

MINUTES: Meeting of the Monona Grove School District, Board of Education, held Wednesday, December 10, 2008, in the Glacial Drumlin School IMC, Starting at 7:08 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike DuPlayee, Susan Fox, John Kitslaar, Jill List, Susan Manning, Phil McDade, Peter Sobol

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Craig Gerlach, Mary Ellen Van Valin

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)(c) for Consideration and Deliberation Regarding Personnel Matters

Closed Session was cancelled.

IV. Motion to Move Back into Open Session

Not needed as Closed Session was cancelled.

V. Public Appearances

Deidre Bradford, Monona Grove High School, English Teacher, spoke regarding a new course being recommended for high school students.

Jim Steinke, Cottage Grove staff member, gave an update on positive happenings at Cottage Grove School.

VI. Featured Program: Use of EPAS (Explore/Plan/Act) Data to Improve Student Achievement – Bill Breisch, Ed O’Connor, Jan Collins, Nicole Hafele, Renee Tennant, and Dr. Paul Brost

Bill Breisch, Director of Instruction, began the presentation to the Board of Education on the use of EPAS (Explore/Plan/Act) data to improve student achievement. Ed O’Connor, District Data Assessment Coordinator, presented data information. Renee Tennant, Principal, and Jan Collins, English teacher at Glacial Drumlin School presented information from the middle school while Paul Brost, Principal, and Nicole Hafele, Math teacher, reported on achievement at the high school.

VII. Correspondence and Announcements

John Kitslaar announced he had received correspondence from WASB (Wisconsin Association of School Boards) that the resolution submitted regarding testing will not be forwarded to the Delegate Assembly but the resolution submitted for co-op buying will be considered when the Delegate Assembly meets prior to the WASB/WASBO/WASDA convention in January, 2009.

VIII. Superintendent’s Report & Updates

A. 2009 School Board Election

The following dates were announced:

December 26, 2008 – Incumbent Notice of Non-Candidacy Due

January 6, 2009 – Deadline for Filing of Declaration of Candidacy and Nomination Papers

February 17, 2009 – Spring Primary if Needed

April 7, 2009 – Spring Election

B. Ad Hoc Committee to Study Grade Configuration 4K-8 Update

The December 9, 2008, meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions and school closing. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on January 6, 2009, at Glacial Drumlin School.

C. Dr. Yong Zhao Presentation – February 17, 2009

Verona Area School District will be hosting a presentation by Dr. Yong Zhao on February 17, 2009, entitled “What Knowledge is of the Most Worth: Education for the Global Economy”. Dr. Zhao’s presentation will include an overview of what skills/dispositions will be needed for students and adults in the future.

D. Announcements - none

IX. Old Business

A. Report from McKinstry on District Energy Savings Plan

A preliminary report on the proposed Active Energy Management Plan for the Monona Grove School District was presented by McKinstry representatives, Tom Laufenberg and Dan Choi. Their plan focuses on assisting the school district in the following areas: program management, utility accounting, operations and maintenance, and training and education. A copy of the report is available at the District Office.

B. Transportation Update

Craig Gerlach reported the initial plan being proposed to alleviate transportation problems in Cottage Grove will not be implemented this year. Additional study will be done by the Transportation Department to alleviate concerns for next year that were reported with this year’s bussing schedule.

X. New Business

A. Report From Applied Population Laboratory Regarding Enrollment Projections – Sarah Lazenby

Sarah Lazenby, Applied Population Laboratory, presented her annual enrollment projections report. She stated much of the information is similar to previous years showing a decrease in students in Monona and a slight increase in students in Cottage Grove. A complete copy of the report can be found at the District Office and it is also posted on the school district’s website: www.mononagrove.org

B. Report on WASB (Wisconsin Association of School Boards) Employment Seminar – Jill List

Jill List reported on an Employment Seminar, sponsored by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, she attended on September 29, 2008. She stated all sessions were beneficial and she would be sharing handouts with the Superintendent.

C. Report on Lathrop & Clark School Law Seminar – Susan Manning, Susan Fox

Susan Fox and Susan Manning reported on a School Law Seminar, sponsored by Lathrop & Clark Law Firm, that they attended November 20, 2008. They shared information they had received in each of the sessions attended. Handouts from the sessions were given to the Superintendent for future reference.

D. Discussion and Possible Approval of Monona Grove School District Representative to WASB (Wisconsin Association of School Boards) Delegate Assembly

Phil McDade volunteered to represent the Board of Education at the Wisconsin Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly in January, 2009. Discussion was held.

