

Plainview Public Schools Board of Education Meeting

Monday, January 9, 2012

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 Alden Zuhlke, president. Roll call was answered by Zuhlke, Krista Hanks, Marilyn Elwood, Vicki Peterson and John Anderson. Jeremy Hampton was absent and excused. Also present were Superintendent Richard Alt, Elementary Principal/Activities Director Randy Kort, Secondary Principal Randall Klooz and recording secretary, Imogene Wacker. Elaine Hampton, Cory Friedrich, Daniel Elwood, Jennifer Koepke and D. Koepke signed the visitor roster. Chairman 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 December 12, 2011 regular meeting, the financial reports, the January claims and approval of the amended agenda.

The financial report (with last month's figures in parentheses) showed a balance of \$430,474.41 (702,317.93) in the General Fund. CDs total \$1,000,000.00 (1,000,000.00), Special Building Fund \$15,057.89 (14,940.89), Petty Cash \$2,278.16 (2,430.85), Activity Account \$71,539.67 (79,669.69), Lunch Account \$7,484.92 (8,088.63) Employee Benefit Fund \$52,973.49 (52,956.08), Depreciation Fund \$466,446.87 (466,255.26), Payroll Account \$1,035.11 (1,028.38), Custodial/Section 125 Account \$15,340.23 (17,750.01). Total assets were \$1,991,049.88 compared to \$2,281,255.78 a month ago and \$1,856,147.79 a year ago.

December receipts totaled \$68,773.76. That compares to \$48,173.80 in November. Disbursements totaled \$340,617.28, including \$64,181.94 for claims and \$276,435.34 for payroll. Building Fund receipts totaled \$117.00. There were no Building Fund expenditures.

Claims to the General Fund totaled \$71,580.87. There were no claims to the Building Fund. Peterson moved, Anderson seconded, to approve the consent items. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Chairman Zuhlke turned the meeting over to Superintendent Alt for the election of board president. Elwood nominated Zuhlke. Peterson nominated Hanks. Elwood moved, Peterson seconded, that nominations cease. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried. Upon ballot vote, Hanks was elected president and assumed the president's duties.

For vice president, Peterson nominated Zuhlke. Anderson moved, Elwood seconded, that nominations cease. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried. Zuhlke was declared vice president.

For secretary, Elwood nominated Peterson. Zuhlke moved, Elwood seconded, that nominations cease. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried. Peterson was declared secretary.

Anderson moved, Elwood seconded, to appoint Imogene Wacker as board treasurer and recording secretary for the board for 2012. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

The president or vice president and the superintendent are authorized to sign checks from the General Fund, the Building Fund, the Payroll Account, the Depreciation Account and the Employee Benefit Account.

BOARD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Board committee assignments will be made at the February meeting.

DISCUSSION OF TECHNOLOGY

Tom Sauser, technology coordinator, was present to answer questions on infrastructure and other technology needs. Additional written information was distributed to board members. Sauser commented that wireless infrastructure updates will be needed to support computer use for the NeSA and MAP assessments in the classrooms and/or for a possible move to a 1-to-1 computer system. Additional carts of computers may be needed based on future 1-to-1 decisions. Board members asked if there were other computer/computer application classes that might be helpful for students. The board requested dollar figures for updated infrastructure be brought to the February meeting. REAP and Title V grant money can be used for infrastructure improvements and computer purchases.

REVIEW BOARD POLICY 204.9 (RULES OF ORDER)

Burma Kroger from the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) had suggested at the recent board workshop that Board Policy 204.9 (Rules of Order) be studied, giving consideration to how strict a format of Robert's Rules of Order the board wishes to follow. The current policy allows for modification of Robert's Rules of Order. A suggested change would be "The board shall be guided by Robert's Rules of Order," rather than the current wording, "The board shall follow Robert's Rules of Order." The change will be on the February action agenda.

REVIEW BOARD POLICY 606.06 (ACCEPTABLE USE OF COMPUTERS, TECHNOLOGY AND THE INTERNET)

During a recent board meeting, discussion occurred on staff use of school computers. Superintendent Alt suggested that the Acceptable Use Policy for staff be studied to make sure it allows/restricts computer usage in a manner that is acceptable to the board. Superintendent Alt suggested repeating the following sentence from the "Staff Use" section of Board Policy 606.06 (Acceptable Use of Computers, Technology and the Internet) in the "Privileges" section of Board Policy 606.06R2 (Staff Use of Computers, Technology and the Internet): "Staff shall confine e-mail use (perhaps change 'e-mail use' to 'computer use') to work-related purposes and a reasonable, appropriate and limited personal use that does not interfere with their district duties." Changes will be on the February action agenda.

