

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

June 16, 2008

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, Kathie Berkvam, Kim Darst, Nate Dassler, Jean Hill, Marge Jorgensen, Mark Kirst, and Lisa Panzer. Absent – Joanne Tyjeski.

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

Jorgensen moved, Hill seconded, to adopt the minutes of the regular meeting on May 19, 2008, and the special meetings on May 28 and June 2, 2008 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.

Kirst, 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 a grievance and 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 to for the possible transaction of business and adjournment.

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

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Dr. Don Childs, District Superintendent, requested approval for students participating in the German-American Partnership Program (GAPP) to take the biennial trip to Germany from August 4-24, 2008 to visit the district's partner school.

An explanation was requested as to how the supervision issue that occurred during the previous trip will be addressed.

Dr. Childs said that Ms. Debra Lins, High School Associate Principal, will be one of the chaperones.

Jorgensen moved, Kirst seconded to approve the August 4–24, 2008 trip abroad to Germany by students participating in the German-American Partnership Program, contingent upon proper parental approvals and chaperoning arrangements. It is understood that the Beaver Dam Unified School District will incur no costs and will assume no liability for funds lost in connection with this planned event for any reason.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Beal-Loeck requested the students provide the board with a presentation on the trip when they return.

Ms. Meg Foerster, Partners Are Learning (PALs) Coordinator, presented a report on the 2007-08 volunteer program. A total of 139 students received PALs services.

Dr. Childs requested approval of a modified half-day freshman orientation program.

Discussion focused on program evaluation and survey data, required hours of instruction, parent advisory meetings, student organization involvement, and the benefits of providing a program.

Kirst moved, Darst seconded, to approve a half-day inservice for freshmen with a half-day class schedule for upper classmen on the first day of the 2008-09 school year.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Dr. Childs, requested approval of the Middle School Cross-Country Team on a 2-year trial basis.

Darst moved, Dassler seconded, to approve the Middle School Cross-Country Team on a 2-year trial basis, at a cost not to exceed \$900 in the first year.

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

Dr. Childs recommended approval of a one year contract with Veolia for refuse removal and recycling for the 2008-2009 fiscal year not to exceed \$21,658.

Panzer moved, Hill seconded, to approve a one-year contract with Veolia for refuse removal and recycling for the 2008-09 fiscal year in an amount not to exceed \$21,658.

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

Dr. Childs presented a request to purchase EDUSS learning software to assist students who are deficient in certain areas. It provides an efficient tool to meet Response to Intervention (RTI) requirements, specifically in the area of mathematics. It also includes the areas of reading, language arts, and foreign language. It was piloted this past school year at South Beaver Dam Elementary School. Savings will be recouped by acquiring it as a district rather than at each school.

It was asked if the board had previously seen this information.

Dr. Childs explained that this was not previously brought to the board since each school was going to independently acquire it, which would not have met the dollar requirement for board action. By acquiring it as a district, there is a cost savings. It now requires board action since it is being presented as one item that exceeds the board's \$10,000 requirement.

There was discussion regarding where it aligns in instruction, who will use it, how it will be incorporated into the classroom, if the district provides similar programs, and curriculum focus.

The comment was made that this expenditure is \$38,000 and it is the first time the board is seeing the information. It was asked if there would be a problem acquiring it in July.

Dr. Childs said it is not a problem.

Additional discussion focused on 3-tier intervention implementations, availability of research-based interventions, additional on-line learning, when will students take it, and if this is the best way to help young students.

The comment was made that this program may have great potential, but it is a \$38,000 expenditure that was just first presented. More information along with a report from South Beaver Dam Elementary School was requested.

It was asked if there is a time pressure with grant dollars.

Dr. Childs said there is some pressure, but more information will be presented at the June 30th board meeting.

Mr. Andrew Sarnow, Director of Business Services, presented the 2007-08 amended budget for approval.

It was asked what is included in the district services equipment account.

Mr. Sarnow explained that the Jefferson Elementary School boiler project, technology, and other activities from last summer, along with the summer work for this year. It is mostly related to operation of facilities.

Mr. Sarnow also presented the 2008-09 preliminary budget for approval. He explained that the 2008-09 budget is a planning document and very preliminary.

Discussion focused on the cost difference between health insurance plans, property tax calculation, High School co-curriculars, High School and Middle School activities, High School equipment, interest income, and district services salaries and benefits.

A timeline of the preliminary budget approval was requested.

Mr. Sarnow explained that updates will be provided each month. By August, the hiring variable should be gone and final approval will be requested in October.

There was further discussion on fund balance and Fund 73.

Mr. Sarnow shared that the board can provide direction on how they would like the budget to proceed and to tell him what he should focus on. The budget is a planning tool. There are many items to be negotiated and several large steps to the budget.

Kirst moved, Dassler seconded, to approve the 2007-08 budget amendment and the 2008-09 preliminary budget.

It was asked what the estimated mill rate will be.

Mr. Sarnow said he shared it with the board two months ago and that it may have decreased slightly. He will provide the board with the projected mill rate.

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

Dr. Childs presented a request for the board to authorize a committee comprised of staff, parents, community representatives, board members, and administrators to review and make recommendations in regard to the district's student governance policies and practices K-12 in compliance with Wisconsin statutes. The target date for the board to take action on recommendations is March 2009.

