

Plainview Public Schools Board of Education Meeting

Monday, April 8, 2013

The regular 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 Krista Hanks, president. Roll call was answered by Hanks, Marilyn Elwood, Mike Sauser, Vicki Peterson and Bob Green. Alden Zuhlke was absent. Also present were Superintendent Richard Alt, Principal Patty Novicki, Activities Director Cory Friedrich and recording secretary, Imogene Wacker. Karen Foster and Elaine Hampton signed the visitor roster. The rules for open meetings were posted at the back of the room.

CONSENT ITEMS

Consent items included the minutes of the March 11, 2013 regular meeting, the financial reports, the April claims and approval of the agenda.

The financial report (with last month's figures in parentheses) showed a balance of \$92,169.67 (282,385.54) in the General Fund. CDs total \$1,000,000.00 (1,000,000.00), Special Building Fund \$223,086.72 (217,642.45), Petty Cash \$1,930.91 (2,500.81), Activity Account \$90,378.97 (94,498.93), Lunch Account \$10,830.84 (8,301.16) Employee Benefit Fund \$53,163.07 (53,154.62), Depreciation Fund \$468,953.25 (468,822.88), Payroll Account \$1,067.29 (1,057.50), Custodial/Section 125 Account \$12,405.25 (13,530.26). Total assets were \$1,884,893.15 compared to \$2,058,431.17 a month ago and \$1,863,026.50 a year ago.

March receipts totaled \$183,655.92. That compares to \$275,925.05 in February. Disbursements totaled \$373,871.79, including \$83,462.98 for claims and \$290,408.81 for payroll. Building Fund receipts totaled \$5,444.27. There were no Building Fund expenditures.

Claims to the General Fund totaled \$69,092.82. There were no claims to the Building Fund. Peterson moved, Green seconded, to approve the consent items. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Zuhlke absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 301.03 (SUCCESSION OF AUTHORITY TO THE SUPERINTENDENT)

Board Policy 301.03 (Succession of Authority to the Superintendent) was reviewed. This policy deals with the responsibility of other administrators in the absence of the superintendent. No changes were suggested for this policy.

DISCUSSION/REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 301.04 (COMMUNICATION CHANNELS)

Board Policy 301.04 (Communication Channels) was reviewed. This policy deals with the correct communication channels for resolving questions and problems. No changes were suggested for this policy.

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF ELEMENTARY SECURITY CAMERAS

A portion of the Title V grant has been earmarked for the purchase of elementary building security cameras. REAP grant funds could also be used for this purpose. DSN EnviroSystems is working on a bid for this project with a cost estimate planned for the May board meeting. The elementary system would include hallway cameras and an additional recorder. Several board members suggested cameras in the area of the vocational agriculture (vo-ag) shop exterior might be a higher priority. Also discussed was a door security system for the vo-ag shop.

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES

Superintendent Alt reviewed with the board a list of technology purchases that technology coordinator, Tom Sauser, feels would enhance the district's ability to meet the needs of students. Title V and REAP funds have been designated for additional technology purchases and Superintendent Alt will have recommendations at the May meeting on possible purchases. Items included on the list are several new computers for the elementary computer lab and the high school media center, replacement computers for the elementary cart, a new cart of MacBook Airs, staff iPads and replacing a server. A question was raised on the usage of the current iPads, with Principal Novicki reporting that the iPads are used generally for student research or in computer classes and are currently not useable for testing. Application downloading to the iPads must be done by the technology coordinator.

Zuhlke arrived at 5:59 p.m.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ROOFING BIDS

Bids for the repair of the roof above the secondary science rooms and the roof above the elementary entryway were received from Guarantee Roofing (\$51,320) and Western Roofing (\$45,933), both of Norfolk, by the March 28 deadline. Neither bid includes the rental cost for a crane to lift the heating/cooling unit on the secondary roof so that rubber roofing membrane can be installed under the unit. That will involve additional expense and will require coordination with the repair schedule. After discussion, Green moved, Zuhlke seconded, to approve the bid of Western Roofing Company for the repair of the roof above the science rooms and the roof above the elementary entryway in the total amount of \$45,933. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PIRATE GYM PAINTING BIDS

Superintendent Alt recommended tabling discussion and action on the Pirate Gym painting bids until a later meeting so that he has time to check on insurance, bonding, etc. of bidders.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PURCHASE OF NEW STAGE CURTAINS

At the March board meeting, Superintendent Alt presented a cost estimate for replacing the front and back curtains on the auditorium stage. In order to proceed with the solicitation of outside funding to assist with the purchase cost, it was necessary to vote to proceed with the purchase. Zuhlke moved, Peterson seconded, to proceed with the purchase of both the front and back curtains for the stage in the Tartan Gym from Omaha Stage Equipment, choosing the higher priced back curtains. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried. Funds will now be invited from community organizations to help with the cost.