REVIEW BOARD POLICY 201.6 (VACANCIES)

Superintendent Alt suggested the board look at developing a policy to define the process for appointing a new member to the board in the case of a vacancy. Current policy defines when a vacancy occurs, but does not tell how the vacancy is to be filled. Superintendent Alt will propose some additional policy language to be reviewed at the February meeting.

DISCUSS PROPOSED BOARD POLICY 508.15 (CONCUSSION AWARENESS)

LB 260 from the last legislative session requires that schools monitor and follow-up whenever there is a student head injury. Board Policy 508.15 establishes the parameters for dealing with concussions. This policy must be in place by the 2012-2013 school year. Although this policy deals mainly with athletics, it will also provide guidance for monitoring injuries occurring on the playground, in physical education, etc. Information about concussions will be included in both the elementary and secondary student handbooks beginning in 2012-2013. Action will be taken at the February meeting.

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, Zuhlke seconded, that the Plainview Professional Education Association be recognized as the exclusive bargaining unit for the Plainview Public School's certificated employees as defined by Neb. Stat. §79-824, as well as the

districts' media specialists and guidance counselors, but excluding administrators as defined in Neb. Stat. §79-101, for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 contract years. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

RESIGNATION AND EARLY RETIREMENT

Dale Robert Green has submitted his resignation, effective at the end of the current school year. He has also submitted a request for early retirement incentive pay, which according to the negotiated agreement will result in a payment of \$7000 per year for three years. Zuhlke moved, Peterson seconded, to accept Dale Robert Green's resignation with regrets and approve his application for early retirement incentive pay. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS AND DESIGNATIONS

Elwood moved, Anderson seconded, to designate/appoint the following positions: Official Depositories of District Funds – Midwest Bank and Madison County Bank in Plainview and Brunswick State Bank in Brunswick; District Auditor – Michael Pommer of Wakefield; District Attorney – Perry, Guthery, Haase and Gessford of Lincoln; State and Federal Programs Director – Richard Alt or superintendent under current contract. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

ACTION ON RENEWING SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT

Superintendent Alt's job performance was evaluated at the December board meeting. Zuhlke moved, Elwood seconded, to rehire Richard Alt as superintendent of the Plainview Public Schools. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried. Wages, benefits and length of contract will be considered at the February meeting.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Elementary Principal/Activities Director Kort presented results from the recent Dibels testing done in the elementary, showing an increase in the number of students meeting the benchmark from 62 percent in September to 74 percent in December. He complimented staff on their work to produce progress. The Dibels tests are done three times a year to identify students at risk. He reported that the upper elementary teachers are working on having lesson plans available to parents through the school's website. Ronnie Fuller was able to visit school for about an hour recently. Board members requested that discussion on cross country be held in February with action to be taken at the March board meeting.

Secondary Principal Klooz reported upcoming assessment dates and work done at the January 3 professional development day. He reported Turner Dahl, Taelyr Beery and Mark Keck were chosen for the Wayne State Honor Band; Ty Hampton, Jason Gutz, Maycey Forker, Emily Klooz, Skyler Hoscheit and Kailee Rafert were chosen for the Stanton Honor Choir; and Turner Dahl, Caleb Gamble, Karissa Eichberger, Caitlyn Hart, Sarah Watson and Hannah Allvin were chosen for the Stanton Honor Band. He reported that a teacher committee has been formed to study the development of a professional learning community. Comments were made on the progress of dealing with bullying.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hanks requested that board members be notified when various staff committees are meeting on professional development days. Zuhlke discussed a recent newspaper article on social studies curriculum and reported that Creighton board members would like to meet with the Plainview board. He will continue working on arrangements for the two complete boards to meet.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Alt showed two thank you notes. January 22-28 is National School Board Recognition Week. February 15 is the final filing date for incumbents and March 1 is the final filing date for any others wishing to run for elected office. Superintendent Alt reported on several federal grant applications, an update on the NENAC Conference, the possible purchase of a dry carpet cleaner and a dry wax remover, re-keying of interior locks in both the elementary and secondary buildings and a request by the Public Service Commission to use the auditorium on February 13 for a Source Gas rate increase hearing. A date will be set for a meeting of the bullying committee with the public invited to attend. An annual board calendar example from NASB will be used to develop a local board calendar. Interest has been expressed by an individual in trading the old bass instrumental music system for a new system. Several complaints were received on the school lunch program and a concern was expressed on young elementary students having difficulty using the keyless entry system. A concern was expressed on senior college applications and teacher recommendation letters.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS TEACHER NEGOTIATIONS

Elwood moved, Peterson seconded, to enter closed session to discuss teacher negotiations. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous, with Hampton absent and excused. Motion carried.

The board entered closed session at 8:06 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 8.22 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:23 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 9th day of January, 2012, which meeting was preceded by public notice published in The Plainview News.

Imogene Wacker, Recording Secretary