

School District of Fort Atkinson
Board of Education
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON

Board of Education

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 17, 2008

The monthly meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Fort Atkinson was held Thursday, April 17, 2008. President Kent Koebke called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., at the Luther Administration Center, 201 Park Street, Fort Atkinson, WI. Vice-President Carrie Chisholm, Treasurer Scott Johnson, Clerk Rodger Thomann and Member Bob Chady were present. The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance. President Koebke read the District's mission statement, "The School District of Fort Atkinson is committed to delivering the quality opportunities and services each student needs to achieve his or her academic and personal potential."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Thomann moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote, the minutes of the regular meeting dated March 20, 2008 be approved. Thomann moved, seconded by Chady and approved unanimously by voice vote, the minutes of the special meeting dated April 4, 2008 be approved.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Recognition of Aaron Martin - The Board of Education recognized Aaron Martin who ranked 12th in the state geography bee contest.

Recognition of Forensics - The Board of Education recognized Forensics Team Members Amanda Begovatz, Alexis Burns, Jake Burow, Arjun Dhillon, Becky McHenry, Olivia Gilkey-Meisegeier, Erika Nielson, Vicky Weber for advancing to state competition and Coaches Jane Steiner and Nancy Becker.

Recognition by American Field Service (AFS) - Mr. Dick Schultz, of the AFS chapter, presented a certificate to the School District of Fort Atkinson for more than 40 years of participation.

Recognition of Joe Ray - The Board of Education recognized Joe Ray for his donation of a hand-carved District Mission sign.

Recognition of Ardell Wiederhoeft - The Board of Education recognized Business Manager Ardell Wiederhoeft for being named Wisconsin School Business Official of the Year.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON AGENDA AND NONAGENDA ITEMS – No comments.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS – Madeline Bare presented a report on Fort Atkinson Middle School activities. Student Representatives Kim Leroy and Joe Loof presented reports on activities in the other buildings.

INSTRUCTION

Data Points Report – Spelling and Word Work - Director of Instruction Naomi Gray, Barrie Principal Tony Bolz, High School Principal Jeff Zaspel, Rockwell Principal Vicki Wright and Middle School Principal Rob Abbott indicated the purpose of the report is to assist the Board in selecting data points in

the core academic areas that can be used annually in reviewing program success. These data points will assist in monitoring student performance at the District level, comparing student performance nationally, statewide or with other districts, monitoring program success and effectiveness of local interventions. The presentation included information on phonics and word work instruction; spelling and writing curriculum and grading; and interventions such as LINK, Reading Recovery and Read 180. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Request for Approval for General Education Diploma Option #2 (GEDO #2) - High School Principal Jeff Zaspel presented information on GEDO #2. GEDO #2 is a State of Wisconsin alternative program option serving at-risk students. Dr. Zaspel stated this is one more opportunity for students to earn a general equivalency diploma. Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote that the Board of Education approves submittal of an application for the Fort Atkinson High School to become a General Education Diploma Option #2 (GEDO #2) preparation site.

Approval of Textbook Adoption - Thomann moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote that the textbook *Advanced Mathematical Concepts: Precalculus with Applications*, written by B. Holliday, G. Cuevas, M. McClure, J. Carter, D. Marks, published by McGraw Hill/Glencoe Publishers, copyright 2006, recommended for use in Advanced Mathematics be removed from the table.

Thomann moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by roll call that the textbook *Advanced Mathematical Concepts: Precalculus with Applications*, written by B. Holliday, G. Cuevas, M. McClure, J. Carter, D. Marks, published by McGraw Hill/Glencoe Publishers, copyright 2006, be adopted for use in Advanced Mathematics.

Initial Textbook Adoptions - Thomann moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote that the textbook *World Cultures and Geography: Western Hemisphere and Europe* by Bednarz, Smith, Miyares, Ogle and White published by McDougall Littell, copyright 2008, recommended for use in the Western Cultural Studies course, be made available for public review during normal working hours in the Office of the Director of Instruction for one month and be considered for adoption at the regular Board meeting in May.

