

**Plainview Public Schools Board of Education Meeting
Monday, October 12, 2009**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Education of District 5 of Plainview, NE, was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the high school media center by Alden Zuhlke, president. Roll call was answered by Zuhlke, John Anderson, Dan Stelling and Krista Hanks. Kent Friedrich and Jeremy Hampton were absent and excused. Also present were Superintendent Richard Alt, Principals Randy Kort and Randall Klooz, and recording secretary, Imogene Wacker. Those who had signed the visitor roster were Duane Dean, Cory Friedrich, Dorothy Holmes, Lori Porter, Elaine Hampton, Jessica Horstmann and Anne Weber. Zuhlke indicated that the rules for open meetings were posted at the back of the room.

CONSENT ITEMS

Consent items included the minutes of the September 14, 2009 regular meeting and the September 14, 2009 budget hearing and tax request hearing, the financial reports, the October claims and approval of the agenda.

The financial report (with last month's figures in parentheses) showed a balance of \$878,648.95 (217,533.75) in the General Fund. CDs total \$1,000,000.00 (1,000,000.00), Special Building Fund \$94,375.85 (45,071.39), Petty Cash \$694.49 (2,187.84), Activity Account \$60,257.92 (47,082.46), Lunch Account \$23,265.60 (27,545.96), Employee Benefit Fund \$52,314.28 (52,267.17), Depreciation Fund \$465,043.29 (464,594.61), Payroll Account \$1,029.05 (1,306.31), Custodial/Section 125 Account \$22,370.33 (8,281.53). Total assets were \$2,532,674.59, compared to \$1,810,936.38 a month ago and \$1,939,448.55 a year ago.

September receipts totaled \$1,011,373.76. That compares to \$44,790.07 in August. Disbursements totaled \$350,258.56, including \$54,934.64 for claims and \$295,323.92 for payroll. Building Fund receipts totaled \$49,304.46. There were no building fund expenditures.

Claims to the General Fund totaled \$65,325.17. There were no claims to the Building Fund. Stelling moved, Hanks seconded, to approve the consent items. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Friedrich and Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No one asked to speak during the public comment period.

SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICY 502.04

Policy 502.04 and the accompanying Administrative Rules and Regulations concerning Early Childhood Education were discussed at the August 17, 2009 special board meeting. Approval on first reading of the proposed policy was done at the September 14, 2009 regular board meeting. It was moved by Hanks, seconded by Stelling, to approve on second reading Board Policy 502.04 (Early Childhood Education) as presented. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Friedrich and Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICY 302.04

Changes to Policy 302.04 concerning Superintendent Duties were approved on first reading at the September 14, 2009 regular board meeting. Anderson moved, Stelling seconded, to approve on second reading the changes made to Board Policy 302.04 (Superintendent Duties). Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Friedrich and Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

FIRST READING OF BOARD POLICY 604.02

Information was presented at the September 14, 2009 regular board meeting on the need for Board Policy 604.02 (Instruction – Adopt Standards). By approving this policy, the district will be in compliance with Nebraska

Department of Education directives to adopt the Language Arts Standards by December and put in place a mechanism to adopt the new state standards as they are approved by the Department of Education. This policy would eliminate the need to adopt each subject area's standards separately, as well as eliminating re-adoption of standard updates made by NDE. Stelling moved, Anderson seconded, to approve on first reading Board Policy 604.02 (Instruction – Adopt Standards) as presented. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Friedrich and Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION ON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION USE OF FACILITIES

Brook Curtiss addressed the board about using school facilities for Plainview Alumni Association activities. The committee in charge of the annual alumni reunion is interested in promoting the event to gain more attendance and would like to move the event back to the school, using the high school auditorium for the banquet and program. The board appeared to be supportive and Principal Klooz volunteered to meet with committee members to make arrangements.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Elementary Principal/Activities Director Kort reported on the October 7 Career Fair arranged and hosted by Ronita Jacobsen and the FCCLA. He also told of plans for Parent –Teacher Conferences on October 16, with appointment times mailed to elementary parents on October 8.

The school's RTI/SAT team reorganized and is re-evaluating how to be more efficient in assisting students who are at risk.

The elementary Advantage Program has begun to help grades 4-6 students who have missing or failing work with an average of 8-10 students participating in the program for up to 45 minutes each day after school.

Secondary Principal Klooz reported on the new Nebraska Department of Education assessment system called NeSA. He also spoke about the school improvement process, use of the Power Walk-Through system for teacher and classroom evaluation and the ACT Prep Class to again be offered for Plainview students.

The local VFW will host a Veteran's Day program in the high school auditorium on Wednesday, November 11, at 10 a.m.

Anderson questioned the administrators on what safeguards are present when textbooks are purchased to avoid inaccuracies or political agendas in the new books. Teacher committees set up to study new textbook purchases, watching how the books fit into the existing curriculum and standards, and the teacher's final responsibility to clarify textbook areas were reported as existing safeguards. Zuhlke mentioned animal rights groups infiltrating children's television and books as another concern.

Hanks commented on the work Ranae Wacker and the art students had done on the new high school hallway mural and commended Nicole Sorensen on qualifying for the Nebraska Girls State Golf Tournament.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Zuhlke asked board members to watch results of the scheduled special session of the Nebraska Legislature to see how the current state budget difficulties may affect school finance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Alt reported on registration for the NASB State Conference and on continued planning for security cameras and new exterior door locks.

Advertising has occurred for a paraprofessional to monitor students in the special education van during daily trips to and from the Eastern Learning Center in Norfolk with the remainder of the day spent assisting in the elementary.

A notice requesting bids was placed in the local paper for the track resurfacing project.
REAP grant monies for the 2009-2010 year will be \$26,534.

Superintendent Alt commented on the speaker system in the Pirate Gymnasium, the use of school facilities for an ecumenical youth group on Sunday evenings, as requested by Rev. Smith from the United Methodist Church, and the use of the high school auditorium on Nov. 17 for a public meeting on proposed gas price increases in the community, as requested by Mike Holton.

Wacker Home Improvement will install a fence around a part of the school playground equipment at a cost of \$4,038. The fence is needed to meet the requirements of Rule 11 for operating the preschool program.

Supt. Alt also reported official enrollment figures of 366 in grades preschool through grade 12.

Board members had received information in their packets from the State of the Schools Report released recently. Explanations and discussion occurred. Administrators are the final authority in seeing that all students are assessed and reported.

The superintendent commended Michelle Bearinger for her work preparing the ILCD report for a recent meeting with a state special education representative.

Brook Curtiss complimented the preschool program and staff on the quality of the program.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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 12TH day of October, 2009, which meeting was preceded by public notice published in the Plainview News.

Imogene Wacker, Recording Secretary