

**FAIRVIEW AREA SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2005**

The regular meeting of the Fairview Area Schools' Board of Education was held on Monday evening, January 10, 2005 in the elementary media center and was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order—Roll Call—Welcome

Board President Beth Miller called the meeting to order.

PRESENT: Pat Thompson, Joel Yoder, Tony Fortin, James Yoder, Chris Neff, and Beth Miller

ABSENT: Galyn Troyer

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by Board consensus.

III. Consent Agenda

Neff/Thompson That the following items be included in the Consent Agenda and be accepted as presented:

- A. December 13, 2004 regular Board meeting minutes and December 13, 2004 closed session Board meeting minutes
- B. Treasurer's Reports
 - Cash Receipts reports for General Fund, 1998 Debt Retirement Fund, and Sinking Fund
 - General Fund Accounts payable of \$247,493.52, which include payrolls of \$147,140.95, bills to be ratified of \$75,701.34, and bills to be paid of \$24,651.23
- C. Administrative written reports

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

IV. Public Comment

Tony Fortin reported that his son, Kyle, greatly enjoyed participating in the all-state track meet in Hawaii.

V. Curriculum Spotlight

Shawn Esch reported on the methods she uses in preparing students for taking the middle school MEAP test. A tubing-sledding-pizza party is held at Camp Barakel after the testing is completed.

VI. Administrative reports

A. Superintendent's Report

The report is included. Board members were recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation for their service to the school.

B. Principal's Report

The report is included.

C. Athletic Report

The report is included.

VII. Board Committee Reports

There were no reports.

VIII. Meeting and Conference Reports

There were no reports.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Superintendent's Periodic Evaluation

A summary of the periodic evaluation conducted at the December 13, 2004 Board meeting was included.

Neff/Thompson That the Superintendent's periodic evaluation be accepted.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

B. Athletics Mission Statement

Mr. Poellet presented "Expectations of Coaches" for the Board's information and review. Additional information will be presented as it is developed.

X. NEW BUSINESS—ACTION ITEMS

A. Curriculum Change/Elementary Music

The President reminded the Board that by policy the Board is to approve curriculum. The schools' Mission Statement was cited and work and evaluation sessions relating to curriculum were reviewed. The Superintendent provided background and rationale for the change in curriculum:

Background:

1. Beth Oaks will not be returning in the fall of 2005.
2. We have had a good "art" experience.
3. We have a curricular hole at the elementary level.

Rationale:

1. A fulltime music position may not be sustainable in the future, thus hindering recruitment.
2. We will have a bit more course flexibility with an art teacher.
3. We may be able to do a "shared" arrangement with another district.

Neff/Thompson That the elementary curriculum be revised so that art instruction replaces music instruction in the 2005-2006 school year. Administrators will seek staff membership to develop and implement elementary curriculum.

Various aspects, suggestions, and ramifications were proposed and discussed at length.

The president called for a vote on the motion on the table after a brief discussion on withdrawing the motion:

Ayes – 0; Nays – 6 Motion failed.

The Board requested that administration post for a fulltime K-12 music teacher with applications to be accepted through the end of March. Initial information on posting results will be presented at the February Board meeting.

B. Curriculum Change/Keyboarding

Keyboarding was introduced as a graduation requirement when we began our commitment to technology. At this point, it should have been covered at the elementary level. Dropping the requirement will provide greater flexibility in high school planning. Keyboard skills will still be expected and remediated, if needed.

Thompson/Neff That the graduation requirement to have taken a keyboarding class be removed.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

X. NEW BUSINESS—ACTION ITEMS (Con't.)

C. School Equity Caucus

The School Equity Caucus originated as a balance to the Out-of-Formula Association. It now works to close the funding gap. Three years ago it succeeded in gaining an Equity Payment. The Caucus currently has a plan to address the issue of equity and is requesting Fairview Area Schools' participation.

No action was taken on the request.

D. Non-Homestead Millage

The 18 mil Non-Homestead Millage needs to be renewed by the voters. The Superintendent presented three options for the Board's review:

1. Ask for a renewal annually/biannually.
2. Ask for a five-year renewal and plan to ask for a Headlee override in two years. We lose between .15 and .25 mils per year.
3. Ask for five years at 20 mils, but spread only 18 mils annually.

Yoder, James/Neff That the Fairview Area Schools District develop a ballot question that will ask for five years at 20 mils for Non-Homestead Millage renewal, but spread only 18 mils annually. The Superintendent is authorized to develop ballot language in consultation with the school attorney.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

XI. NEW BUSINESS—DISCUSSION ITEMS AND DATES

Teamsters are requesting a negotiations meeting with the Board. Possible meeting dates were presented and the Negotiations Team will be informed of the date.

XII. Board Comments, Communications, and Closing Public Comments

A. Board Comments

1. Pat Thompson expressed interest in additional information on NovaNet. Mr. Poellet is reviewing the present cost –vs- NovaNet cost. He plans to view a NovaNet program in progress and will report to the Board.
2. Beth Miller will represent the Board at the Oscoda County Human Services Coordinating Council.
3. February 8, 2005 is the deadline for filing petitions and affidavits of identity for the Board vacancy. James Yoder's term expires on June 30, 2005.
4. Chris Neff noted that a parking plan is helpful to facilitate parking at heavily-attended events.

B. Communications

The schedule for the spring ABC's for Parents' meetings was received.

C. Closing Public Comment

There was no closing public comment.

XIII. Closed Session

At 9:28 p.m. the following motion was made and seconded:

Thompson/Neff That the Board go into closed session for the purpose of negotiations discussion, and that the Board return to open meeting in this room at the conclusion of the closed session and immediately adjourn.

Ayes - 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

At 10:21 p.m. the Board returned to open session in the elementary media center and the meeting was immediately adjourned.

Chris Neff, Secretary