

**Beaver Dam Unified School District
Board of Education Minutes**

October 26, 2009

The regular meeting of the Beaver Dam Unified School District Board of Education was held on the above date at the Educational Service Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President, Bev Beal-Loeck. Board members present were Bev Beal-Loeck, Kim Darst, Jean Hill, Marge Jorgensen, Lisa Panzer, Gary Spielman, and Joanne Tyjeski. Board members absent were Nate Dassler and Dan Feuling.

President, Ms. Beal-Loeck, led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jorgensen moved, Darst seconded, to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting on September 21, 2009 and special meetings on September 21, September 28, October 5, and October 15, 2009 as presented.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Beal-Loeck welcomed visitors.

There were no requests from members of the public to participate in the public comment session.

Spielman, at the request of the President, announced the board may move into closed session following the regular meeting in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to discuss the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. The meeting will reconvene into open session for the possible transaction of business and adjournment.

Hill moved, Tyjeski seconded, to adopt the agenda as presented.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Dr. Don Childs, Superintendent, presented a recommendation to approve the Youth Options course requests for Spring 2009.

Tyjeski moved, Jorgensen seconded, to approve the Youth Options requests for the second semester of the 2009-10 school year as presented.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: *Ayes* – Darst, Hill, Jorgensen, Panzer, Spielman, Tyjeski, and Beal-Loeck. *Nays* - None.

Dr. Childs presented a recommendation to approve the snow removal bids for the 2009-10 school year as presented.

Hill moved, Jorgensen seconded, to award snow removal bids for the winter of 2009-10 as follows: Johnnies 66 – Lots and playgrounds at Prairie View, Trenton, South Beaver Dam & Alternative School; A.A. Roedl Excavating – lots and playgrounds at Jefferson, Lincoln, Washington, Wilson and Middle School; Craig Smith – sidewalks at Jefferson, Lincoln,

Washington, Wilson and Middle School; A.A. Roedl – ESC/IMC and High School lots; and pre-purchase of road salt through A.A. Roedl.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: *Ayes* – Hill, Jorgensen, Panzer, Spielman, Tyjeksi, Beal-Loeck, and Darst. *Nayes* - None.

Ms. Sandra Garbowicz, Director of Teaching and Learning, reported on requests for new instructional materials, new courses, and modified curricula. She shared a proposal for a new Environmental Science Course as an elective for 11th and 12th grade students.

There was discussion regarding staffing, pre-requisite exceptions and requirements, and field trips.

Mr. Craig Panich, Biology Teacher, explained that there are great resources and diverse nature in Beaver Dam that allow classes not to have to travel. In addition, the close proximity to universities allows for presentations from university staff.

Ms. Garbowicz provided information on a proposed new Kindergarten Art curriculum. She explained that for the curriculum to be aligned and meet State standards, it is to be taught by a certified art teacher.

Discussion focused on the number of sessions, technology, the impact of art being taught by a teacher not certified in art, staffing, incorporating art/craft time, and student creativity.

Ms. Heidi Riter, Elementary Art Teacher, explained that the art teachers took the foundations of art and creativity and is proposing to bring elements down at an earlier age for greater exposure to creativity. The goal is for students to produce their own quality art work and not mass produce items.

There was additional discussion regarding additional staffing, important budget decisions, and teacher travel.

Ms. Garbowicz shared the proposal for new finance curriculum to meet the graduation requirement adopted by the board.

Discussion focused on the grades required to take the course, the impact on other business electives, and staffing.

Ms. Garbowicz presented a proposal to revise the K-5 music curriculum. The curriculum is aligned to the revised State standards. Technology is gradually becoming part of the curriculum and the music department is moving in that direction.

Discussion focused on the technology, music equipment, and allocation of funds.

Ms. Judy Heffron, Elementary Music Teacher, explained that textbooks are very expensive and can be limiting. Students need to be active in making the music and using technology to create music allows students to be more involved and creative.

There was additional discussion regarding the use of technology funds from the Microsoft settlement.

Ms. Garbowicz presented a revision to the art curriculum at the high school to allow for an easier course flow. All students taking art will be required to take Art Foundations, which is a base class. Students can then take courses specializing in various mediums.

The art department was thanked for creating an advanced placement art course and for figuring out what needs to happen in art.

Ms. Kelli Dercks, High School Art Teacher, said that a studio strand and history strand will be offered. The Visual Arts Classic has been involved for a number of years and these will strengthen each other.

Discussion focused on course requirements, scheduling, and optimizing the educational experience.

Ms. Garbowicz presented information on the adoption of Core 4 Math. She explained that the materials were previously adopted as part of the Core Math advancement. She also presented a revised AP Statistics course.

There was discussion regarding software, course concepts, and Core Math and Traditional Math student achievement comparisons.

