

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

**Board of Education**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**June 26, 2008**

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The monthly meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Fort Atkinson was held Thursday, June 26, 2008. President Kent Koebke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., at the Luther Administration Center, 201 Park Street, Fort Atkinson, WI. Vice-President Carrie Chisholm, Treasurer Bob Chady, Clerk Rodger Thomann and Member Scott Johnson 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 the minutes of the regular meeting dated May 15, 2008, be approved; motion seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote. Thomann moved the minutes of the closed session dated May 15, 2008, be approved; motion seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote. Thomann moved the minutes of the special meeting dated June 13, 2008, be approved; motion seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote.

**AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**Recognition of Track Team** - The Board of Education recognized Spencer Agnew, Jake Burow, Kim LeRoy and Micaela Magsamen, members of the High School Track Team who advanced to state competition and Coach Dennis Schwedersky.

**Recognition of Crossroads Graduates** - The Board of Education recognized Crossroads Graduates Jason West and Amber Ganus. Fort Atkinson High School Principal Jeff Zaspel presented diplomas to the graduates.

**Recognition of Karen Tuten** - The Board of Education recognized Karen Tuten, teacher at Barrie Elementary School. Mrs. Tuten was the recipient of the Fort Atkinson Rotary Club's Educator-of-the-Month award.

**Recognition of Gary Romens** - The Board of Education recognized Gary Romens, of the Double Three Transportation Company, for securing the safety and welfare of students following a bus fire.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON AGENDA AND NONAGENDA ITEMS** – Mr. Kent Koebke, 551 E. Milwaukee Avenue, Fort Atkinson, expressed gratitude to the volunteers who came forward to help during the recent flooding.

**ADOPTION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE 2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR** - Johnson moved, seconded by Chady and approved unanimously by roll call, the proposed budget for the 2008-09 school year be presented to the Annual Meeting and a levy to fund the budget be submitted to the electors for approval at the Annual Meeting on Monday, July 28, 2008.

**INSTRUCTION**

**Approval of Strategic Plan** – Dr. Fitzpatrick indicated the Board received the proposed Strategic Plan for the District. Chisholm moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by voice vote, that the Board of Education approve the 2008-13 Strategic Plan.

**Request for Early Graduation Option from Fort Atkinson High School** - Chisholm moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by voice vote that current Fort Atkinson High School senior MB, who made application for early graduation in writing to the high school principal no later than the last day of classes of the spring semester of their junior year, be permitted to graduate at the end of the first semester of the 2008-09 school year provided they have met the requirements for graduation as set forth in Board Policy 345.6.

**Approval of Postsecondary At-Risk HSED Request** – Thomann moved, seconded by Chady and approved unanimously by roll call, Fort Atkinson School District resident TB be permitted to participate in the Postsecondary At-Risk Program at the Madison Area Technical College-Fort Atkinson Campus to pursue a High School Equivalency Diploma pending the results of MATC testing and the School District of Fort Atkinson pay the full cost of the program as outlined in Wisconsin Statutes.

**Report on HSED Program Student Progress** - High School Principal Jeff Zaspel reported on the progress of students enrolled in the HSED Program. A copy of Dr. Zaspel's report is attached.

**Report on Youth Options Program Student Progress** - High School Principal Jeff Zaspel reported on the progress of students enrolled in the Youth Options Program. A copy of Dr. Zaspel's report is attached.

**Board Curriculum Committee Report** – No report.

## NONINSTRUCTION

**Board Buildings and Grounds Committee Report** – Johnson reported on the progress of the geothermal and roof work at the middle school.

**Board Finance Committee Report** – Chady stated the Board Finance Committee reviewed bids and awarded Workmen's Compensation and Property and Liability insurances, will recommend the Business Manager be allowed to select from investment categories for Fund 73 Post-Employment Benefits Trust at the July Board Meeting and recommends approval of the following resolution.