It was asked where the Middle School issues will be addressed.

Dr. Childs explained that there will be Middle School representation on the committee and those issues can be brought forward.

It was commented that would take a whole year and that they should be addressed sooner.

Dr. Childs said there have been meetings with staff and a Middle School committee will be meeting over the summer to develop solutions for next year. The results of their work will be presented to the board. The assumption is the staff committee will make recommendations for next year and the student governance committee could take it to the next level.

A request was made for the Middle School committee to report on their proposals.

Dr. Childs said that they could have an idea by the August board meeting.

Hill moved, Dassler seconded, to direct the superintendent to establish a committee as required by Wisconsin statute to review district policies and procedures on student attendance, tardiness and discipline. The committee is to be comprised of staff from all levels, parents from all levels, community members, board members and administrators. It is to complete its work in time to make any recommended changes effective with the start of the 2009-10 school year.

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Jorgensen, Chairperson of the Beaver Dam Education Association (BDEA) Negotiations Committee, stated there is nothing to report.

Ms. Berkvam, Chairperson of the Beaver Dam Support Staff Association (BDSSA) Negotiations Committee, stated there is nothing to report.

Mr. Dassler, Administrative Compensation Committee member, stated there is nothing to report.

Kirst moved, Dassler seconded, to approve the following resignations: Stacy Pluck–Spanish Teacher–High School (resignation effective end of the 2007-08 school year); Marina Acosta-ELL Tutor–High School (resignation effective end of the 2007-08 school year); Lisa Taylor–Library Media Aide–High School (resignation effective end of the 2007-08 school year); and Sue Neuberger–Special Education Teacher Assistant–Middle School (resignation effective end of the 2007-08 school year).

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Jorgensen moved, Dassler seconded, to approve the following leave of absence: Pete Woreck – Social Studies Teacher – High School (Military Leave of Absence 7/6/08 – 1/24/10)

The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Kirst moved, Hill seconded, to approve the following appointments: Brianna Bedessem–Art–High School (BA, Step 2); Bethany Nill–Kindergarten Teacher–Wilson Elementary School (BA, Step 2); Kati Heiman–Grade 1 Teacher–Washington Elementary School (BA, Step 2); Robert Van Kuenel III–English Teacher–High School (BA, Step 3); Lisa Imming–2nd Grade/Kindergarten Teacher–Prairie View Elementary School (BA, Step 1); Jon Rickert–Math Teacher–High School (BA, Step 4); Nicole Scharfenberg–School Nurse–Elementary Schools (BA, Step 11) (50% FTE); Kyle Lickel–English Teacher–High School (BA, Step 1) (LTE–189 days); Rob Nill–Middle School Teacher–Charter School (BA, Step 1); Amy Maier–Early Childhood–EEN Teacher–Prairie View Elementary School (BA, Step 1); Heidi Mehan–5th Grade Teacher–Washington Elementary School (BA, Step 1); and Megan Bieri–Elementary EEN–Prairie View Elementary School (BA, Step 1).

It was asked if these were all replacements and if some of the limited-term employees have now been offered full-time positions.

Mr. Steve Vessey, Director of Human Resources, explained that the positions are based on the staffing plan approved in April and that some of these are LTEs now being offered full-time positions.

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

Copies of the following new and revised board policies were presented for first reading: Policy 187–Proposal and Action Requirement; Policy 208–Communication and Counsel to the Board; Policy 211–Global; Policy 212–Unity of Control; Policy 213–Accountability of the Superintendent; Policy 214–Delegation to the Superintendent; Policy 215–Monitoring Superintendent Performance; Policy 233.9–Four-Year Old Kindergarten Program Coordinator (Job Description); and Policy 233.10–Coordinator of Guidance and Counseling (Job Description).

It was asked if the Communication and Counsel to the Board Executive Limitation policy would replace the proposed Policy 187–Proposal and Action Requirement or go with it.

Dr. Childs said it would be instead of it.

Discussion focused on the purpose of first readings of policies, the Four-Year Old Kindergarten Program Coordinator job description, and the development of policy rules.

Kirst moved, Darst seconded, to approve the 2008-2009 Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) dues in the amount of \$6,892.

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

Hill moved, Dassler seconded, to approve the 2008-2009 National School Boards Association (NSBA) dues in the amount of \$4,000.

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

Darst moved, Kirst seconded, to approve the contract with CESA 6 for 2008-2009 in the amount of \$40,438.90.

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

Dr. Childs explained that approval for the food service contract will be deferred until the July regular board meeting.

Kirst moved, Hill seconded, to approve the proposed compensation for exempt staff for 2008-09, reflecting a package increase of 4.35%.

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

Dr. Childs presented a draft of a partial board agenda calendar to provide an idea of the look of a calendar.

Jorgensen moved, Kirst seconded, to approve the payment of financial claims (Voucher #34, #35, #36, and #37 Net Payroll, Coaches Payroll Net, Payroll Related Voucher, Payroll Taxes, Insurance, Credit Card, WEA Advantage, Manual-WI Ret, WI Retirement System, and WI Retirement System (Admin) for a total of \$2,919,943.92 (A listing of these vouchers can be found in the Accounts Payable Check Register.)

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

Kirst moved, Jorgensen seconded, to move into closed session.

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

During the closed session, discussion was held regarding personnel issues and a grievance. No action was taken during closed session.

