

Plainview Public Schools Board of Education Meeting

Monday, July 11, 2011

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. The meeting was moved from the distance learning room to the media center when painting and carpet work was no longer in progress. Roll call was answered by Zuhlke, Vicki Peterson, Krista Hanks, John Anderson, Jeremy Hampton and Marilyn Elwood. Also present were Superintendent Richard Alt, Elementary Principal/Activities Director Randy Kort and recording secretary, Imogene Wacker. Cory Friedrich 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 June 13, 2011 regular meeting, the financial reports, the July claims and approval of the agenda.

The financial report (with last month's figures in parentheses) showed a balance of \$1,133,458.63 (991,620.34) in the General Fund. CDs total \$1,000,000.00 (1,000,000.00), Special Building Fund \$99,143.90 (95,201.12), Petty Cash \$958.72 (2,502.53), Activity Account \$49,260.75 (56,751.55), Lunch Account \$8,085.53 (7,935.13) Employee Benefit Fund \$52,861.45 (52,839.74), Depreciation Fund \$171,288.49 (171,192.81), Payroll Account \$2,869.04 (1,075.77), Custodial/Section 125 Account \$8,574.08 (9,222.41). Total assets were \$2,110,917.98, compared to \$2,351,256.77 a month ago and \$2,367,009.42 a year ago.

June receipts totaled \$452,361.40. That compares to \$1,211,799.03 in May. Disbursements totaled \$310,523.11, including \$37,084.63 for claims and \$273,438.48 for payroll. Building Fund receipts totaled \$3,942.78. There were no Building Fund expenditures.

Claims to the General Fund totaled \$415,582.61, including the repayment of the April loan from the Depreciation Fund of \$300,000.00. Claims to the Building Fund totaled \$4,971.84. Hampton moved, Hanks seconded, to approve the consent items. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

REVISIONS TO SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

Cory Friedrich updated the board on the revisions to the district's safety plan. The changes concerned staff use of the new red safety bags and name changes for possible school emergency situations. Superintendent Alt and board members thanked Mr. Friedrich for his work throughout the years on the plan. Following discussion, Hanks moved, Elwood seconded, to approve the revisions to the district's safety plan as presented. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

CONTRACT FOR FINANCIAL AUDIT

Michael Pommer, CPA, from Wakefield, the district's current financial records auditor, had submitted a proposal for auditing and financial consultation services. Proposed were a one-year price of \$5,300 for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2011, or a three-year price of \$5,000 for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2011, \$5,200 for fiscal year ending August 31, 2012, and \$5,400 for fiscal year ending August 31, 2013. Superintendent Alt recommended the three-year proposal. Peterson moved, Anderson seconded to approve the three-year contract with Michael Pommer, CPA, in accordance with the contract details as presented in writing by Mr. Pommer. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON SCHOOL LUNCH PRICES

A committee of Krista Hanks, Brook Curtiss, Paula Hoffman, Lori MacGregor, Dr. Mary Dougherty and Superintendent Alt met July 5 to discuss the school lunch program. Among items discussed were nutritious foods, variety within the menu, choice of foods, more detailed menus, menu restrictions, government commodity influence on menus, and cost. Superintendent Alt felt that several changes could be made in the menus and in the elementary lunch procedures. It was also noted that the use of government commodities and federal and state nutrition rules dictate many of the menu choices. Federal regulations require an increase in the District's lunch prices for 2011-2012 of 5 cents per meal. Several large repair bills for the lunchroom kitchen during the past year also affected the operating margin for the lunch program. Superintendent Alt recommended an increase of at least ten cents per meal for 2011-2012 with the proposed prices to be student breakfast \$1.10, adult breakfast \$1.25, Pre K-3 lunch \$1.70, grades 4-12 lunch \$1.90, adult lunch \$2.65. Hampton moved, Peterson seconded, to set the lunch prices as recommended for the 2011-2012 school year. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND RE-ADOPTION OF STUDENT FEES POLICY 504.19

According to statute, this policy must be reviewed and re-adopted annually. Board members had been mailed a copy of the policy in their board packet and Superintendent Alt briefly reviewed the policy. Elwood moved, Peterson seconded, to re-adopt Student Fees Policy 504.19 for the 2011-2012 school year. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

REVIEW BULLYING PREVENTION POLICY 504.20

According to statute, this policy must be reviewed each year. Board members had received a copy of the policy in their packet. Discussion occurred on the policy's content and intent. No action was required.

