

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

November 16, 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, Nate Dassler, Dan Feuling, Jean Hill, Marge Jorgensen, Lisa Panzer, Gary Spielman, and Joanne Tyjeski. Board members absent were Kim Darst. Nate Dassler left at 9:53 p.m.

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

Jorgensen moved, Hill seconded, to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting on October 26, 2009 and special meeting on November 2, 2009 as presented.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Beal-Loeck welcomed visitors.

Mary Vogel-Rauscher requested to speak during the Public Comment session.

Ms. Beal-Loeck read the guidelines for public comment.

Ms. Vogel-Rauscher spoke about parent communication, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and a disconnect with student portfolios at the High School. She said that High School Principal Don Patnode and all of the High School Administration have been very helpful in addressing her concerns. She shared that there are a number of parents who want to be involved with the High School and she has talked with administration about it.

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.

Ms. Jorgensen requested to table Item 9.2 – Board Discussion since Ms. Darst is absent and not available for the discussion she helped to bring forward.

Jorgensen moved, Hill seconded, to amend the agenda to table Items 9.2, a and b, until the December regular board business meeting on December 21st.

There was discussion regarding keeping the items on the agenda and continuing the district's business. These items are not decision items and will require additional future discussion.

The motion was not adopted by majority vote.

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

The motion was adopted by majority vote.

Dr. Don Childs, Superintendent, explained that the delivery box truck needs to be replaced. He presented a recommendation to purchase a 2010 diesel truck from Beaver Dam Ford in the amount of \$34,805.

Mr. Andrew Sarnow, Director of Business Services, explained the reasoning for recommending a diesel vehicle. He shared depreciation information and the need to create a vehicle replacement cycle.

Discussion focused on vehicle use, repurposing of the old vehicle, buying new instead of used, funding, and other vehicle needs.

Tyejeski moved, Hill seconded, to approve the purchase of a 2010 Ford E350 diesel truck from Beaver Dam Ford at a cost not to exceed \$34,805.

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

Ms. Jorgensen expressed concern over the use of Facebook on school property, with school computers, during school time and the liability exposure to the district. Eliminating access to Facebook would eliminate the issue of cyber-bullying. There are other ways for teachers to communicate with students.

There was discussion regarding other access to social networking sites, teaching students responsible use, monitoring challenges, appropriate use of school time, and policies and handbooks communication.

Dr. Childs explained that board policy addresses acceptable use and that the broad nature of the policy is adequate. Handbooks address the specifics and are updated every year. Acceptable use and the consequences for misuse are detailed in handbooks, which require parents and students to sign off. The district is required to promote anti-cyber-bullying and the DPI requires students to know acceptable use of social networking sites to eliminate cyber-bullying. Students need to be taught appropriate use and how to protect themselves. Some older adults use Facebook inappropriately, which can impede their ability to become employed, since many employers utilize Facebook.

Additional discussion focused on educating parents, being a resource to parents, after school hours availability, activities to promote anti-cyber-bullying, general internet use in communication, monitoring and notification of inappropriate use, use of other technology, maximizing available instructional time, and site blocking.

The conversation moved to the topic of Instructional Time and Student Awards. This issue was brought forward in response to the use of non-educational commercial videos in class.

Dr. Childs explained that it is not condoned and use of videos is part of the evaluation process. When entertainment is replacing instructional time, it is then a personnel issue that is dealt with.

There was discussion regarding approval of reward days, the procedure for notifying the building principal, policy requirements for video and material use, handbook updates, and policy purpose.

Dr. Childs said that a draft of handbook language updates will be presented at the December regular board meeting.

Dr. Childs requested approval of the curriculum monitoring and revisions along with the instructional materials.

Hill moved, Panzer seconded, to approve the revisions and new courses in art, science, math, music and consumer education and authorize the purchase of the respective instructional materials.

The board was pleased that the music department is moving forward with technology, the Alternative School's creation of a garden, the science department creating a biology course, and the agriculture department working together for the best creation and usage of a prairie. The art department did a great job with recommendations to meet the new needs of students.

Dr. Childs explained that one critically important piece to Understanding by Design and Response to Intervention is to make connections across curriculum and its hope to provide integration across content areas to transfer knowledge. It's a great direction for the district to move.

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

Dr. Childs requested approval of the Ends Monitoring Report: Academic Achievement and Citizenship & Life Skills. He welcomed discussion.

Mr. John Casper, Middle School Associate Principal, addressed questions regarding the gender-based classrooms. He shared that there isn't much available data yet, but early indications are exciting and support the research. There have been very few behavior incidents, which have been down school-wide, but especially in those particular classrooms.

