

Plainview Public Schools Board of Education Meeting

Monday, February 14, 2011

The monthly meeting of the Board of Education of District 5 of Plainview, NE, was called to order at 12:31 p.m. in the high school long distance learning room by Alden Zuhlke, president. Roll call was answered by Zuhlke, Jeremy Hampton, Krista Hanks, John Anderson and Marilyn Elwood. Vicki Peterson was absent and excused. Also present were Superintendent Richard Alt, Secondary Principal Randall Klooz, Elementary Principal/Activities Director Randy Kort and recording secretary, Imogene Wacker. Ronita Jacobsen signed the visitor roster. Chairman Zuhlke indicated that the rules for open meetings were posted on the wall.

CONSENT ITEMS

Consent items included the minutes of the January 10, 2010 regular meeting, the financial reports, the February claims and approval of the amended agenda.

The financial report (with last month's figures in parentheses) showed a balance of \$497,329.08 (260,017.43) in the General Fund. CDs total \$1,000,000.00 (1,000,000.00), Special Building Fund \$77,782.29 (71,931.86), Petty Cash \$2,501.45 (1,781.16), Activity Account \$75,765.60 (78,379.87), Lunch Account \$22,237.13 (17,150.70), Employee Benefit Fund \$9,030.08 (52,749.74), Depreciation Fund \$470,327.99 (470,028.59), Payroll Account \$1,046.90 (1,040.57), Custodial/Section 125 Account \$16,218.14 (14,944.03). Total assets were \$2,070,056.73, compared to \$1,865,147.79 a month ago and \$1,981,520.26 a year ago.

January receipts totaled \$626,210.72. That compares to \$100,805.51 in December. Disbursements totaled \$388,899.07, including \$102,876.16 for claims and \$286,022.91 for payroll. Building Fund receipts totaled \$5,850.43. There were no Building Fund expenditures.

Claims to the General Fund totaled \$102,181.93. There were no claims to the Building Fund. Hampton moved, Hanks seconded, to approve the consent items. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Peterson absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

BULLYING POLICY

Leigh Alexander had requested time on the agenda to discuss with the board the district's bullying policy, but had called earlier in the day to say she would not be able to attend the meeting.

COMPUTER LEASE/COMPUTER PURCHASE

Information on leasing/purchasing computers was discussed. Several board members commented that they felt the process of ordering new equipment was going slower than they had hoped and felt that necessary replacement staff computers should have been ordered by this time. The administration had looked at leasing computers for one year and found that both Dell and Apple were not willing to lease for that short a time period and felt they needed to come back to the board with some options. The administration had three options available and recommended the third option of purchasing Apple computers for several reasons: 1) Immediate needs would be addressed. 2) The needs in both the elementary and secondary schools would be addressed. 3) Considering warranties, this would be the most economical option. 4) In-service training could be done through a single platform. 5) This option would provide the best scenario for transitioning to a 1:1 computer initiative in the future, and 6) The third option best aligns student learning with the school improvement plan.

Anderson moved, Hampton seconded to approve the third option, purchasing new Apple laptop computers for all teachers, as well as two new mobile computer carts, one for the elementary and one for the secondary, at a total cost of \$115,695. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Peterson absent. Motion carried.

FCSTN/FCCLA LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP REPORT

Carissa Pollock and Kelsey Cattell, along with FCCLA sponsor Ronita Jacobsen, were present to report on the FCTSN/FCCLA Legislative Workshop they had attended in Lincoln. The students also distributed handouts on Career and Technical Education Month – February 2011.

2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Superintendent Alt presented a copy of an initial draft of the 2011-2012 school calendar. Approval of the calendar will be placed on the March agenda for final approval. The calendar is similar to the 2010-2011 calendar but has three staff in-service days before school begins in August.

Principal Klooz also reported the addition of a school day for seniors at the end of the current school year, due to the number of snow days already missed.

RECOGNITION OF PPEA AS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGENT

Prior to the start of salary/benefit negotiations, it is a formality to recognize the Plainview Professional Education Association (PPEA) as the collective bargaining agent for the certified staff members. Elwood moved, Anderson seconded, to recognize the Plainview Professional Education Association (PPEA) as the official bargaining agent for the teachers. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Peterson absent. Motion carried.

