

**FAIRVIEW AREA SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 31, 2005**

A special meeting of the Fairview Area Schools' Board of Education was held on Monday evening, October 31, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the elementary media center.

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

ABSENT: Anthony Fortin

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by Board consensus.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Member Anne Tompkins joined the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

IV. Presentation of 2004-2005 Annual Audit

Mr. Robert Carpenter presented the 2004-2005 Annual Audit. Board members presented questions which Mr. Carpenter addressed.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Resolution for Flexible Spending Plan

A resolution was presented in which a contract with BASIC to provide a Cafeteria Plan as amended and restated to become effective as of 10/01/2005 pursuant to the Adoption Agreement and Cafeteria Plan would be approved.

Neff/Thompson That the Resolution to accept the Adoption Agreement and Cafeteria Plan, as amended, be approved as presented and signed.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

The Resolution, Adoption Agreement, and Cafeteria Plan, as amended, shall be part of the permanent record of minutes.

VI. NEW BUSINESS—ACTION ITEMS

A. FTA-AFTM Master Agreement

The FTA-AFTM ratified the 2005-2008 Master Agreement between their union and the Board of Education on October 13, 2005. The document was available for the Board’s approval.

Neff/Yoder, James That the FTA-AFTM Master Agreement for 2005-2008 be approved as presented.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

B. 2004-2005 Annual Audit

As noted earlier, Mr. Carpenter presented the 2004-2005 Annual Audit. The audit was presented for acceptance by the Board.

Neff/Thompson That the 2004-2005 Annual Audit be accepted as presented.

C. Action Planning – Work Session

1. Dual platform for computers: Ms. Shumaker presented an informational document providing the Board of Education with the history, facts, and current information regarding the PC and Mac Computer Labs. A plan, developed three years ago, provides for the replacement of all computers in the district. The plan calls for a gradual “phase-out” of some of the classroom computers in the elementary school. One computer would be left in the classroom for teacher use along with a second computer for student use. Greater emphasis would be placed on lab use.
2. Mr. Nelson provided a Summary Statement in which questions confronting the District, the District’s fiscal setting, recommendations, and ramifications were outlined.

Discussion:

- We would be better off to save what can be saved this year rather than making huge cuts in future needs.
- Declining enrollment may indicate that a wing of the school could be closed.
- The administration maintains that the Board needs to decide about filling a music position before further planning can take place.
- The administration asked: should they be looking at a framework using staff members currently here, or should they plan programs and then figure out staffing needs.
- Plans need to be in place for what will be offered in the future.
- If the music position is not filled next year, this does not mean that the music program will be closed forever.
- A growing budget deficit needs to be addressed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS—ACTION ITEMS (Con't.)

C. Action Planning – Work Session (Con't.)

Summation:

- The Board's directive that as personnel leaves, the position will not be filled, if possible, remains in place
- With Carl Parker retiring at the end of 2005-2006, a position will need to be filled, but the person who is hired may have different certification from the certification presently held by staff members.
- All possible reductions need to be considered.
- A Middle School concept will be presented at the November Board meeting.

Music Position: A 2/3 vote is required to put the music question back on the table, and then requires a simple majority to approve. The item will be included on the November Board agenda for action.

Recreational Millage: Would free up general fund money, but all the townships in the school district need to be involved as well as the school.

Deficit Limit: The Board needs to decide if it will establish a deficit limit and direct the administration to develop plans which keep expenditures within that limitation.

VII. Board Comments and Public Comment

1. There were no Board comments.
2. There was no public comment.

The president adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Chris Neff, Secretary