

Plainview Public Schools Board of Education Meeting

Monday, October 10, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education of District 5 of Plainview, NE, was called to order at 5:31 p.m. in the secondary media center by Bob Green, president, on Monday, October 10, 2016. Sauser moved, Peterson seconded, to declare an open meeting. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Ashburn absent. Motion carried. The rules for open meetings were posted at the back of the room. Roll call was answered by Green, Mike Scott, Vicki Peterson, Steve Mosel and Mike Sauser. Jason Ashburn was absent and excused. Peterson moved, Mosel seconded, to amend the agenda to add an action item on rug purchases. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Ashburn absent. Motion carried.

CONSENT ITEMS

Consent items included the minutes of the September 12, 2016 budget hearing, tax request hearing and regular meeting, the financial reports, the October claims and approval of the amended agenda. The financial report (with last month's figures in parentheses) showed a balance of \$703,490.49 (326,170.14) in the General Fund. CDs total \$1,000,000.00 (1,000,000.00), Special Building Fund \$663,782.09 (634,116.84), Petty Cash \$2,500.18 (1,652.07), Activity Account \$58,510.12 (75,647.21), Lunch Account \$15,056.55 (22,077.40), Employee Benefit Fund \$51,131.28 (51,129.18), Depreciation Fund \$612,619.23 (614,166.00), Payroll Account \$1,143.20 (1,135.99), Custodial/Section 125 Account \$21,188.86 (9,548.58). Total assets were \$3,058,823.83 compared to \$2,621,446.82 a month ago and \$2,590,613.57 a year ago. September receipts totaled \$803,276.45. That compares to \$39,044.53 in August. Disbursements totaled \$425,956.10 including \$114,196.59 for claims and \$311,759.51 for payroll. Building Fund receipts totaled \$43,365.25. Building Fund expenditures totaled \$13,700.00. Claims to the General Fund totaled \$70,598.17. Peterson moved, Sauser seconded, to approve the consent items. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Ashburn absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Green read a statement, setting the parameters on what is allowed in the public comment period and also reminding those involved of a five-minute time limit. There were no public comments.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Building and Grounds Committee of Green, Ashburn and Scott met with Dr. Craig Pease on September 26, to review his findings on the condition of the facilities. Dr. Pease had conducted a three-hour walk through of the school that day. Included in the board packet was a written report on the facilities. Dr. Arlt had prepared a summary for board members of Dr. Pease's assessment, particularly concerning life safety code concerns, accessibility code concerns and structural, mechanical and electrical concerns. Discussion occurred on plans to move the marked activity entrance from the current west entrance to the north entrance. The west entrance will remain as the handicapped entrance. Discussion also occurred on the curb at the north entrance, ramps and railings.

DISCUSSION OF ENGINEER'S ASSESSMENT OF 1920 BUILDING

Following a directive from the Building and Grounds Committee, Superintendent Arlt made arrangements with Beckenhauer Construction of Norfolk to have a structural engineer make a professional assessment of the sagging floor on the second level of the 1920 building. The engineer's written report was shared with the board. It was noted that there was no concern about structural failure at this time. Beckenhauer Construction will have a cost estimate for the suggested work to shore up the floor.

Jason Ashburn arrived at 5:45 p.m.

DISCUSSION OF MARQUEE SIGN PURCHASE

Superintendent Arlt is working with Love Signs in Norfolk on the purchase of a full-color digital marquee sign to compliment the sign on the southwest corner of the secondary school property. A fundraiser with The Post Café generated \$260.00 and Dr. Arlt has applied for two grants to help with the expense. His plans are also to solicit donations from community businesses, with hopes to pay for the sign without spending district funds.

ACTION ON BOARD POLICY 706.07 (SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT)

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) has directed that Board Policy 706.07 (Suspension and Debarment) is required. The policy deals with the rule against subcontracting with persons or companies who are debarred or suspended from contracting for any projects equal to or in excess of \$25,000 in any federal assistance program. Sauser moved, Scott seconded, to approve on first reading Board Policy 706.07 (Suspension and Debarment). Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried. The policy will be brought back for second reading at a future meeting.

ACTION ON BOARD POLICY 1005.03 (PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE SCHOOLS)

Superintendent Arlt requested a revision to Board Policy 1005.03 (Parental Involvement in the Schools) to give the administration more latitude in denying parent requests to make classroom observations. Ashburn moved, Scott seconded, to approve the revision, as presented, to Board Policy 1005.03 (Parental Involvement in the Schools). Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF RESTRUCTURE OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Long-range discussion and planning is expected in regard to facilities in the next several years. Board Chairman Green suggested that as he will leave the board at the end of December, he should be replaced on the Building and Grounds Committee with a board member who will serve through the next election cycle. His suggestion for a replacement was Mike Sauser. Peterson moved, Ashburn seconded, to approve the restructuring of the Plainview Public Schools Building and Grounds Committee to replace Bob Green with Mike Sauser. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY COMMITTEE FOR FACILITIES STRATEGIC PLAN