**Request for Approval for an Inter-Fund Payment from the General Fund (Fund 10) to the Post-Employment Benefits Trust (Fund 73)** – Chady stated at its regular May, 2007 meeting, the Board of Education approved the creation of a Post-Employment Benefit Trust. The Trust was created and it was utilized for the first time last June. In order to receive categorical aid from the State for post employment benefits paid to former employees who provided services to special education students, it is necessary to make interfund payments between the General Fund (Fund 10) and the Employee Benefit Fund (Fund 73). By Board policy 623.1 all interfund transfers require Board approval. The payment from Fund 10 to Fund 73 will consist of about 105% of the total amount of health insurance payments for all retirees (regular or special education and food service) during the 2007-2008 fiscal year, plus the implicit (health insurance) rate subsidy. This transfer will be made as soon as possible after Board approval. Then, on or before June 30, 2008, Fund 73 will reimburse Fund 10 for the total amount of health insurance payments plus the implicit rate subsidy. The extra 5% will be left in the Trust where it will remain invested. Since the District had not run all of the June payrolls as of this date, the actual "pay-as-you-go" total for the 2007-

2008 fiscal year was not available. The estimated numbers are as follows: Total estimated "pay-as-you-go" for 2007-2008 is \$420,111, total "implicit rate subsidy" determined by actuary is \$176,045 for a subtotal of \$596,156, plus an additional 5% (will remain in Fund 73) is \$29,808 for an estimated total transfer to Fund 73 of \$625,964. The additional 5% left behind will be used to begin to grow an offset to what currently is an unfunded liability for post employment benefits.

Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by roll call, a payment in the amount of 105% of the sum of the "pay-as-you-go" post-employment health insurance benefits and the implicit rate subsidy (estimated to be \$625,964) be made from the General Fund (Fund 10) to the Post-Employment Benefits Trust (Fund 73) on Friday, June 27, 2008, and on or before June 30, 2008, a payment equal to the sum of the "pay-as-you-go" post-employment health insurance benefits and the implicit rate subsidy (estimated to be \$596,156) be made from Fund 73 to Fund 10 to reimburse Fund 10 for the post employment benefits it paid during the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

**School Breakfast, Lunch and Milk Prices for 2008-09** – Dr. Fitzpatrick indicated in order to continue to serve nutritious meals, it will be necessary to increase meal and milk prices due to rising food and fuel costs. Board Members expressed concern about having to raise prices and the recent nutrition program's negative end-of-year balances. It was agreed the Finance Committee will review and analyze all aspects of the food service operation. Johnson moved, seconded by Chady and approved unanimously by roll call, the meal prices be increased as follows beginning with the 2008-09 school year:

**For Noon Lunches:**

Elementary students (Kindergarten – grade 5)	from \$2.15 to \$2.35
Secondary students (grades 6-12)	from \$2.30 to \$2.55
Adults	from \$2.95 to \$3.25

**Noon lunches sold to other agencies:**

Student meals (without milk)	from \$2.30 to \$2.55
Adults (without milk)	from \$2.95 to \$3.25

**For Breakfast:**

Elementary students (Kindergarten-grade 5)	from \$1.30 to \$1.40
Secondary students (grades 6-12)	from \$1.35 to \$1.45
Adults	from \$1.55 to \$1.85

½ Pint Cartons of Milk	from .25¢ to .30¢
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**The following prices remain unchanged from the 2007-08 school year:**

Reduced-price breakfasts for students	\$0.30
Reduced-price noon meals for students	\$0.40

**Request to Transfer Funds** – Business Manager Ardell Wiederhoeft explained the requests to transfer funds. The first request is from Rockwell School asking to move \$1,900 from replacement equipment for the library to site maintenance because the replacement playground equipment required a 12-inch woodchip base for safety. The second is also from Rockwell school asking to move \$3,548 from social studies textbooks to general supplies for social studies. The transfer is needed to cover costs associated

with the new Social Studies adoption. The third is also from Rockwell school asking to move \$244 from other media in the library to equipment repair for building operation. The additional funds are needed to cover copier machine charges for the rest of the fiscal year. The fourth is from the Director of Instruction asking to move \$6,453 from data analysis services to pay for substitute teachers needed for work release when teachers completed curriculum and assessment documents. Johnson moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by roll call that the foregoing 2007-2008 General Fund (Fund 10) Expenditure budget transfer requests be approved. It was agreed to have the Finance Committee review the process and publication of transferring funds.

