

MINUTES: Meeting of the Monona Grove Board of Education held Wednesday,  
April 9, 2008, Cottage Grove School LGI, Starting at 5:38 P.M

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Bultman, Mike DuPlayee, John Kitslaar,  
Susan Manning, Phil McDade, Peter Sobol,  
John Weinberger

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Gary Schumacher, Mary Ellen Van Valin

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I. Opening of Meeting – John Kitslaar

II. Declaration of Public Notice – acknowledged

III. Motion to Move into Closed Session Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1)(f) for  
Review of Student Expulsion Hearing Determinations

Mike DuPlayee moved that the Board move into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin  
Statutes 19.85 (1)(f) for review of two student expulsion hearing determinations. Kathy  
Bultman seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bultman – aye; DuPlayee –aye; Kitslaar – aye;  
Manning – aye; McDade – aye; Sobol – aye; and Weinberger – aye. Motion carried.

IV. Motion to Move Back into Open Session – 6:35 P.M.

Mike DuPlayee moved that the Board move back into open session. John Weinberger  
seconded and the motion carried.

V. Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Budget Reductions

The following citizens and staff addressed the Board of Education:

Location of Monona Grove Alternative High School

1. Rebecca Fox-Blair, Bill McDonald, Denise Peterson, Marianne Stein,  
Gordy Ottaviano, Caleb Murray, Mallory Showers

Elimination of One Elementary Principal in Monona

1. Jessica Ace, 4718 Tonyawatha Trail, Monona
2. Dean Bowles, 1403 Joyce Road, Monona
3. Judy Atkins, 4417 Oak Ct., Monona
4. Don Bernards, 5516 Brandt Place, Monona
5. Jeff Knight, 601 Owen Road, Monona
6. Michael Truman, 4806 Shore Acres Road, Monona
7. Deloris VandeVelde, 5501 Pheasant Hill, Monona
8. Patti Allen, 5205 McKenna Road, Monona
9. Sandy Homburg, 610 Clear Spring Ct, Monona
10. Andrew Homburg, 610 Clear Spring Ct., Monona
11. Ellen Moen, 5409 Pheasant Hill Road, Monona
12. Dave Gronski, 4403 Winnequah Road, Monona
13. Jim O'Connell, 612 Clear Spring Court, Monona
14. Bill Albright, 4590 American Way, Cottage Grove
15. Mary Landry, 4541 Winnequah Road, Monona
16. Laure Bollinger, 308 Woody Lane, Monona
17. Aaron Halsted, 4906 Winnequah Road, Monona
18. Jeff Wiswell, 1213 Birch Haven Circle, Monona

19. Jill List, 4370 Citation Ct, Cottage Grove for Mary Salvi, 4360 Damascus Trail, Cottage Grove

Other Topics

1. Christa Fisher, 405 Stone Terrace, Monona, communication
2. Larry Miller, 1110 Nishishin Trail NE, regarding budget process
3. Susan Fox, 4637 Tonyawatha Trail, Monona, regarding budget process
4. Sharon Henes, 720 Crawford Drive, Cottage Grove, regarding budget process
5. Nancy Allen, 2077 Uphoff Road, Cottage Grove, regarding budget decisions

Citizens Who Registered Comments Regarding Budget Cuts

1. Harold Polzer, 1008 Birch Haven Circle, Monona
2. Deb Whitehorse, 1200 East Broadway, Monona
3. Carrie Fuss, 6210 Winnequah Road, Monona
4. Ann Byrne, 2835 Riva Ridge Circle, Cottage Grove

VI. Review and Act Upon Student Expulsion Hearing Determinations

John Kitslaar reported the Board of Education met in Closed Session to review and act upon two student expulsion hearing determinations. Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the Hearing Officer's recommendation for both students as reported in his determination dated March 17, 2008. Kathy Bultman seconded and the motion carried.

VII. Public Appearances (Items Not Pertaining to the Proposed Budget Reductions)

Glacial Drumlin School Colors

1. Scott Stearns, 61 Heather Drive, Cottage Grove
2. Julie Stilson, 2163 Southern Court, Cottage Grove
3. Dan Zweifel, 114 Copps Avenue, Monona
4. Emma Raymond, 505 Owen Road, Monona
5. Kathy Carew, 4905 Rothman Place, Monona
6. Jill List, 4370 Citation Ct., Cottage Grove
7. Matt Breen, 6405 Westgate Road, Monona
8. Kevin Mikelbank, 5408 Calico Ct., McFarland

Music Curriculum

1. Sharon Henes, 720 Crawford Drive, Cottage Grove
2. Susan Fox, 4637 Tonyawatha Trail, Monona
3. Paul Backstrom, Jim Frisque (Elementary Music Teachers)

VIII. Announcements

A. Introduction of New Monona Grove School District Superintendent – John Kitslaar

John Kitslaar introduced Craig Gerlach who will be the next Superintendent for the Monona Grove School District. Mr. Gerlach was in attendance and briefly commented on his previous educational experiences.

B. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

John Kitslaar presented Kathy Bultman and John Weinberger with a Service Resolution Award for their service to the Monona Grove School District as Board of Education members. Ms. Bultman served from April, 1999 to May 2008 and Mr. Weinberger served from April 1994 to May 2008.

IX. Superintendents Report

A. Announcements

Recognized the following staff:

Stacy Pipson, Nichols School Library Medial Specialist, who was filmed doing a demonstration of Book Talking.

Bob Schlaefer, Winnequah Middle School Science Teacher, who was awarded a Besadny Conservation Grant in the amount of \$1,500 for his project entitled, "Glacial Drumlin Prairie Restoration Project".

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declared a Presidential Emergency for the record snowfall on February 5-6, 2008, which will allow for the school district to recoup a portion of their snow removal expenses.

X. Committee Reports and Recommendations

Curriculum Committee – Kathy Bultman

A. Report From the Curriculum Committee Meeting of March 26, 2008

Kathy Bultman reported the Curriculum Committee met on March 26, 2008, and received a proposal for general music curriculum for grades 3-6. Discussion was held regarding the Music in Education Program proposal. It was determined the Committee would not be recommending to the Board of Education approval of the proposal as presented.

B. Discussion and Possible Approval of Curriculum Proposal – 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade General Music

Kathy Bultman moved approval of the revised curriculum proposal for 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade general music. Mike DuPlayee seconded. Bill Breisch, Director of Instruction, explained that the revised proposal is a shared system that can be used with 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and would be funded through the Curriculum and Instruction and building budgets. Discussion was held regarding Department of Public Instruction curriculum compliance for grades 5 and 6. A roll call vote was taken: Bultman – aye; Sobol – aye; DuPlayee – aye; Kitslaar – aye; McDade – nay ; Weinberger – nay – Manning – aye. Motion carried.

C. Confirm Next Meeting Date: April 16, 2008, 7:15 P.M., Cottage Grove School, Distance Learning Lab.

XI. Old Business

A. Discussion and Possible Approval of Potential Budget Adjustments to Address the 2008-2009 Budget Shortfall

Dr. Schumacher reviewed the proposed budget reductions as reported in his memorandum dated April 4, 2008.

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the proposed budget reductions as listed with the exception of the following five areas being removed for further discussion: reduce 2.0 FTE (teachers) at Monona Grove High School due to declining enrollment; reduce administration by one principal (combine two elementary schools in Monona); relocate the Monona Grove High School Alternative School to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade wing at Nichols School; eliminate the capital budget increase (10%) for the 2008-2009 school year; and the addition of a part-time elementary assistant principal. Phil McDade seconded and the motion carried.

1. Kathy Bultman moved to reduce 1.9 FTE from the Monona Grove High School staffing budget due to declining enrollment. Peter Sobol seconded. Motion carried.
2. Discussion was held on the reduction of administrative staff, one principal, combining the two elementary schools in Monona.
3. Addition to the budget of a part-time elementary assistant principal.

The above agenda items 2 and 3 will be discussed jointly.

Susan Manning moved that the reduction of one principal in the elementary schools in Monona go back to administration for further study and that the administration bring a report back to the Board of Education in May. Peter Sobol seconded.

Kathy Bultman moved to amend the motion and take out reference to study and put back into the budget an additional amount, not to exceed \$75,000, for an elementary principal to be assigned to Maywood. Susan Manning seconded.

Kathy Bultman withdrew her amendment to the motion. Susan Manning withdrew her second.

Susan Manning withdrew her motion and Peter Sobol withdrew his second of the original motion.

Kathy Bultman moved to increase the budget by an amount needed to hire a Principal at Maywood School. Susan Manning seconded. After discussion a roll call vote was taken: Bultman – aye; Sobol – nay; DuPlayee – nay; Kitslaar – nay; McDade – nay; Weinberger – nay; Manning – aye. Motion failed.

Susan Manning moved that the Board send this proposal back to the Administration for further study. Motion failed for lack of a second.

