

**FAIRVIEW AREA SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 11, 2010**

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The regular meeting of the Fairview Area Schools' Board of Education was held on Monday evening, January 11, 2010 in the elementary media center.

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

PRESENT: Beth Miller, Diana Danhoff, Chris Neff, Kirk Peterson, Dan Smith,  
Merianne Tappan and Anne Tompkins

ABSENT: None

**II. School Board Appreciation Month**

Mr. Wilcoxon presented the Board with certificates and commended them on the great job they are doing, especially with the extremely difficult decisions that need to be made lately.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

By Board consensus, the agenda was approved with the addition of Item **B. Board Stipend** under **IX. NEW BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS**, and Item **B. Athletic Director Salary** under **X. New BUSINESS – DISCUSSION ITEMS**.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

Danhoff/Tompkins That the following items be included in the Consent Agenda and be accepted as presented:

- A. December 14, 2009 regular Board meeting minutes
- B. December 17, 2009 special meeting minutes.
- C. Treasurer's Reports

--Cash Receipts reports for General Fund, 1998 Debt Retirement Fund, and Sinking Fund

--General Fund Accounts Payable for December 2009, which include payrolls of \$126,254.71, bills to be ratified of \$58,393.60, and bills to be paid of \$16,817.47, totaling \$201,465.78.

Ayes – 7; Nays – 0

Motion carried.

**V. Public Comment**

Melanie and Don Haskin again appealed to the Board concerning the Board's decision to eliminate compensation for coaching track in the spring of 2010. Mr. Haskin informed the Board that he checked with other schools, in and out of the state, regarding compensation for Varsity track coaches and that no other schools have unpaid coaches for track. The Haskins are concerned about the short notice and would like to be treated as all the other coaching positions who received adequate notice before having funding cut.

**VI. Administrative Reports**

Mr. Wilcoxon added the following items to his Superintendent's Report:

1. Articles were provided regarding the Race to the Top program and other schools that chose not to participate. Mr. Wilcoxon is glad the Board had additional discussion concerning the matter and provided a website for those wishing to view the State's proposed final plan.
2. A reminder that the February Board meeting will be held at the Clinton Township Hall.
3. Jan 22 marks the end of semester. Jan 25 is a record day with no school for students.
4. A reminder that the 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be holding a soup dinner on Jan. 14.
5. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be attending the circus in Saginaw on Jan. 21.

Mr. Poellet added the following items to his Principal's Report:

1. Thank you to Gary Ridley from the Oscoda County Herald for his nice article about the BEST class helping at the food pantry.
2. Kayla Weaver is to be commended for her 1000<sup>th</sup> point in girl's basketball. The Board will send a letter of congratulations.
3. One of the busses will be towed to Gaylord for repair after the bus fire Friday night.
4. C.O.O.R. is asking schools to put a link on their website directing people to videos showing students involved in Career Tech classes. There is no cost involved. The Board agreed by consensus that Fairview should add the link to its web page.

**VII. Board Committee Reports - none**

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Reductions in the 2010-2011 Budget**

Mr. Wilcoxon is asking for more discussion on reduction strategies. More information on next year's state revenues should be available after the State Revenue Conference. The Board discussed the idea of Mr. Wilcoxon and Mr. Poellet retiring at the end of the year and agreed by consensus it would be better to leave the administrative structure as is until after the September count. Mr. Poellet stated that although he has never sought the position of Superintendent he would consider taking the position, even if only in the interim, if it would help the school financially by freeing up funds to help the students.

Several teachers are eligible for early retirement buyouts. The item will be discussed further at the next Finance Committee meeting. The Board would like Mr. Gusler present to discuss any union issues.

The members of the Finance Committee are asked to review the list of proposed reductions and bring ideas to the meeting.

Mr. Wilcoxon will meet soon with the Superintendent from Mio-AuSable Schools to discuss collaboration and cooperation.

**B. Budget Cuts at Semester**

In order to reduce expenses for the remainder of the school year, the Finance committee has recommended that the track coaching positions for spring of 2010 be voluntary and that bussing for track events be eliminated. The Board proposed a motion that all sports coaching positions be voluntary from this point forward.

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS, (Con't.)**

**B. Budget Cuts at Semester, (Con't.)**

- Peterson/Smith      That all coaching positions be made voluntary from this point forward and that bussing for all sporting events be eliminated.
- Ayes – 3;  
Nays – 4 (Neff, Danhoff, Tappan, Tompkins)      Motion failed.
- Smith/Tappan      That all coaching positions for the 2010-2011 school year be made voluntary.
- Ayes – 7; Nays – 0      Motion carried.
- Smith/Peterson      That the cost of bussing for track events for the 2009-2010 school year be eliminated from the general fund and paid for out of the athletics fund.
- Ayes – 7, Nays – 0

**C. Letter to Michael Flanagan**

No response has been received yet on the letter sent to Michael Flanagan requesting an extension to the waiver granted in May 2009 allowing Mr. Wilcoxon to remain employed as part-time Superintendent. Mary Jo Green has been asked to place a follow-up call to Mr. Flanagan’s office.

**D. Soccer Coaching Position**

A letter has been received by Steve Koslakiewicz agreeing to return as Soccer coach for the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Koslakiewicz acknowledges the fact that the position will be voluntary.

- Tompkins/Danhoff      That Steve Koslakiewicz be approved as Soccer coach for 2010-2011.
- Ayes – 7; Nays – 0      Motion carried.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS—ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Approval of Fourth Grade Trip**

A schedule for the fourth-grade trip to the U.P. in May is included.

- Neff/Danhoff      That the fourth-grade trip be approved as presented.
- Ayes – 7; Nays – 0      Motion carried.

**B. Board Stipend**

It was proposed by a Board member that the Board set a precedent during these financially challenging times and suspend their stipend.

- Tompkins/Peterson      That the Board stipend be suspended indefinitely at this time, due to financial challenges, effective immediately.
- Ayes – 6; Nays – 1 (Neff)      Motion carried.

**X. NEW BUSINESS—DISCUSSION ITEMS AND DATES**

**A. Standing Committee Meetings**

The Building/Maintenance Committee will meet Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.  
The Finance Committee will meet Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

**B. Athletic Director Salary**

Mr. Poellet offered to have the Board consider making the Athletic Director position voluntary. Mr. Wilcoxon informed the Board that the position is more than just a coaching position and requires year-round work overseeing the program, scheduling, dealing with parent issues, etc., and that it should be compensated or that there should at least be a stipend for game-work. The Board is asked to consider this item for further discussion at the next meeting.

**XI. Board Comments, Communications, and Closing Public Comments**

Board Comments      None

Communications      A letter was received from SET/SEG thanking the Board for their outstanding contribution to public education.

A letter was received from MASB congratulating Fairview Area Schools for being named one of the best high schools in the nation. Fairview was again awarded a Bronze award by *U.S. News and World Report* for outstanding achievement and academic outcomes.

Public Comments      None

President Beth Miller adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

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Diana Danhoff, Board Secretary