**Board Policy Committee Report** – Thomann stated the Board Policy Committee reviewed the sponsorship and nutrition policies; discussed the need for a policy on privacy in locker rooms as required by law; discussed the rewording of the policy on evaluation of administrators and future agenda items. Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote Board Policy 623.1 – Interaccount/Interfund Transfers be removed from the table. Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote Board Policy 623.1 – Interaccount/Interfund Transfers be adopted for use in the School District of Fort Atkinson.

**Board Communication Committee Report** – Director of Technology John Ottow presented information on the school website. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**Receipt of Gifts to the School District** – Thomann moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote that the Board of Education accept the donations from the many contributors to build a new playground structure at Rockwell Elementary School, themed notepads for the elementary schools from Highsmith Inc., file boxes from Fred Negus, and a vaulting pole for the High School Track Program from Fred and Janet Negus and the Board of Education thank the many contributors, Highsmith Inc., Fred Negus and Fred and Janet Negus for their generous donations.

## PERSONNEL

**Agreement with Local 655-B, AFSCME, AFL-CIO** – Chady moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by roll call the Board of Education approve the Negotiated Agreement for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school years between the Board of Education of the School District of Fort Atkinson and Local 655-B, AFSCME, AFL-CIO. Chady indicated the agreement with AFSCME (maintenance workers, custodians, cooks and cooks helpers) contained some language changes and a wage increase of .33 per hour beginning July of 2008, .36 per hour beginning July of 2009 equating to 2.62% the first year and 2.66% the second year.

**Resignation Requests** – Chady moved, seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously by voice vote the resignation requests of Kevin Flegner, Athletic Director/Associate Principal at the High School, and Laura Lloyd, Math Teacher at the Middle School, effective at the end of the 2007-08 school year be accepted and the Board of Education thank Kevin Flegner for his six years of service and dedication to the School District of Fort Atkinson and the Board of Education thank Laura Lloyd for her seven years of service and dedication to the School District of Fort Atkinson.

**Appointments and Retirements** – Chisholm moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by roll call the following be employed in the School District of Fort Atkinson effective at the beginning of the 2008-09 school year, contingent upon release from current teaching contracts when applicable and upon completion and satisfactory results of the pre-placement health screening and background checks:

Dan Bergschnieder, 1.0 FTE, Math/Language Arts, Middle School; Catherine Hagen, .50 FTE, Art, Middle School; Lynn Lopez von Huben, .50 FTE, GATE Specialist, District and Amy True, .50 FTE, Elementary Guidance, Barrie/Rockwell; excluding Kristi Lensing, .50 FTE, French, Middle School, who withdrew from employment offer.

Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by roll call that Jason Demerath be employed in the School District of Fort Atkinson as Director of Business, effective January 1, 2009, contingent upon release from current contract and upon completion and satisfactory results of the pre-placement health screening and background checks.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** - Treasurer Bob Chady presented the Treasurer’s Report. Johnson moved the District bills be approved for payment as posted up to June 11, 2008, in the amount of \$545,575.98 and the construction bills in the amount of \$460,246.52. Motion seconded by Chady and approved unanimously by roll call.

**WASB/CESA REPORT(S)** – Thomann reported on the CESA 2 delegate conference.


**ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS** – Approval of length of school day, designation of fund balances, Fund 73 investments and discussion of regular board meeting start time.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m. (Chisholm-Thomann). Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Kopps  
Board Secretary

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

  
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Rodger Thomann, Clerk  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON

07/28/08  
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Date