APPROVE ON FIRST READING BOARD POLICY 612.09 (CHILDREN IN NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS)

Board Policy 612.09 (Children in Non-Public Schools), in the new format, substantially shortens the current policy wording, although the intent of the policy remains unchanged. The district is responsible for the education of special needs children who live within the district boundaries, even if those students attend a private or parochial school. Peterson moved, Sauser seconded, to approve on first reading Board Policy 612.09 (Children in Non-Public Schools). Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVE ON FIRST READING BOARD POLICY 612.13 (CONFIDENTIALITY OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION)

Board Policy 612.13 (Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information) is a new policy concerning the confidentiality of special education student information and replaces the policy number dealing with performance goals and indicators. Elwood moved, Peterson seconded, to approve on first reading Board Policy 612.13 (Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information). Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVE ON FIRST READING BOARD POLICY 612.15 (ACCESS TO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS)

Board Policy 612.15 (Access to Instructional Materials) is a new policy dealing with guaranteeing access to materials for visually impaired students. Sauser moved, Green seconded, to approve on first reading Board Policy 612.15 (Access to Instructional Materials). Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVE ON FIRST READING BOARD POLICY 612.16 (OVER-IDENTIFICATION AND DISPROPORTIONALITY)

Board Policy 612.16 (Over-Identification and Disproportionality) is a new policy addressing the identification of students with special needs to guarantee that all students with special needs are appropriately identified and served. Green moved, Peterson seconded, to approve on first reading Board Policy 612.16 (Over-Identification and Disproportionality). Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVE ON FIRST READING BOARD POLICY 612.17 (PROHIBITION ON MANDATORY MEDICATION)

Board Policy 612.17 (Prohibition on Mandatory Medication) is a new policy guaranteeing that children will not be deprived of an education because parents refuse to provide specific medications to their children. Peterson moved, Elwood seconded, to approve on first reading Board Policy 612.17 (Prohibition on Mandatory Medication). Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

ACTION ON RETIREMENT AND RESIGNATIONS

Eileen Bramer has decided to retire at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. She will not qualify for early retirement benefits. Combining the elementary and secondary library media positions into one teaching position is being considered for the coming year, with a paraprofessional to assist in both libraries. Zuhlke moved, Sauser seconded, to accept Eileen Bramer's resignation as elementary media specialist, with regrets and congratulations, effective at the end of the current school year. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

Robin Cheney submitted a letter of resignation, effective at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. Peterson moved, Elwood seconded, to accept Robin Cheney's resignation as secondary Spanish teacher, effective at the end of the current school year. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

Jennifer von Rentzell also submitted a letter of resignation, effective at the end of the current school year. She plans to stay at home with her family. Sauser moved, Green seconded, to accept Jennifer von Rentzell's resignation as an elementary special education teacher, with regrets, effective at the end of the current school year. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVE HIRING OF NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Katie Brauer has been offered a contract for the 2013-2014 school year. She will teach the secondary vocal music classes and some of the general elementary music classes. Heath Anderson has been offered a contract for the 2013-2014 school year to teach secondary science.

Peterson moved, Elwood seconded, to approve hiring Katie Brauer as a music teacher for the 2013-2014 school year and to approve hiring Heath Anderson as a secondary science teacher for the 2013-2014 school year. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

ACTION ON CERTIFIED STAFF CONTRACTS FOR 2013-2014

The administration is recommending that all of the current certified staff (excluding those who have already resigned) be rehired for the 2013-2014 school year. Actual teaching assignments will be determined by the administration. Green moved, Elwood seconded to offer equivalent FTE teaching contracts for the 2013-2014 school year to all certificated staff members currently holding teaching positions at Plainview Public School, with the exception of those who have already resigned. Assignment of duties will be determined by the superintendent of

schools and administrative staff. Salaries, benefits and conditions of employment will be established by the negotiated master contract. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

Interviews have been conducted for the elementary position, but the administration was not yet ready to recommend contract approval.

ACTIVITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Activity Director Cory Friedrich submitted a written report with dates for upcoming activities in both the fine arts and sports.

Superintendent Alt was asked if safety report concerns have been addressed.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Novicki reported the completion of MAPS testing. Students not meeting benchmarks are receiving extra assistance before the completion of state testing. A variety of staff meetings were held during the March 22 in-service day, elementary staff training for the new reading series occurred on March 28, and APL refresher training for staff was April 5. Elementary staff members have requested the opportunity to visit schools with 90-minute reading blocks and the Treasures reading series. Textbook reviews are started in several areas. Kindergarten roundup was well attended. Principal Novicki announced that Sara Christiansen placed first and third in two events at state speech and Tyler Friedrich placed seventh in his event. Elizabeth Kment and Rachel Sorensen received third place gold medals in the Nebraska FFA speech contest, graduate Mark Keck received his FFA Proficiency Award, and the local FFA Chapter was recognized as one of the top fifteen chapters in Nebraska.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Chairman Hanks congratulated the speech team and the FFA on recent honors. She also thanked those who worked on the prom and especially those who helped with prom cleanup prior to the arts council event and those setting up for the NENAC art show. She encouraged district patrons involved in agriculture to apply for the Monsanto Grow Rural Education grants available online. Principal Novicki has already applied for the administrator grant from the program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Alt brought a thank you note to the board. He reported the APEX Learning contract was renewed at a cost of \$1,329. The combined Plainview-Creighton APL training was a success. Work will be needed on the kitchen hot water heating system following a visit by an inspector.

Plainview Telephone Company has proposed a new phone system to replace the current outdated system at a cost of approximately \$5,800. Many parts are no longer available for the current system. Superintendent Alt hopes to have a recommendation by the May meeting.

A current proposed scenario for state aid certification shows an increase of approximately \$60,000 for the coming year.

A joint public Plainview-Creighton board meeting will be planned for June.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS CLASSIFIED STAFF SALARIES

Zuhlke moved, Elwood seconded, to enter closed session to discuss classified staff salaries. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried. The board entered closed session at 7:20 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 7:45 p.m.

Information on insurance and salaries was briefly discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:49 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 8TH day of April, 2013, which meeting was preceded by public notice published in The Plainview News.

Imogene Wacker, Recording Secretary