

MINUTES
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 20, 2009
THE LEARNING CENTER

Members Present: Joseph Arcuri, Cathy Bergstrom, Kathy Deprey, Jeanne Doerr, Beth Duffy, Paul Omichinski, Phil Penn, Raymond Sikora, Elaine Schiavone

Absent: Karen Sullivan

Also Present: Alan Beitman - Superintendent of Schools
David Lenihan - Business Manager
Stephen Sikora - Student Representative
Dave Troiani - Student Representative

- I. Call to order - The regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting was held at The Learning Center, and was called to order at 7:32 pm by Chairman Paul Omichinski.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – The Pledge was recited.
- III. Communications
 - A. Superintendent’s Report
 1. Special Guests – Mr. Beitman introduced Mrs. Barbara Anelicola-Manzoli, FBLA advisor. Mrs. Angelicola-Manzoli introduced the Lewis S. Mills FBLA Spring Leadership Conference award winners. Mrs. Angelicola-Manzoli indicated that there were a record number of award winners this year from Lewis S. Mills. Mr. Beitman and the Board congratulated the award winners, thanked Mrs. Angelicola-Manzoli for her hard work and efforts, and he thanked the parents for their support.
 2. Resignations and Retirements – Mr. Beitman announced the retirements of Mrs. Cathryn Carter, a district-wide technology teacher and Mrs. Christie Wall, a Lake Garda grade 3 teacher. He also announced the resignations of Mrs. Joanne Ramsey, English teacher at LSM and Mrs. Kim Lewis, .4 remedial reading teacher at Har-Bur Middle School. Mr. Sikora commented that both of his children had Mrs. Carter for a teacher and she is an outstanding educator. Mrs. Duffy commented that her son had Mrs. Wall for a teacher and it was a red-letter year for him. Mr. Dave Troiani commented that he had Mrs. Ramsey for freshmen English and that she too is an outstanding educator.
 3. Estimate of Expenses 2009-2010 Up Date- Mr. Beitman presented the following updates. The Bristol Pool, which was used by the swim team, will be closing. The cost of renting this pool was quite reasonable; therefore, there may be a budget increase when a replacement facility is selected. Mr. Beitman presented some very tentative, but promising news regarding stimulus money. The state indicated that stimulus money could likely be used to purchase special education vehicles as long as the vehicles costs more than

\$5,000. After it is purchased, the Board would move the currant van from the special education department to the maintenance department, thereby removing the preventative maintenance vehicle from the estimate of expenses.

In addition, stimulus money could be used to purchase special education technology equipment like computers, smart boards and other adaptive technology equipment.

Mr. Beitman said that he is anticipating about \$300,000 in stimulus money in the first year and roughly \$300,000 in the second year. However, nobody really knows when the funds will be received, how much will be allocated to Region 10 or whether there will be additional stipulations for spending.

- B. Lewis S Mills Student Representative Report (s) – Mr. Steven Sikora reported that the spring sports season is in full swing. In softball, Emily Bohmer pitched a perfect game. Student council presented the 2008-2009 talent show and there were many entertaining acts. The advanced placement exams are scheduled in early May. Mr. Dave Troiani reported that the France trip was a great, cultural experience. The students visited Paris as well as many other French cities and they saw numerous historical sights. Also, the Costa Rica trip was a very enlightening and enjoyable experience and weather was excellent.

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. A **motion** to approve the following consent agenda with corrections (listed below) was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. Eight (8) in favor, one abstention (Ms. Schiavone), none opposed. Motion carries. (8/1/0)

Regular Board of Education Meeting of March 9, 2009 – Corrections: Section V second paragraph included the fact that Mrs. Allen is from the town of Burlington. Section V third paragraph included the fact that Mrs. Smiley is from the town of Burlington. Section VI item B, sixth line the word seconded corrected to read second.

Board of Education Budget Meeting of March 16, 2009 - Corrections: Third item corrected from II. to III. Page 3, first paragraph, line 7, the word “to” was inserted after the word due. Page 3, paragraph 4, line 2, correction in spelling to Mr. Lenihan’s name, page 4, paragraph 2, Mrs. Sullivan to Ms. Sullivan, page 4, paragraph 4, line 1, 2009-2010 graduation to 2009 graduation and in line three, correction to the spelling of Mrs. Bergstrom’s name. Action item X the motion was changed from 99/0/0 to (9/0/0)

Expulsion Hearing Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of March 18, 2009

Expulsion Hearing Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of March 24, 2009

Special Meeting of October 1, 2009

Special Meeting of February 9, 2009

Special Meeting of April 7, 2009

Financial report dated March 30, 2009

- V. Public Participation – There was no public participation.

VI. Action

- A. Lewis S. Mills/Spain Home Stay Exchange Program – Mr. Beitman recommended the Board approve the Spain Home Stay Exchange Program.

A **motion** to approve the Spain Home Stay Exchange Program was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Mr. Sikora.

Discussion - Mr. Penn asked if Superintendent Beitman was happy with the 9/1 chaperone/student ratio. Mr. Beitman said he was because the students from Spain will be staying with families in Spain and the parents of these students would be assuming most of the responsibility. The parents are, in a sense, the chaperones. Mr. Sikora commented that this has been the third or fourth Spain home stay exchange program and it has run very smoothly in the past.

All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

VII. Business

- A. Region 10 Policy Revisions First Review – Subcommittee on Policies – Mrs. Duffy reported that after reviewing the policies the committee had a few recommendations that are quite minor and have more to do with style than content. The changes were to language that was more appropriate for the district. Mr. Beitman indicated that the changes will be made by Wednesday, April 22 and the policies would be sent, via email, to Board members for their review. Following, they will be posted on the web site for the community to review. A message would be placed on the sign indicating that new policies have been posted on the Region 10 web site.
- B. Approval of new Calculus Textbook- First Review – Mr. Beitman indicated the curriculum committee reviewed the new calculus book and they recommend it be adopted. Ms. Schiavone asked when we would be purchasing them. Mr. Beitman indicated we would purchase them this year. Mr. Arcuri asked what sections this book would cover. Mr. Sikora explained. This item will be placed on the May 11 agenda for final approval.
- C. Approval of new Family Consumer Science Book- First Review – Mr. Beitman indicated that the curriculum committee reviewed the new family consumer science book. Mr. Sikora said it is a great book and the committee supports its adoption. This item will be placed on the May 11 agenda for final approval.

VIII. Board Committee Reports


- A. CREC – Mrs. Duffy reported that she went to the National School Board conference. She brought back information and offered it to the members for their review. She said that she came away from the conference feeling very proud of our district.
- B. Subcommittee on Expulsion Hearings – Mrs. Bergstrom indicated that the committee would be presenting materials at the May 11 meeting.
- X. The Annual Budget Meeting will be held on May 4, 2009 in the Lewis Mills Auditorium at 7:30 pm. The Region 10 Referendum is scheduled for May 5, 2009 from 6:00 am – 8:00 pm at the Harwinton and Burlington Town Halls.
- XI. The next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, 2009 at 7:30p.m. in The Learning Center.

XII. A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Penn and was seconded by Mr. Sikora. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

Meeting ended at 8:32 pm.



Raymond Sikora, BOE Secretary



Date