The Building and Grounds Committee recommended that the board establish a committee made up of a variety of Plainview Public School stakeholders who will make a thorough assessment and recommendations for future facilities needs for students attending Plainview Schools. Peterson moved, Sauser seconded, to approve the creation of a committee made up of community members to advise the board of education on the future of Plainview Public Schools facilities. Peterson and Sauser then asked to rescind their first motion to make an addition to the motion. Peterson moved, Sauser seconded, to approve the creation of a committee made up of the board Building and Grounds Committee and community members to advise the board of education on the future of Plainview Public Schools facilities. Upon roll call vote on the new motion, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MATCHING PURCHASE OF ACOUSTIC SHELLS FOR MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Plainview Music Boosters have established a priority to purchase acoustic shells to enhance the sound of performing arts groups. Superintendent Arlt requested that the district match the booster contribution so that the shells can be purchased all at one time. Cost of each shell is about \$1,600, with the music boosters planning to purchase five shells with their funds, including a \$5,000 KENO grant from the City of Plainview, and asking the board to consider purchasing five additional shells. Sauser expressed concern that this expense would move ahead of other

needed expenses and would like to have known about the need for the shells before the request for funds was made. Peterson noted that the community will also benefit from this purchase and vocal music instructor Ryan Ginn hoped the shells would be available by November 7 when Plainview hosts the conference vocal clinic. Peterson moved, Ashburn seconded, to approve the purchase of acoustic shells for the fine arts department not to exceed \$10,000. Upon roll call vote, Peterson, Ashburn, Green, Mosel and Scott voted yes. Sauser voted no. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

As a result of the August 12 in-service on lockdowns, intruders and hostage situations, Safety Director Cory Friedrich and Superintendent Arlt worked to edit some of the language in the district's safety protocols. The term "partial lockdown" was changed to "lockout" and the options of sheltering in a scattered arrangement in a classroom rather than in one place, evacuating the building, and distracting an intruder were added to the current procedures. Schools across the country are changing the way they respond to school threats, including violent intruder situations. Ashburn moved, Mosel seconded, to approve new language for sections 3 and 4 of the Safety and Security Plan for the district as presented. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF PERSONALIZED RUGS

Superintendent Arlt recommended the purchase of large, durable, personalized rugs for the two main entrances to the secondary school. The rugs will have a Pirate Pride message and will collect any residue that foot traffic would bring into the building. Cost for the two rugs is \$7,369.65. Mosel moved, Peterson seconded, to approve the purchase of personalized entry rugs for the main north and south entrances of the secondary building for a cost \$7,369.65. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR REPORT

Activities Director Cory Friedrich reported on the final fall activities in his written report. He also encouraged staff, board members and patrons to check the school website for updates on activities.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Patty Novicki reported an 82 percent attendance at the September 22 Parent-Teacher Conferences. The Tumblebooks on-line reading program has begun for students in grades preschool through third. The program, linked to the school's homepage, allows parents and students to read books together or for the child to read alone, as the books are read out loud to the student. Miles of Smiles was successful with those in charge planning to come back in the spring to put sealants on students' teeth, if parents choose, for a \$15 fee. The financial aid meeting and the Educational Planning Day were successes. The first quarter ends October 14. The music department variety show will be October 27 and Plainview will host the conference vocal clinic on November 7.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There was no president's report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Arlt reported an official enrollment of 316 students, preschool through grade 12, on September 30, 2016. Kelly Pendergast has been hired as the new district business manager to replace Imogene Wacker, and Rhonda Arlt has been hired as a new elementary paraprofessional. The paraprofessional who resigned after the last school year had not been replaced and 13 of the 31 new students in the elementary are special education students or are behind in their abilities. He reported the 2015-2016 audit is complete. Thirty parents filled

out a lunch survey at Parent-Teacher Conferences and grades 7-12 students have also been surveyed, with results to be shared with the kitchen staff to see if any changes can be made. The Pirate Pride committee of eight staff members has met several times. Student picture collages will be prepared and displayed in the elementary and secondary buildings as an idea from this committee. The Plainview School Foundation members will soon meet. Each quarter, Superintendent Arlt meets with a group of senior students to discuss any ideas for school improvement. Two ideas from the last meeting resulted in the start of a chess group, with Blake Mosel leading students on Thursday mornings before school, and student fan buses were offered for away football games. Superintendent Arlt's first quarterly community coffee had two district patrons in attendance. The next coffee is planned for Tuesday, November 22. The Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) State Education Conference is planned for November 16-18 at LaVista. Superintendent Arlt, Mike Sauser, Vicki Peterson and Kelly Pendergast plan to attend. Superintendent Arlt reported attendance at the Lewis and Clark Conference meeting in Wayne on September 14, the School Law Update in Kearney on September 21 and the Educational Service Unit (ESU) 8 Administrators Assembly in Neligh on September 28. The need to advertise for a part-time custodian was discussed. Board members looked at a new International bus before the board meeting and it was noted that money for the bus is available in the Depreciation Fund.

The \$20,000 transferred from the General Fund to the Depreciation Fund at the end of the 2015-2016 fiscal year to use for a special education van purchase will not be used for that purchase as the Nebraska Department of Education would not allow that transfer to be expensed for special education. That \$20,000 can now be used for other purchases and if a new special education van is purchased, it will be paid for from the 2016-2017 budget.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Board members looked at weight room improvements and the new girls locker room lockers following the meeting.

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 10th day of October, 2016, which meeting was preceded by public notice published in The Plainview News.

Imogene Wacker, Recording Secretary