

**FAIRVIEW AREA SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESCHEDULED REGULAR BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2005**

The rescheduled regular meeting of the Fairview Area Schools' Board of Education was held on Monday evening, December 12, 2005 in the elementary media center.

Board President Beth Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and roll call was taken.

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

ABSENT: Anthony Fortin

Chris Neff joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m. and Joel Yoder at 6:20 p.m.

A number of parents were present for the Middle School concept presentation.

II. Curriculum Spotlight

Mr. Ray Poellet and Mr. Rick Handrich presented information as a public hearing on the Middle School Concept, which is included. The information complements that presented at the November Board meeting. Parents were given opportunity for questions and input:

1. Will students be able to focus for two periods with Math and Science in a two-hour block?
2. Will the Middle School free high school teachers so that college-prep classes can be offered?
3. Would the three grades be mixed?
4. Concern about large classes was expressed.
5. Where might the classes be placed in the building?

The questions and concerns were addressed by Mr. Poellet and Mr. Handrich. The parents in attendance expressed support for the concept.

III. Public Comment

Leslie Green, junior class sponsor, reported on the car raffle fund raiser that the Board approved at the November meeting. She will continue to provide monthly updates.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Item **E. ESG Contract** was added under **IX. NEW BUSINESS—ACTION ITEMS**. The agenda was then approved by Board consensus.

V. Consent Agenda

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

- A. Minutes: November 14, 2005 regular Board meeting minutes and closed session minutes
- B. Treasurer’s Reports
 - Cash Receipts reports for General Fund, 1998 Debt Retirement Fund, and Sinking Fund
 - General Fund Accounts Payable, which include payrolls of \$140,842.32, bills to be ratified of \$74,689.97, and bills to be paid of \$23,636.01, totaling \$239,168.30
 - Sinking Fund Accounts Payable of \$1,011.79
- C. Administrative written reports

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

VI. Administrative Reports

A. Superintendent’s Report

The report is included.

B. Principal’s Report

The report is included.

C. Athletic Director’s Report

The report is included.

VII. Board Committee Reports

The Building/Maintenance Committee met on November 30, 2005 and December 7, 2005. The committee is positive about the energy saving project and feels that ESG is addressing questions and problems. The project should be completed by December 18, 2005, and Building Maintenance System (BMS) training will take place on January 12, 2006.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Middle School Curricular Change

Board members offered input:

- Pat: Would like periodic evaluations, perhaps in October, January, and April. Would like parental feedback; likes concept, i.e. separation of middle school and high school and likes the flexibility for teachers.
- Joel: Fully supports the concept; assumes that there will be items to address in implementation.
- Anne: Parents should realize that there is flexibility in block scheduling.
- James: Supports the concept. Location of middle school?—perhaps in middle of school.
- Chris: Supports the concept.
- Beth: Feels very positive.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS (Con't.)

A. Middle School Curricular Change (Con't.)

Mr. Nelson: The concept evolved by input from staff. Will update Board members on answers to parents' questions.

Mr. Poellet: Will include information that was presented and the fact that no Board action was taken in Wednesday folders.

The item will be included in the January 2006 Board agenda for consideration and possible action.

B. Superintendent's Periodic Evaluation

The Superintendent's periodic evaluation was held in closed session on November 14, 2005. The Board must adopt, by vote, the periodic evaluation at an open meeting. After the Board's adoption, the evaluation is made available to the public as provided under current law.

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

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

A copy of the Board's evaluation shall be part of the permanent record of minutes.

IX. NEW BUSINESS—ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Audit Service

Two bids to provide audit service for the year ending June 30, 2006 were received:

Rehmann Group	\$15,000 for Annual Audit 5,000 for Single Audit, if required
Robertson & Carpenter, LLP	\$ 6,000 for Annual Audit 500-800 for Single Audit, if required

Mr. Nelson recommended that we continue to use the services of Robertson & Carpenter, LLP.