Appreciation was expressed for the High School department breakouts. It provided a clear picture of academic, life skills, and citizenship. It was also noticeable that there is additional sharing of information between the elementary schools.

Ms. Deb Parman, Director of Pupil Services, addressed concerns with the achievement gap of students with disabilities, the goals to address it, and testing students in that population. She explained that there are two standardized tests, the WKCE (Wisconsin Knowledge Concepts Exam) and WAA (Wisconsin Alternate Assessment). Only 1-2% of students with disabilities are allowed to take the WAA. State law requires testing of all students with disabilities and 100% of the students are tested. The majority of special education students take the WKCE. The most high needs students are expected to take a paper pencil test and she explained the various ways this is accomplished. The State provides a list of accommodations. Students are measured across grade bands established by WAA testing.

Dr. Childs added that non-native English speaking students are allowed an adaptation of the test.

There was additional discussion regarding Trenton Elementary School's store in relation to school goals, the rationale for Lincoln Elementary School's goal concerning extra-curricular activity participation, use of restorative justice, and student leadership initiatives at Lincoln.

The board thanked the schools for their goals to reach 100% and said that all goals should be 100%.

Dassler moved, Jorgensen seconded, to approve the Fall Ends Monitoring Report and accept it as in compliance with respect to progress toward achieving the ends policies.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Beal-Loeck provided information for the Spring School Board Election. The deadline to file non-candidacy papers is December 25, 2009 and the deadline to file candidacy papers and a campaign registration statement is January 5, 2010. The Spring Primary will be held on February 16, 2010, if necessary, and the Spring Election will be held on April 6, 2010. School board incumbents are Bev Beal-Loeck, Nate Dassler, and Jean Hill.

Ms. Jorgensen, Chairperson of the Beaver Dam Education Association (BDEA) Negotiations Committee reported there was a general meeting with the BDEA and BDSSA to discuss costing and they are working on moving forward.

There were no resignations or retirements.

There were no leave of absence requests.

It was asked if all positions are budgeted.

Mr. Steve Vessey, Director of Human Resources, explained that the grant coordinator position is funded through the Safe Schools/Healthy Student grant, the teaching assistant positions were approved last month, and the support staff positions are one year positions.

Dassler moved, Tyjeski seconded, to approve the following appointments: Bob McDonald–English Teacher-High School (LTE–46 days); Sam Drews–Special Education Teacher Assistant–Prairie View Elementary School (LTE–135 days); Camille Pearson–Career Center Tutor–High School; Mark Leiser–Instrumental Music–Middle School (LTE–126 days); Katina Theodozio–Teacher Assistant-Special Education–Alternative School (LTE–130 days); Janice Uhrich–Teacher Assistant-Special Education–Lincoln Elementary School (LTE–130 days); Lori Uttech-Grant Coordinator-District; and Holly Kulka-Teacher Assistant-Special Education-Prairie View Elementary School.

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

Dr. Childs reported that the policies governing gifted and talented students, services and programs have been revised to reflect the latest in law and best practices. The following policies were presented for first reading: Policy 342.3-Rule – Gifted and Talented Guidelines; Policy 342.4 – Acceleration; Policy 421-Rule – Procedures for Early Admission to Kindergarten or First

Grade; Policy 531.13 – Gifted and Talented Coordinator (K-12); and Policy 531.14 – Gifted and Talented Intervention Specialist (K-12) (Job Description).

Ms. Sharon Bliefert, Gifted and Talented Education Coordinator, addressed questions regarding the gifted and talented program. She explained the revisions align with what’s being done with all students and Response to Intervention. The program will work with teachers and not specific students and the Intervention Specialist will work with teachers and within the classrooms, between levels, and in different subject areas. The Coordinator will oversee the budget and the resource teacher and will work closely with the Director of Teaching and Learning and Director of Pupil Services.

Ms. Bliefert was commended for the fact that gifted and talented students now receive the same interventions as students with special needs.

Dassler moved, Hill seconded, to approve the payment of financial claims (Voucher #14, #15, and #16, Net Payroll, Payroll Related Voucher, Payroll Taxes, WEA Trust Advantage, Insurance, and Credit Card for a total of \$1,919,153.43 (A listing of these vouchers can be found in the Accounts Payable Check Register.)

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

During the closed session, updates were provided regarding contract negotiations with the BDEA and BDSSA, personnel items and a board self-evaluation was discussed. No action was taken during closed session.

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

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Jorgensen moved, Spielman seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 10:13 p.m.

/s/
Beverly Beal-Loeck, President

/s/
Joanne Tyjeski, Clerk