

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

August 20, 2012

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, Marge Jorgensen. Board members present: Bev Beal-Loeck, Marge Jorgensen, John Kraus, Jr., Laura Lerwick, Lisa Panzer, Chad Prieve, Gary Spielman, and Joanne Tyjeski. Board members absent: Jim Jansen.

Ms. Jorgensen led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kraus moved, Beal-Loeck seconded, to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on July 16, 2012, and special meeting on August 6, 2012, as presented.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Jorgensen welcomed visitors.

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

There were no announcements.

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

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Mr. Bob Avery, Director of Business Services, briefly explained the refinancing of the \$6M in general bonds and the \$2.1M in taxable bonds.

Mr. Michel Clark, Director with R.W. Baird, provided an overview if the bond sale bids. He shared the interest rates and cost savings.

Tyjeski moved, Spielman seconded, to adopt a resolution awarding the sale of \$6,000,000 general obligation refunding bonds.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Ayes – Jorgensen, Kraus, Lerwick, Panzer, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, and Beal-Loeck. No-None.

Tyjeski moved, Beal-Loeck seconded, to adopt a resolution awarding the sale of \$2,110,000 taxable general obligation refunding bonds as presented.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Ayes – Kraus, Lerwick, Panzer, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, and Jorgensen. No-None.

Mr. Rich Zeman, High School Orchestra Teacher, presented a request for the Orchestra students to travel to Memphis, TN, and New Orleans, LA, from March 24-30, 2013.

There was discussion regarding performances and fundraising.

Panzer moved, Kraus seconded, to approve the High School Orchestra Spring Break trip to Memphis and New Orleans as presented with the understanding no expense will be incurred by the district.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Mr. Vessey provided an update on the Generating a Greener Future project. The group is getting close to their fundraising goal and is still working with contractors and subcontractors.

Ms. Sandra Garbowicz, Director of Teacher and Learning, presented a request for adoption of the K-12 English/Language Arts Common Core Standards. The adoption is required by the State as a result of the Wisconsin Waiver.

Panzer moved, Kraus seconded, to adopt the K-12 English/Language Arts Common Core Standards as presented.

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Ayes – Lerwick, Panzer, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, Jorgensen, and Kraus. No-None.

Mr. Vessey provided a technology update. Staff will be receiving laptops and training on proper use. The wireless project has been completed for all locations throughout the district. There are different levels of security for the public, students and staff.

There was discussion regarding virus scans, downloading apps, web-based programs, laptop security and tracking, and laptop leasing.

Mr. Vessey shared that all students now have an email account that will be monitored. The elementary student accounts will not be activated. The building level support has been expanded to use technology knowledgeable staff in the buildings to resolve basic issues.

Mr. Vessey provided an update on the food service program transition to Taher Food Service Management. They have conducted staff inservices and training and will be attending school registrations and open houses.

Ms. Sharon Bliefernicht, Director of Human Resources, provided an update on the staffing process. She said there are 22 new staff and a total of 42 staff in different positions.

Mr. Vessey shared comments about his individual meetings with the new staff members. Many commented that this was the most welcoming district they had been in.

Mr. Vessey recognized Ms. Bliefernicht for the amount of staff that she has hired over the past 2 years. He thanked her for her hard work.

Ms. Bliefernicht recognized all the administrators and teaching staff who participated in all the interviews, Ms. Garbowicz for setting up the mentor buddies, Ms. Steinbacher for the administrative work, and staff for welcoming the new staff. She told new staff the board is committed to students and student learning.

Ms. Jorgensen thanked Mr. Vessey for taking the time to meet with the new teachers and said it is important.

Mr. Vessey shared the design for the six-room addition to Prairie View Elementary School, along with parking/traffic flow changes. Additions will go on to the north facing pods, which is the most efficient, cost effective location. All three soccer fields will be maintained.

There was discussion regarding gate locations and monitoring, bus drop off, parking, and student pick up.

Mr. Paul Buchholz, Coordinator of Buildings and Grounds, shared a project timeline. The requests for proposal responses were reviewed with Plukett and Raysich.

Mr. Vessey announced that the contract was awarded to Kunkel Engineering in Beaver Dam. The bid was competitive and the district prefers to do business locally whenever possible.

Mr. Buchholz said they met all the criteria. The request for proposals for construction firms are due on August 31. The intent is to award the contract in September, have bids due by late October, and begin construction in November.

Mr. Vessey recognized Mr. Buchholz for his hard work at the Middle School this summer in addition to managing this project. It's a huge benefit to have him with his knowledge and expertise in the district. He thanked him for all his work.