RESIGNATION AND EARLY RETIREMENT

Spanish teacher Claudia Schultze had submitted her resignation, effective at the end of the current school year. She had also submitted a request for early retirement incentive pay, which according to the negotiated agreement, will result in a payment of \$7,000 per year for five years. Anderson moved, Hanks seconded, to accept Claudia Schultze's resignation, with regrets, and approve her application for early retirement incentive pay. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Peterson absent. Motion carried. The open position is already being advertised.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS MEMBERSHIP

Nebraska Association of School Board's dues for the coming year will be \$3,110 if paid by April 1. Hanks moved, Elwood seconded, to approve renewing Plainview Public School's membership in the Nebraska Association of School Boards. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Peterson absent. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION ON LEGISLATIVE CHANGE IN COURT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The Nebraska Legislature is considering changes in the control the Court of Industrial Relations (CIR) has over public schools salaries and negotiations. The CIR's ability to hand down rulings that do not consider a district's "ability to pay" is becoming an ever increasing concern. The Nebraska Association of School Boards and the Nebraska Council of School Administrators are encouraging boards to pass a prepared resolution to support a legislative change to help minimize, reduce or eliminate the influence of the CIR on the collective bargaining process of school employees. Anderson moved, Hampton seconded, to approve the resolution on the Court of Industrial Relations. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Peterson absent. Motion carried.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Elementary Principal/AD Kort reported on activities in the coming month and testing in the elementary school scheduled for the coming months. He reported that the wrestling team had won the district meet with eight wrestlers qualifying for the state meet, Corby Forbes, Evan Aschoff, Austin Pittet, Tony Steinkraus, Teran Boyer, Tyler Steinkraus, Jacob Zern and Kayne Daudt. Head coach Dean Boyer was also named District Coach of the Year. February 28 will be the first day of spring sports. He also reported hearing from a neighboring school on the

possibility of combining cross country programs in the fall. Board members were in agreement to continue discussions.

Secondary Principal Klooz reported that Stephanie Westerhaus had qualified for Class C All-State Concert Band and Jazz Band and had chosen to participate in Jazz Band. Mark Keck was also chosen to participate in Concert Band.

He also reported that DJ Hart, Brent Demerath, Marie Demerath, Trent Christiansen, Emily Gubbels, Nicole Sorensen, Rachel Sorensen and Mark Keck all qualified for state in FFA proficiency applications.

The team of Cody Mosel, Michael Moeller, and Cody Elwood, with Caleb Nuehring, Sam Meuret, Mark Keck, Morgan Hall and Mitch Klooz as alternates, defeated West Holt and Logan View in KTCH Radio competition before losing to Norfolk Catholic in the round of eight.

Principal Klooz told of the new School Improvement button on the school website telling about the NCA school visitation. He commended Ronita Jacobsen and Jennifer Hodson for their work on school improvement. He spoke of the testing schedule and told of ongoing staff data training to use the data received from testing.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Zuhlke congratulated board member Hampton on his recent award from the Northeast Nebraska Child Advocacy Center. He also spoke on his attendance at the recent Legislative Relations session in Lincoln.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Alt reported requests from Plainview's Q125 committee to use school facilities for activities during the June 2011 celebration. He reported on his attendance at the NASB Labor Relations Conference in Kearney and told of several upcoming NASB board member events.

A part has been ordered for the lunchroom icemaker. The company that installed the high school security cameras will be presenting a bid for additional cameras, cameras in the elementary building and swipe cards for exterior doors. A date will be set for the postponed board dinner. A board retreat will be planned for the summer months. He also reported on several legislative bills.

CLOSED SESSION FOR TEACHER NEGOTIATIONS

Anderson moved, Elwood seconded, to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing teacher negotiations. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Peterson absent. Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 2:22 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 2:42 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Board members were given the opportunity to tour the elementary and secondary facilities following adjournment.

I, the undersigned, the duly appointed recording secretary of the Board of Education of District 5, Plainview, NE, hereby certify that the attached and foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of District 5 of Plainview, NE, held in open session on the 14th day of February 2011, which meeting was preceded by public notice published in the Plainview News.

Imogene Wacker, Recording Secretary