REVIEW/APPROVE 2011-2012 STUDENT HANDBOOKS

Only minor changes were proposed by the administration for the elementary and secondary student handbooks. Board members suggested a change in the elementary handbook to mirror policy on cell phone usage in the high school handbook, with no cell phone usage allowed during the school day. Following discussion, Hanks moved, Anderson seconded, to approve the handbook changes as recommended, including the changes in the lunch prices and the elementary cell phone usage change. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON CLASS RANKING SYSTEM

The administration/board/teacher committee formed to discuss class ranking recommended changing to a system based 85 percent on grade point averages (GPA) and 15 percent on assessment (Nebraska state assessment [NeSA] and norm referenced test [MAP]) results. The new system was proposed to take effect with the 2011-2012 freshman class. Two goals were to have students take ownership in their assessment scores and to encourage students to take more difficult classes during their senior year, rather than to avoid those classes in an effort to protect their GPA and class rank. Following discussion, Anderson moved, Elwood seconded, to approve the class ranking system as recommended by the committee/administration. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

SECURITY CAMERA/SWIPE KEY SYSTEM

DSN EnviroSystems and Surveillance from Hartington furnished bids in April for additional security cameras and installation of exterior door swipe key systems. The quotes from that time are still good and include elementary security cameras \$7,680, elementary exterior door swipe key system \$4,573.25, additional secondary security

cameras \$5,230, and secondary exterior door swipe key system \$9,395. Superintendent Alt recommended the purchase of the secondary exterior door swipe key system at this time since the high school building has most of the after-hours traffic and presents a higher need for monitoring/identifying who is in the building. Some Title V grant money is available for a portion of the cost. The board discussed how to proceed. It was suggested that swipe cards be used on the south, north, handicapped and one of the east doors of the high school with all other doors locked and inaccessible from the outside at all times. The cards will be programmable with a system to tell whose key allowed entrance into a door and what time the entrance was made. Hampton moved, Anderson seconded, to purchase a swipe key system for the high school building. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

Next year, and in future years, the board hopes to look at adding elementary security cameras, additional high school security cameras and an elementary swipe key system.

DESIGNATE STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

Each year it is necessary to designate the superintendent as the State and Federal Programs director to allow him to sign documents pertaining to Title I, Special Education, etc. Elwood moved, Hanks seconded, to designate Superintendent Richard Alt as the State and Federal Programs Director for the 2011-2012 school year. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried.

NASB AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Board members were mailed a listing of their Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) awards and achievements for the past year and were asked to approve the listing and return it for information updating for NASB.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Elementary Principal/AD Kort had no report. Secondary Principal Klooz was not in attendance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There was no president's report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Alt shared a thank you from the All Class Reunion committee. He distributed information on the Medicaid Membership Agreement and Resolution and NASB Board of Directors nominations, both requiring action at the August board meeting. He announced dates for the NASB School Finance Workshop and NASB area membership meeting. He distributed copies of district information from the time capsule opened at the Q-125 celebration.

The district's 1995 school bus has been advertised for sale and several people have expressed interest. Bids are due by noon on July 20, 2011. Board members gave Superintendent Alt authority to accept a bid on the bus.

A tentative date was set for Friday, August 19, for the board-sponsored staff picnic. Superintendent Alt commented on the need for a new desk for the elementary secretary's office and one for his office. Topics for the July 14 Board Retreat were discussed and packets were distributed to board members. It was noted that better bleachers for the football field visitors' sideline will be furnished in cooperation with the volunteer fire department. Girls and boys locker room work has been done. Western Roofing hopes to start work on the Pirate Gymnasium roof during the week of July 11-15 and Nore's Design Center hopes to do carpet and tile work July 20-22.

CLOSED SESSION FOR NEGOTIATIONS

Peterson moved, Anderson seconded, to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing teacher negotiations. Upon roll call vote, the ayes were unanimous. Motion carried. The board went into closed session at 7:28 p.m.

The board returned to open session at 7:43 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:44 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 11th day of July 2011, which meeting was preceded by public notice published in The Plainview News.

Imogene Wacker, Recording Secretary