Neff/Thompson That the firm of Robertson & Carpenter, LLP be retained to provide audit services.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

B. Approval of Fleet Insurance Agent

One response was received for fleet insurance coverage from Alpena Agency, Inc. for \$5,971.70. Our present coverage is through SET/SEG, with a rate of \$3,776.45. Mr. Nelson recommended continuing coverage via SET/SEG.

Neff/Thompson That we continue using SET/SEG to provide fleet insurance coverage.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

IX. NEW BUSINESS—ACTION ITEMS (Con’t.)

C. Sale of Bus #90

The Building/Maintenance Committee recommends that bids be solicited for the sale of Bus #90.

Neff/Yoder, James That the Transportation Department remove Bus #90 from our bus fleet and accept bids for its sale.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

D. Sale of Shop Equipment

Mr. Poellet provided a proposal for selling selected shop equipment. The equipment listed would be sold and some new equipment, with proper guards, would be purchased with the proceeds to allow the shop to be used by custodians and 4-H woodworking. There is continued hope of offering a wood working shop class in the future.

Yoder, James/Neff That the proposal to sell selected shop equipment and other unused or obsolete property be approved as presented.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

E. ESG Contract

As outlined under the Building/Maintenance Committee’s report, the energy saving project is nearing satisfactory completion and one-year warranties are on hand. A Certificate of Completion is available for signature when the project is finalized.

Yoder, Joel/Neff That the Certificate of Completion be executed and the balance paid after installation of all aspects of the project is complete.

Ayes – 6; Nays – 0 Motion carried.

X. NEW BUSINESS—DISCUSSION ITEMS AND DATES

A. Future Transportation Needs

The future role of transportation and the commitment to maintaining it in difficult fiscal times was discussed, with input from Mr. Nelson:

- Pat: A rural community without busing won’t keep students on the outskirts of the district. It is important to maintain transportation as long as possible.
- James: Wants to keep transportation and is committed to keeping safe buses on the roads.
- Joel: Fully supports providing transportation, and feels that we may lose more dollars than we gain by eliminating it. Would like to look at options for reducing costs and realizes that we need safe buses.

X. NEW BUSINESS—DISCUSSION ITEMS AND DATES (Con't.)

A. Future Transportation Needs (Con't.)

Chris: Wants to keep transportation right now, but perhaps there will need to be a choice in several years between providing transportation or a teacher(s). The number of students and present funding does not support both busing and curriculum. Busing is not a priority over teachers. Was not in favor of setting aside money for a bus purchase.

Mr. Poellet: Money could be saved by not funding extracurricular trips.

Mr. Nelson: Agreed that students would be lost on the district's outskirts if no daily transportation was provided. Once we lose our bus fleet, it would be costly to restore.

Joel: Should look at using the bus fleet for only transporting students to school.

Beth: Students who need consistency are the ones who won't be in school if no busing is provided.

The item will be considered further.

B. Leave of Absence

Carl Parker's father requires at-home care for an undetermined time. Melinda Parker requested a leave of absence to provide that care for him. Mr. Nelson granted the leave of absence request, but not under FMLA.

C. HSA Discussion

An Overview of SET Benefits was provided for Board members' perusal. Allan Bierlein, our agent from SET/SEG, will present information and answer questions on Thursday, December 15, 2005 at 3:30 p.m.

D. Shop Proposal

Mr. Poellet continues to explore the option of adding a wood shop class. He will provide information to the Board as it becomes available.

E. Standing Committee Meetings and Dates

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| 1. | Policy Review | Will be set at the January 2006 Board meeting |
| 2. | Finance | December 19, 2005 7:00 p.m. RE: HSA Plan |

XI. Board Comments, Communications, and Closing Public Comments

Board Comments

James: Commended Mr. Poellet and Mr. Handrich for their excellent presentation on the Middle School Concept.

Pat: Expressed her concern about safety for students transporting themselves if busing is not provided for sporting events.

XII. Board Comments, Communications, and Closing Public Comments (Con't.)

Communications

Thank-you notes for the gift certificates were received from Jill and Cliff Lietzke and from Kevin and Joan Salsbury.

Closing Public Comments

There were none.

The president adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Chris Neff, Secretary