John Weinberger moved to approve the administrative recommendation as presented in the memorandum dated April 4, 2008, to reduce administration by one principal (combine two elementary schools in Maywood). Phil McDade seconded. After further discussion a roll call vote was taken: Bultman – nay; Sobol – aye; DuPlayee – aye; Kitslaar – aye; McDade – aye; Weinberger – aye; and Manning – nay. Motion carried.

Kathy Bultman moved to accept the administrations recommendation to add a part-time elementary Assistant Principal. Phil McDade seconded. After further discussion the motion carried. The breakdown for the elementary Assistant Principal position is .60 FTE with .40 FTE at Maywood (four one/half days) and .20 FTE at Cottage Grove School (one day per week).

4. Relocate the Monona Grove High School Alternative School to the fifth grade wing at Nichols School.

Mike DuPlayee moved to accept the administrations recommendation to relocate the Monona Grove High School Alternative School to the fifth grade wing at Nichols School. John Weinberger seconded. After discussion of the motion, a vote was taken and the motion failed.

John Weinberger moved that the Board not accept the administrative recommendation to relocate the Monona Grove High School Alternative School to the fifth grade wing at Nichols School. Kathy Bultman seconded. After discussion of the motion a vote was taken and the motion carried. The Monona Grove High School Alternative School will remain at 5104 Gordon Avenue in Monona.

5. Eliminate the capital budget increase (10%) for the 2008-2009 school year.

John Weinberger moved that the Board not accept the administrative recommendation to eliminate the capital budget increase (10%) for the 2008-2009 school year. Kathy Bultman seconded. After discussion of the motion, motion failed.

#### B. Monthly Construction Report – Mike Huffman

Mike Huffman reported everything at Glacial Drumlin is on schedule, with a move in date of June 16, 2008, with the exception being the landscaping. The Geo-thermal system is running and functional. Remodeling work at Winnequah School will be a challenge but all work should be completed by the time students arrive in the fall.

#### C. Discussion of Glacial Drumlin Colors

John Kitslaar reviewed the process that was used in the selection of the school colors and the mascot for Glacial Drumlin School. After discussion of the process used the Board did not reverse their decision and the school colors will remain red and black and the mascot will remain the hawk.

#### D. Discussion and Possible Approval of R. J. Huston for Reconstruction of Highway BB Related to New School

Mike Huffman reviewed bids that were received for the reconstruction of Highway BB related to the new school. Phil McDade moved approval of the bid received from R. J. Huston in the amount of \$803,910 for reconstruction of Highway BB related to the new school. Mike DuPlayee seconded. After discussion of the motion a vote was taken and the motion carried. John Weinberger abstained from the vote.

E. Discussion and Possible Approval of Rettler Corporation to Provide Management Services for Highway BB Development

Phil McDade moved that the Board of Education contract with Rettler Corporation to provide management and layout and staking services for the Hwy BB road improvement project as presented. Mike DuPlayee seconded. After discussion of the motion a vote was taken and the motion carried.

XII. New Business

A. Discussion and Possible Approval of Hiring of New Monona Grove School District Superintendent

Kathy Bultman moved approval of hiring Craig Gerlach as the next Superintendent of Schools for the Monona Grove School District. Mike DuPlayee seconded. After discussion of the positive hiring process a vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Discussion and Possible Approval of Open Enrollment Applications for 2008-2009 School Year

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the Open Enrollment Applications for 2008-2009. Kathy Bultman seconded. After discussion of the motion a vote was taken and the motion carried.

C. Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution Approving Textbook Lease Purchase Agreement

Kathy Bultman moved approval of the attached resolution authorizing and approving the lease purchase agreement with Providence Capital Network, LLC, for the purpose of purchasing the K-5 literacy textbooks and materials. Mike DuPlayee seconded. After further discussion of the motion a vote was taken and the motion carried.

XIII. Committee Reports and Recommendations (continued)

Personnel & Policy Committee – Mike DuPlayee

A. Report From the Personnel & Policy Committee Meeting of March 26, 2008

1. Review of Open Enrollment Applications for 2008-2009 School Year

Gary Schumacher reported to the Committee on the open enrollment applications received for the 2008-2009 school year. Changes in the class size goals made it possible that the Monona Grove School District could accept more students at the high school.

B. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Joint Agreement Between the City of Monona, Village of Cottage Grove, and the Monona Grove School District – Police School Liaison Officer Program (2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011 School Years)

Phil McDade moved approval of a joint agreement between the City of Monona, Village of Cottage Grove, and the Monona Grove School District for a Police School Liaison Officer Program for 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and 2010-2011 school years. Kathy Bultman seconded. After further discussion of the motion a vote was taken and the motion carried.