Mr. Vessey explained that the Wisconsin Waiver will be a monthly agenda item to provide an understanding of the impact of the change. The DPI has good resources and materials that explain the changes and the district will be using some of the structure. Some of this information will be available on the district website. A letter and information explaining the School Report Card will be sent to parents.

There were questions regarding state testing.

Mr. Vessey explained that the Smarter Balanced Assessment will provide timely results. The district will pilot it in the 2013-14 school year. He shared a timeline for the waiver. The letter to the parents is general and the explanation will be more in depth.

Ms. Jorgensen explained that the new board policy developed by Neola stated the board had to have a budget hearing prior to September 1st. A different timeline will be followed this year and the policy will be changed to accurately reflect the timeline.

Mr. Avery explained the budget hearing requirements and timelines per State statute.

Mr. Vessey recommended the board endorse a preliminary budget at the September 17 regular monthly board meeting and direct administration to publish the budget 15 days prior to the annual budget hearing on October 8. The official budget, tax levy, and mill rate will be presented for adoption at the October 22 regular monthly board meeting.

Mr. Vessey recognized the Middle School Trap Shooting team for making it to the National tournament. He recognized the custodial staff for working tirelessly to get the buildings ready for staff and students. He also recognized Martha Hyke, Washington Elementary School Principal, for her appointment to the PAVE Board of Directors.

Ms. Beal-Loeck recognized all students involved in the many projects at the county fair and congratulated those who received ribbons and those who didn't, but made the effort.

Ms. Beal-Loeck, Chair of the Accountability Committee, shared that the entire board met with building principals to discuss the end of the year student achievement goals report. The report showed that teachers and administrators are using data and gains are being made, even though there are gaps to cover. Interventions are being used and are being changed to fit student needs. Overall progress is being made on the dashboard goals and student achievement.

Board members said they like the discussion format with the principals as it allows for more interaction and better dialogue.

Panzer moved, Beal-Loeck seconded, to approve the following resignations: Glenys Kraft–Family Consumer Education Teacher–Middle School (Resignation effective 7/24/12); Amanda Polka–Alternative Education Teacher–Don Smith Learning Academy (Resignation effective 7/27/12); Chana Steffes–Social Studies Teacher–High School (Resignation effective 8/28/12); and Cheryl Schmitt–Food Service Worker–High School (Resignation effective 8/15/12).

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Tyjeski moved, Panzer seconded, to approve the following leave of absence requests: Carri Homan-Douma–Special Education Teacher – Middle School (Medical Leave 8/29/12-10/15/12) and Nicole Gruenewald–3rd Grade Teacher–South Beaver Dam Elementary School (Medical Leave 9/4/12-11/20/12).

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Beal-Loeck moved, Kraus seconded, to approve the following appointments: Robyn Ehrke–5th Grade Teacher–Jefferson Elementary School (LTE-189 days); Cindy Holzman-Special Education Teacher–Middle School (LTE-34 days); Brett Helmer–Middle School Alternative Education Teacher–DSL (LTE-194 days); Kathleen Whittington–High School Alternative Education Teacher–DSL (LTE-194 days); Sam Thorton–3rd Grade Teacher–South Beaver Dam Elementary School (LTE-60 days); and Tina Pasciak–Family and Consumer Education Teacher–Middle School (LTE-189 days).

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Ayes – Panzer, Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, Jorgensen, Kraus, and Lerwick. No-None.

Mr. Vessey presented the Lunch Balance Policy for first reading. The district currently has a negative \$57,000 in lunch account balances and doesn't have a policy. The policy proposes that elementary and middle school students will not be served a meal when the account is -\$30 and high school students will not be served when their account is \$0.

There was discussion regarding account monitoring, using cash in the lunch line, balance notification, and staff training. The policy will be revised to notify families when their account balance is \$20 and students will not be served a meal when the balance is -\$20.

Panzer moved, Beal-Loeck seconded, to approve the payment of financial claims (Voucher #58, #59, #60, #61, and #62) for 4K Check Run, Net Payroll, Payroll Related Voucher, Payroll Taxes, WI Retirement, District Insurance, and Trust Advantage for a total of \$3,427,727.11 (A listing of these vouchers can be found in the Accounts Payable Check Register.)

The motion was adopted by the following vote: Ayes – Prieve, Spielman, Tyjeski, Beal-Loeck, Jorgensen, Kraus, Lerwick, and Panzer. No-None.

Panzer moved, Tyjeski seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

/s/

Marge Jorgensen, President

/s/

Bev Beal-Loeck, Clerk