Chisholm moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote that the textbook *Health Careers Today* by Judith Gerdin published by Mosby, copyright 2007, recommended for use in the Medical Occupations course, be made available for public review during normal working hours in the Office of the Director of Instruction for one month and be considered for adoption at the regular Board meeting in May.

Chisholm moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote that the textbook *Essentials of Anatomy and Physiology* by Martini and Bartholomew published by Pearson, copyright 2007, recommended for use in the Anatomy and Physiology course, be made available for public review during normal working hours in the Office of the Director of Instruction for one month and be considered for adoption at the regular Board meeting in May.

Chisholm moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by voice vote that the textbooks *The American Pageant (Advanced Placement Edition)* by Kennedy, Cohen and Bailey published by Houghton Mifflin, copyright 2006, recommended for use in the Advanced Placement U.S. History course, and *America: A Narrative History* by Tindall and Shi published by Norton Publishing, copyright 2007,

recommended for use in the Advanced Placement U.S. History course, be made available for public review during normal working hours in the Office of the Director of Instruction for one month and be considered for adoption at the regular Board meeting in May.

Board Curriculum Committee Report – Thomann stated the Board Curriculum Committee discussed world language programming and the academic agenda portion of the Strategic Plan.

Approval of Postsecondary At-Risk HSED Request – No requests.

NONINSTRUCTION

Building Proposal for Music Department at High School – Mr. Craig Engstrom, Music Teacher at the High School, and Mr. Mike Hill explained the building proposal for the Music Department at the High School. Leasing an off-site building, the needs of other departments, security and esthetics of the building was discussed. It was agreed the Music Department, Buildings and Grounds Board Committee and personnel and the administration meet and prepare a recommendation before the May Board Meeting.

Board Buildings and Grounds Committee Report – Johnson stated construction work has been started at the Middle School for the geothermal upgrades.

Report on Geothermal - Building and Grounds Director Dennis Kuchenmeister presented a report on savings due to the geothermal upgrades. A copy of the report is attached.

Board Finance Committee Report – Chady stated the audit and transportation contracts were reviewed by the Committee.

Approval of Transportation Contract with Double Three Transportation Co., Inc. - Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by roll call that the District's transportation contract with Double Three Transportation Company, Inc., Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, be approved.

Request to Transfer Funds – Business Manager Ardell Wiederhoeft explained the first request is from the Business Office asking to move \$2,562 from office supplies and \$1,189 from replacement equipment in its budget to the replacement equipment account for Information Services to purchase a replacement postage machine and scale. The second is from Barrie School asking to move \$1,340 from the supply account for science instruction; \$860 from the in-service travel account for teachers, and \$300 from the in-service travel account for support staff to provide \$2,500 for curriculum materials for health instruction. Johnson moved, seconded by Chady and approved unanimously by roll call that that the 2007-2008 General Fund (Fund 10) Expenditure budget be adjusted as follows: Decrease Regular Curriculum by \$1,340.00; decrease Instructional Staff Services by \$860.00; decrease Business Administration by \$3,751.00; increase Physical Curriculum by \$2,500.00 and increase Central Services by \$3,451.00.

Approval of CESA 5 Service Contract for Data Processing – Chady moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by roll call that the School District of Fort Atkinson and CESA 5 enter into a service agreement in the amount of \$8,356.00 for the 2008-09 school year for data processing.

Approval of Contract for School Nursing Services – Thomann moved, seconded by Chisholm that the School District of Fort Atkinson enter into a contract with Fort Atkinson Healthcare School Nurse Program, for nursing services from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. Chady moved to table to allow Board

Members time to review the contract. The motion died due to the lack of a second. The initial motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Board Communication Committee Report – No report.

Board Policy Committee Report – Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote that Board Policy 363.2 – Access to and Use of Electronic Communication and the Internet be removed from the table. Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote that Board Policy 363.2 – Access to and Use of Electronic Communication and the Internet be adopted for use in the School District of Fort Atkinson. Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote that Board Policy 852 – Sponsorships be removed from the table. Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote that Board Policy 852 – Sponsorships be adopted for use in the School District of Fort Atkinson.