Peter Sobol nominated Phil McDade as the Monona Grove School District representative to the Wisconsin Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly in January, 2009. Mike DuPlayee seconded and the motion carried

XI. Committee Reports and Recommendations

Curriculum Committee – Phil McDade

A. Report From the Curriculum Committee Meeting of November 19, 2008

Phil McDade reported the Curriculum Committee met on November 19, 2009, and received favorable student and staff feedback from a new English course offered two years ago to high school students entitled, “Modern Literature and Society”. The Committee also received information from Deidre Bradford, Monona Grove High School English teacher, on a proposal for a new course, “Genres in Literature”, which is being recommended by the English Department.

B. Discussion and Possible Approval of Monona Grove High School English Course Proposal– Genres in Literature

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of a new English course at Monona Grove High School entitled, “Genres in Literature” to be offered to students beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. Susan Manning seconded and the motion carried.

C. Confirm Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, December 17, 2008, 7:15 P.M., Glacial Drumlin School

Personnel & Policy Committee – Mike DuPlayee

A. Confirm Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, December 17, 2008, 6:00 P.M., Glacial Drumlin School

Business Services Committee – Peter Sobol

A. Report From the Business Services Committee Meeting of December 3, 2008

Peter Sobol reported the following from the Business Services Committee meeting on December 3, 2008: reviewed Alliant Energy Shared Saving Plan document; received a report from McKinstry representatives, Tom Laufenberg and Dan Choi, on their proposed Active Energy Management Program plan; and received an “unqualified opinion”, which is a clean opinion free from all material findings, on the 2007-2008 financial audit presented by Brian Mechenich of Reilly, Penner, and Benton LLP.

B. Discussion and Possible Approval of Alliant Energy Shared Savings Plan

Phil McDade moved approval of the Alliant Energy Shared Savings Contract in an amount not to exceed \$571,495.00, within the terms and conditions provided by the Shared Savings Contract. Mike DuPlayee seconded and the motion carried.

C. Discussion and Possible Approval of Financial Audit 2007-2008

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the Management Letter and Financial Statements provided from

Reilly, Penner & Benton LLP for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. Phil McDade seconded. Discussion was held regarding various policies recommended by the auditors, which will be forwarded to the Personnel & Policy Committee for review. Motion carried.

D. Presentation of Monthly Budget Statement

Peter Sobol presented the monthly budget statement. Susan Manning asked for an explanation of the line item labeled tuition.

E. Confirm Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, January 7, 2009, 5:00 P.M., Nichols School, District Office Board Room (NOTE: this meeting was changed to Thursday, January 8, 2009.)

XII. Consent Agenda

Craig Gerlach asked that agenda items B, C, and D be removed from Consent agenda for further discussion.

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the following agenda items A, E, F, and G:

- A. Minutes of the October 27, 2008, Budget Hearing and Annual School Meeting and November 12, 2008, Board meeting
- E. Gift Donations
 - 1. 167 dictionaries donated by AT&T Telecom Pioneers of America to Cottage Grove School third graders.
 - 2. Cash donation of \$100.00 from Monona State Bank for use by Maywood School for the back-to-school program.
- F. Budget Transfers – complete list on file at the District Office as part of the official minutes of the meeting.
- G. Vouchers Payable
 - 1. Debt Service Fund Vouchers No. (Wire Transfer) in the amount of \$2,793.30
 - 2. General Fund Vouchers No. 181076-181365 in the amount of \$840,139.89
 - 3. Building Project Fund Vouchers No. 10221-10242 in the amount of \$636,988.06

Phil McDade seconded and the motion carried.

Agenda items B, C, and D, were discussed further and presented for approval:

Phil McDade moved approval of the following consent agenda item:

- B. Hiring of Staff
 - 1. Peter Felknor, School Bus Driver, 2 routes per day, beginning November 19, 2008
 - 2. Lisa Newell, Special Education Paraprofessional, 7.5 hours per day, Monona Grove High School, beginning November 14, 2008

Mike DuPlayee seconded and the motion carried.

Mike DuPlayee moved approval of the following consent agenda item:

- C. Approval of Staff Resignations
 - 1. Micaelen Freeman, Special Education Paraprofessional, Monona Grove High School, effective November 12, 2008
 - 2. Eric Walker, French Teacher, Glacial Drumlin School, effective January 23, 2009.

Phil McDade seconded and the motion carried.

Phil McDade moved approval of the following consent agenda item:

D. Approval of Staff Retirement Request

1. Beverly Kalish, Secretary to the Superintendent, effective June 30, 2009.

Peter Sobol seconded. The Superintendent and Board members thanked Bev Kalish for her 36 years of service to the Monona Grove School District. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

XIII. Confirm Next Meeting Date – Wednesday, January 14, 2009, Nichols Building

XIV. Adjournment

Mike DuPlayee moved that the meeting be adjourned. Phil McDade seconded and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 P.M.