Dr. Weissenburger was asked to explain the new help desk specialist position. He said there was a reorganization in the technology department and some duties were reassigned. A senior person retired and was replaced with a person at a lesser pay

level and duties. The net savings allowed this position to be added with no new monies needed.

Com. Duax moved, seconded by Com. Wogahn, to approve the matters of employment of September 27, 2010, as presented. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

#### Resolution #7 – §66.0301 Cooperative Agreements

The Board discussed the unusual arrangements for students to attend school in two different school districts because of custodial issues. The DPI permits this but the school districts must work it out for aid purposes. The District would not encourage these types of situations but cannot prohibit it from happening.

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Shiel, to approve §66.0301 Cooperative Agreements with Baldwin-Woodville and Durand School Districts for two 4K students who attend two school districts simultaneously for 4K programming per parent custodial arrangements. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Aye: Craig, Duax, Janke, Shiel and Wogahn. Nay: Johnson.

#### Resolution #8 -- CESA 10 Land Purchase

Dr. Heilmann explained that according to state statutes, in order for CESA to make a purchase like this, it must have the approval of two-thirds of the member districts. There would be no cost to the school district for this purchase.

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Johnson, to approve the CESA 10 purchase of property adjacent to their current office building in Chippewa Falls. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Aye: Craig, Janke, Johnson, and Wogahn. Nay: Duax and Shiel.

#### Resolution #10 – Payment of Bills and Payroll

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Shiel, to approve payment of all bills in the amount of \$4,701,611.12 and net payroll in the amount of \$2,906,888.37 for the period of August 1, 2010 through August 31, 2010 as presented. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Regular meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Patti Iverson, Board Secretary

**COMMITTEE MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2010**

1. Call to Order – Committee Meeting

Members present: Craig, Duax, Janke, Johnson, Shiel, and Wogahn. Absent: Faanes. Student Representatives Joe Luginbill and Rebecca Giles were also present.

2. Committee Reports/Items for Discussion

A. Overview and Discussion of Strategies to Implement Best Practices District-Wide

Ann Franke, Director of Secondary Education, talked about how the District develops the use of best practices. She said that a lot of professional research is reviewed from national content organizations such as ASCD. There is also collaboration with CESA, DPI, and other districts. They look for practices that research shows increases student success. Ms. Franke shared a sampling of things going on district-wide. She highlighted the PreK-12 math cadre, the Leveled Literacy Intervention strategy, and new teacher orientation.

Ms. Franke said that sometimes the District identifies areas of best practice that are felt to be essential and this is shared with teachers. Examples of this would be secondary grading and formative assessments. It is required that high school staff implement at least one assessment strategy per quarter. One collaboration day per month was dedicated to discussing those formative assessment strategies. Whenever there is a new curriculum adoption or intervention program established, there is required training for those implementing a new program. It would be the administrators' responsibility to ensure that teachers are engaging in best practices through their professional development plan. Com. Johnson asked for a report from principals about how they use collaboration time and to give examples of professional development plans.

Mr. Leibham said that best practice must have an outcome to determine what is effective. This outcome holds people accountable.

B. Referendum-Related Topics

Superintendent Heilmann said that at its last meeting the Board asked for additional information about the benefits of larger versus smaller elementary

schools as well as the status of identifying a community liaison person to assist with referendum efforts.

Dr. Heilmann shared information about the issue of elementary school size from past District reports. In June 1987 the Elementary Long-Range Planning Committee issued a report recommending the minimum size for elementary buildings be three sections. It did not state a maximum recommended size. In March 1990 an Education Issues Survey was conducted and one of the questions was "How do you feel about the District's plan to build fewer, but larger, elementary schools?" The findings cited that 47% supported building fewer, larger schools and 38% opposed such a plan. In May 2002 the Elementary Enrollment Management Committee identified 14 options, one of which included adding one section on to Meadowview making it a four-section school.

Dr. Heilmann did an online search for research on the pros and cons of larger vs. smaller elementary schools. He said there were many different studies so he focused on those which could be considered regionally significant for Eau Claire. He shared those with the Board. The Board asked to get input from teachers and the public about the pros/cons of larger versus smaller schools as well.

Dr. Heilmann said that in regards to liaison person, the community roundtable group has been discussing this. He felt that some people have 'risen to the top' to be considered leaders of the effort.

President Craig felt the Board should consider two questions on the April 2011 ballot including facilities and an operational override. She believes that given the state's significant budget shortfall, the district may face a major financial crisis in 2012-13. She was concerned that the district could have large but empty classrooms if layoffs are necessary because of the budget deficit at that time. Dr. Heilmann reviewed potential referendum dates in 2012. He said that administration recommends holding off a year for an operational override for a variety of reasons. It was noted that holding an operational override referendum in February 2012 would still meet timelines independent of several other issues for significant layoffs.

The majority of the Board seemed to rule out five-section schools and favored three- or four-section schools. Flynn was built as a two-section school but the infrastructure was designed so it could be expanded to three-sections if needed. Little Red could become three sections, Roosevelt is currently a two-section building, and Locust Lane is three-section but not filled to capacity.

Enrollment projections show that the District will be faced with a significant shortfall in classrooms in the future. Robbins will far exceed its enrollment

capacity in the near future. Administration will take information from the Demographic Trends group as well as data gathered by A.T.S. & R and put together some options for the Board to consider at the October 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Carolyn Barstad said she taught in the district for 35 years. She felt that moving students around by changing boundaries would cause problems for the students. These types of adjustments for children are hard. She really felt the Board should have a two question referendum saying that facilities are critically important but money for staffing are important too. Ms. Barstad also stressed the importance of the art program.

B. Further Discussion & Possible First Reading of New *ECASD Policy 153—Conflict of Interest*

Dr. Heilmann talked to Attorney Kirk Strang about suggested changes to *Policy 153 – Conflict of Interest*, which were made at the last meeting. He provided a draft of the policy incorporating those changes; in particular the changes made replacing the word ‘administrators’ to ‘employees.’ Com. Johnson said the committee had rationale for not using the word ‘employees.’ Dr. Heilmann noted that the Code of Ethics apply to public officials and employees and consequently those changes were made. Com. Johnson was still concerned about that; she asked for a legal definition of ‘action.’

The Board discussed how the policy would be implemented or monitored. Dr. Heilmann said that most of the bulleted items came from state statutes or the Code of Ethics so they would be enforceable by law.

Bev Christianson asked about the fifth bullet about supervising. It only references administrators and she said there have been some unit clarifications about supervisors who are not administrators. She said that if only administrators supervise, this language is appropriate. But if others do that, she felt this bullet needed attention. Dr. Heilmann said that Attorney Strang was comfortable leaving the word ‘administrator’ but he will get clarification on that.

The Board agreed to strike out the words ‘or employee’ in the last two bullets. This policy will be brought back for a possible first reading at the next Board meeting.

3. Request for Future Agenda Items
4. Other Business

5. Motion to Adjourn Committee Meeting

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Janke, to adjourn committee meeting. Carried by unanimous voice of acclamation.

6. Motion to go into Closed Session

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Janke, to go into closed session under 19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility to discuss administrative compensation and contracts and to monitor the Superintendent/Board Performance Goals and 19.85 (1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session to discuss mediation with Local 560, Buildings & Grounds Employees. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Aye: Craig, Duax, Johnson, Shiel and Wogahn. Nay: Janke.

7. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.