Certification of Election Results - Clerk Rodger Thomann reported on the results of the election held on April 1, 2008. Rodger Thomann received 1,366 votes and Kent Koebke received 1,349 and they will begin three-year terms on the School Board.

PERSONNEL

Staffing Recommendations for 2008-09 - Dr. Fitzpatrick reviewed the 2008-09 staffing recommendations. He stated per enrollments and program needs, the administration is requesting additional FTE in the following areas: Middle School Spanish increase .2 FTE; Spanish High School, increase .6 FTE; Elementary Guidance, increase .5 FTE; and GATE, increase .5 FTE. The net FTE request is 1.2 additional staff. The High School Spanish FTE request will be offset by an estimated .50 FTE reduction in Technology Education programming next year. Thomann moved, seconded by Chady and approved unanimously by roll call that the Board of Education approves additional FTE as follows: Middle School Spanish, increase .2 FTE; Spanish High School, increase .6 FTE; Elementary Guidance, increase .5 FTE and GATE, increase .5 FTE.

Appointments – Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by roll call that the appointment of David Geiger, Principal of Luther Elementary School, effective with the 2008-09 school year, be approved contingent upon release from current contract and upon completion and satisfactory results of the pre-placement health screening and background check. Thomann moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by roll call that the following appointments, effective with the 2008-09 school year, be approved contingent upon release from current contract and upon completion and satisfactory results of the pre-placement health screening and background checks: Kelly Kliefoth, 1.0 FTE, HS/MS Reading Specialist, Janice Verhulst, 1.0 FTE, MS Family and Consumer Education and Kathy Volk, 1.0 FTE, 4K Coordinator/Speech & Language Pathologist.

Transfer Request – Chady moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by voice vote that the transfer request of Anne Seraphine from 2nd Grade to Kindergarten at Purdy Elementary, effective with the 2008-09 school year be approved.

Notice of Partial Layoff - Thomann moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote that the contract of Sandra Stone, German Teacher at the High School, be reduced from .80 FTE to .60 FTE, pending 2008-09 student enrollment numbers.

Resignation Request – Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote that the resignation request of Valerie Murnane-Harris, .3 FTE Art Teacher at the Middle School, effective at the end of the 2007-08 school year be accepted.

Retirement Request – Johnson moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote that the retirement request of Thomas Kohl, Technology Education Teacher at the High School, effective at the end of the 2007-08 school year, be accepted and the Board of Education thank Thomas Kohl for his fourteen years of service and dedication to the students and community of the School District of Fort Atkinson.

Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote that the retirement request of Ardell Wiederhoeft, Business Manager, effective the end of January, 2009, be accepted and the Board of Education thank Ardell Wiederhoeft for his forty years of service and dedication to the students and community of the School District of Fort Atkinson.

TREASURER’S REPORT - Treasurer Scott Johnson presented the Treasurer’s Report. Chady moved the District bills be approved for payment as posted up to April 8, 2008, in the amount of \$357,695.54 and the construction bills in the amount of \$66,108.75. Motion seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by roll call.

WASB/CESA REPORT(S) – Johnson encouraged Board Members to attend the upcoming WASB Spring Academy and the CESA #2 meeting.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS – CESA 2 contract approval, presentation of proposed budget, Physical Therapy contract, Employee Assistance Program contract approval, audit contract, school lunch account, website home page and alternative school options. The June Board Meeting will be moved to June 26 from June 19, 2008. District vehicle purchases will be discussed by the Board Finance Committee. Authorization of depositories and authorization to invest district funds will be moved to the April 28 special meeting agenda. Senior Class President Nick Jones expressed his concerns about what is being done for students who are academically falling behind. Board Members explained the multiple interventions and graduation options that are in place for students. The Board thanked Mr. Jones for expressing his concerns and stated the Board encourages and welcomes input from students.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 10:43 p.m. (Chisholm-Chady). Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Kopps
Board Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED:

Rodger P. Thomann
Rodger Thomann, Clerk
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON

05/15/08
Date