#### Business Services Committee

##### A. Report From the Business Services Committee Meeting of March 25, 2008

###### 1. Discussion of Proposal to Enter into a New Lease for the Alternative High School

Mike Devenish presented information to the Committee regarding the proposed lease arrangement he is proposing for housing the Alternative High School for the next four years on behalf of Devenish and Associates. This agenda item will be discussed by the Board of Education at their next meeting as part of the budget reduction process.

###### 2. Update on Energy Request for Proposal

Dr. Schumacher reported to the Committee that the Energy Conservation Committee will be reviewing RFP's that were received and report back to the Business Services Committee meeting at a future date.

###### 3. Discussion of the Following Budgets: Fund 535 – Superintendent's Office; Fund 537 – Business Office; Fund 38 & 39 – Debt Payments; Fund 539 – Transportation; Fund 540 – Buildings & Grounds & District Utilities; Fund 541 – Technology; and Fund 879 – Summer School

The above listed budgets were reviewed and approved by the Committee. Final approval from the Board will take place at the Annual Meeting and Budget Hearing in October, 2008.

##### B. Discussion and Possible Approval of After School Day Care Providers for 2008-2009

John Weinberger moved approval of Learning Ladder, YMCA, and Kid's Safari as the after school day care providers for 2008-2009. Phil McDade seconded and the motion carried.

##### C. Presentation of Monthly Budget Statement

John Weinberger presented the monthly budget statement with no questions or comments from Board members.

##### D. Confirm Next Meeting Date – April 23, 2008, 5:00 P.M., Nichols School, District Office Board Room

#### XIV. Consent Agenda

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the following consent agenda items:

##### A. Minutes of the March 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 19, and April 2, 3, 2008 Board meetings

and April 3, 2008, Board of Canvassers meeting

- B. Hiring of Staff
    - 1. David Williamson, Roving Custodian, Range 2, Taylor Prairie & Cottage Grove Schools, effective March 27, 2008
    - 2. Steve Gasser, Volunteer Baseball Coach, Monona Grove High School
    - 3. Sarah Holzum, Volunteer Girls Track Coach, Monona Grove High School
  - C. Staff Resignations
    - 1. Emily Genrich, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Nichols School, effective at the conclusion of the 2007-2008 school year
    - 2. Diane Phelan, Special Education Paraprofessional, Monona Grove High School, effective March 14, 2008
  - D. Staff Contract Amendments – none submitted
  - E. Job Share Assignments for 2008-2009
    - 1. Tracy Gilbertsen, .50 FTE, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Cottage Grove School
    - 2. Sherry Melde, .50 FTE, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Cottage Grove School
    - 3. Jan Anderson, .50 FTE, T4K, Maywood School
    - 4. Jacinda Wood, .50 FTE, T4K, Maywood School
  - F. Staff Retirement Request
    - 1. Greg Kebbekus, School Psychologist, Cottage Grove School, effective at the conclusion of the 2007-2008 school year
  - G. Gift Donations
    - 1. Cash donation of \$404.40 to be applied to Fund 21, Music Department, at Cottage Grove School from the Cottage Grove PTO
    - 2. Cash donation of \$1212.01 to be applied to the Taylor Prairie Library account from proceeds of the Spring Book Fair donated by Cottage Grove PTO
    - 3. Cash donation from Cottage Grove School parents and Cottage Grove PTO of \$1040.00 to be used towards the Milk Buddy Program at Cottage Grove School
    - 4. Cash donation of \$6395 from Friends of Monona Grove Bands to be used towards the purchase of new band uniforms at Monona Grove High School
  - H. Budget Transfers – complete list on file at the District Office as part of the official minutes of the meeting
  - I. Vouchers Payable
    - 1. Debt Service Fund Vouchers (Wire Transfer) in the amount of \$5,717.20
    - 2. General Fund Vouchers No. 177345-177737 in the amount of \$1,018,813.97
    - 3. Building Project Fund Voucher No. 10123-10127 in the amount of \$1,330,420.21
- Kathy Bultman seconded and the motion carried.

XV. Confirm Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, May 14, 2008, Nichols School, District Office Board Room

XVI. Adjournment

Kathy Bultman moved that the meeting be adjourned. John Weinberger seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 A.M.

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MINUTES: Meeting of the Closed Session of the Monona Grove Board of Education held  
Wednesday, April 9, 2008, Cottage Grove School Distance Learning Center,  
Starting at 5:40 P.M

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Bultman, Mike DuPlayee, John Kitslaar,  
Susan Manning, Phil McDade, Peter Sobol,  
John Weinberger

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Gary Schumacher

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Board members reviewed two student expulsion hearing determinations with no action taken in closed session.