Ms. Jorgensen, Chairperson of the Beaver Dam Education Association (BDEA) Negotiations Committee and the Beaver Dam Support Staff Association (BDSSA) Negotiations Committee, reported that there will be a joint meeting to present and discuss costing information.

Panzer moved, Hill seconded, to approve the following resignations/retirements: Karen Biedermann–Science Teacher–High School (Resignation effective 10/6/09) and Barbara Zuehls–Teacher Assistant–Prairie View Elementary School (Retirement effective 11/11/09).

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Hill moved, Tyjeski seconded, to approve the following leave of absence request: Nicholas Vertz–Science Teacher–Middle School (Medical Leave 1/25/10-3/19/10).

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Tyjeski moved, Hill seconded, to approve the following appointments: Mary Brower–3rd Grade Teacher–South Beaver Dam Elementary School (BA, Step 1)(LTE–46 days); Mitchell Bruchman–Science Teacher–High School (BA, Step 1)(LTE–165 days); Ariel Oehmichen–Content Connection–Middle School (BA, Step 1)(LTE–66 days, 50% FTE); Bart Radke–Custodian–South Beaver Dam Elementary School (LTE–40 days); Cathy Toellner–Food Service–Trenton Elementary School; and Deb Fischer–Teacher Assistant–Jefferson Elementary School (LTE-90 days).

The motion was adopted by the following vote: *Ayes* – Jorgensen, Panzer, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, Darst, and Hill. *Nays* - None.

Dr. Childs presented a request for the addition of two special education aides to accommodate the Individual Education Plans (IEP) of two new transfer students.

Jorgensen moved, Hill seconded, to authorize the addition of two special education teacher aide positions to accommodate the needs of new transfer students.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: *Ayes* – Panzer, Spielman, Tyjeksi, Beal-Loeck, Darst, Hill, and Jorgensen. *Nayes* - None.

Dr. Childs recommended adoption of the policy revisions governing the use of district facilities. He explained that the revisions include the addition of a hold harmless form as the board requested.

Hill moved, Darst seconded, to adopt revised Policies-734-Staff Use of School Buildings and Equipment; 734-Exhibit-Fitness Room Waiver/Hold-Harmless Agreement; 735-Equipment Rental; 830-Rule-Guidelines For Buildings and Grounds Use; and 830.1-Athletic Field Use Policy for Outside Groups.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Mr. Andrew Sarnow, Director of Business Services, provided an overview of the 2009-10 budget. He explained that the budget is balanced and the mill rate increased by 5.6%, which is below the average for many districts that have seen double digit increases. The increase in the mill rate is partially due to the expansion of the 4-year old kindergarten program, which is beginning to balance out. He did caution that next years' budget is very uncertain and this year's is good compared to what it could be next year.

The board thanked him for balancing the budget.

Mr. Sarnow clarified that the full levy recommended for referendum approved debt means that the district has the ability to levy the full \$2MM. However, with having a balanced budget this year, he recommends waiting on not levying the full amount to see what happens next year.

Tyjeski moved, Spielman seconded, to adopt a Fiscal Year 2010 budget reflecting \$47,277,049 in revenues and \$47,276,994 in expenditures, resulting in a levy of \$8.88720 per \$1,000 of equalized value.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: *Ayes* – Tyjeksi, Beal-Loeck, Darst, Hill, Jorgensen, Panzer, and Spielman. *Nayes* - None.

Jorgensen moved, Panzer seconded, to approve the payment of financial claims (Voucher #9, #10, #11, #12, and #13, Net Payroll, Payroll Related Voucher, Payroll Taxes, Retirement-Admin. Contribution, WEA Trust Advantage, WI Retirement System, Insurance, Manual Check, Credit Card, and Fall Coaches-Net Payroll for a total of \$4,529,232.51 (A listing of these vouchers can be found in the Accounts Payable Check Register.)

The motion was adopted by the following vote: *Ayes* – Beal-Loeck, Darst, Hill, Jorgensen Panzer, Spielman, and Tyjeksi. *Nayes* - None.

Spielman moved, Jorgensen seconded, to move into closed session following the regular meeting in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to discuss the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. The meeting will reconvene into open session for the possible transaction of business and adjournment.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: *Ayes* – Darst, Hill, Jorgensen, Panzer, Spielman, Tyjeski, and Beal-Loeck,. *Nayes* - None.

During the closed session, updates were provided regarding contract negotiations with the BDEA and BDSSA, and discussion was held regarding exempt staff compensation and the board self-evaluation. No action was taken during closed session.

Spielman moved, Hill seconded, to reconvene into open session.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Tyjeski moved, Panzer seconded, to approve the salary increases for exempt staff as recommended by the superintendent.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: *Ayes* – Darst, Hill, Panzer, Spielman, Tyjeski, and Beal-Loeck. *Nayes* - Jorgensen.

Tyjeski moved, Darst seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

/s/
Beverly Beal-Loeck, President

/s/
Joanne Tyjeski, Clerk