

**FAIRVIEW AREA SCHOOLS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 26, 2005**

A special meeting of the Fairview Area Schools' Board of Education was held on Monday evening, September 26, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the elementary media center.

I. Call to Order—Roll Call—Welcome

Board President Beth Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chris Neff, Patricia Thompson, James Yoder, Joel Yoder, Anne Tompkins, and Beth Miller

ABSENT: Anthony Fortin

II. Approval of Agenda

V. NEW BUSINESS: A. Superintendent's Contract was removed and three items were added **A) Annual Report, B) November Elections, and C) Flex-Spending Account. VII. Closed Session for Purpose of Discussing Negotiations** was added and **Adjournment** was moved to Item **VIII**.

The agenda was then approved by Board consensus.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Board Goals

Mr. Nelson reviewed the Goals Progress Report, which listed the four Board goals established in January 2003 and the progress achieved on each of the goals. The areas of concern outlined at the August 15, 2005 Board work session were also included.

The Board spent time prioritizing goals as outlined at the August work session. The goals and comments concerning the goals follow:

1. Teamwork

--There is a lack of working together among ALL staff members; we need to "go in the same direction."

--Communication is needed, but no communication goals have been identified.

--Being honest and presenting facts is perceived as not being positive. Problems should be turned around to be presented in a positive and realistic manner.

--"Maximum amount spent from fund equity" needs to be defined and people need to realize that the "maximum amount" is the top figure that may be used, even though the maximum amount might not be used.

--The deficit eventually has to be closed.

--Input should be sought from all affected parties.

--Awareness of community perception and questions is needed.

Expectation: To work at all aspects of teamwork.

IV. OLD BUSINESS (Con't.)

A. Board Goals (Con't.)

2. Curriculum

- Every student should be challenged.
- Career Pathways are not offered as narrow pathways; a broad-base education is offered.
- The Board expects administration to look for "highly qualified" staff members to replace retiring and/or resigning staff members.
- The Board encourages staff members to become highly qualified in various areas.
- Large class sizes do not benefit students.
- The Board wishes to continue to offer the curriculum presently in place.
- Consistency of techniques should be used, with interaction that shows that classes augment each other.
- MEAP is the present measurement tool.

Expectation: To academically challenge each student.

The administration will present action plans, which will include ways of achieving goals. The action plans are to be presented no later than at the November Board meeting.

The Proposal for Timeline model that was presented may be brought back at a later time for the Board's consideration.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2004-2005 Annual Report

The 2004-2005 Annual Report was distributed to Board members. The formal presentation of the report will take place at the October Board meeting.

B. November Elections

Mr. Nelson presented a list of pros and cons for moving to November elections. The matter will be included in the agenda for the November meeting.

C. Flexible Spending Account

On October 1, 2005, the Flexible Spending Plan will be administered through BASIC Human Resource Connection located in Portage, MI rather than through SET-SEG. BASIC excels in providing a high level of expertise to ensure that members' needs are met efficiently and that IRS requirements are fulfilled. Mr. Nelson recommended establishing a checking account for the Flexible Spending Plan, and it will be used solely for Flexible Spending. The Superintendent's signature will be used on the account.

Yoder, James/
Thompson

That a Flexible Spending account be established and that one signature (the Superintendent's) be required.

Ayes -6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

VI. Board Comments and Public Comment

There were no comments from either Board members or the public.

VII. Closed Session

At 9:10 p.m, the following motion and second were made:

Neff/Yoder, James That the Board go into closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations and the Board return to open session in this room for possible action, with adjournment to immediately follow.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

At 9:31 p.m, the Board returned to open session in the elementary media center, took no action, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Chris Neff, Secretary