

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

**Board of Education**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**June 18, 2009**

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The monthly meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Fort Atkinson was held Thursday, June 18, 2009. Vice-President Carrie Chisholm called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., at the Luther Administration Center, 201 Park Street, Fort Atkinson, WI. Treasurer Bob Chady, Clerk Kent Koebke and Member Rodger Thomann were present. President Scott Johnson was absent. The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice-President Chisholm 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** – Koebke moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting dated May 21, 2009. Motion seconded by Chady and passed 4-0-1 by voice vote with Johnson absent. Koebke moved to approve the minutes of the closed session dated May 21, 2009. Motion seconded by Thomann and passed 4-0-1 by voice vote with Johnson absent. Koebke moved to approve the minutes of the special meeting dated May 28, 2009. Motion seconded by Thomann and passed 4-0-1 by voice vote with Johnson absent.

**AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

President Scott Johnson arrived at 7:06 p.m.

**Recognition of Josh Fritzsche** - The Board of Education recognized inaugural creative writing contest winner Josh Fritzsche and Matt Noll, English Teacher.

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

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON AGENDA AND NONAGENDA ITEMS** – Mr. Jude Hartwick, 704 N. Main Street, Fort Atkinson, representing the Fort Atkinson Education Association (FEA) indicated the Board is considering imposing a qualified economic offer (QEO) but stated FEA would like to continue negotiations to reach an agreement for the 2009-2011 contract.

**ADOPTION OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE 2009-10 SCHOOL YEAR** – Director of Business Services Jason Demerath presented the proposed budget for the 2009-10 school year. Thomann moved, seconded by Koebke and approved unanimously by roll call, the proposed budget for the 2009-10 school year be presented to the Annual Meeting and that a levy to fund the budget be submitted to the electors for approval at the Annual Meeting on Monday, July 27, 2009.

**INSTRUCTION**

**Strategic Plan Report on Response to Intervention (RtI)** – Director of Special Education and Pupil Services John Peterson presented a report on the Strategic Plan goal of Response to Intervention (RtI).

Mr. Peterson highlighted the elements of RtI, explained the needs and available resources and the instruction and interventions that are in place that apply to RtI. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**Requests for Early Graduation Option from Fort Atkinson High School** - Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote, three current Fort Atkinson High School students be permitted to graduate at the end of the first semester of the 2009-10 school year provided they have met the requirements for graduation as set forth in Board Policy 345.6.

**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 the report is attached.

**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 the report is attached.

**Board Instruction and Pupil Services Committee Report** – No report.

## NONINSTRUCTION

**Board Buildings and Grounds Committee Report** – Mr. Koebke asked Board Members to review the District's Energy Plan and stated the committee will be reviewing the Fort Atkinson High School land purchase by the state for the Hwy 26 by-pass.

**Report on Savings Due to Geothermal Heating and Ventilating Upgrades** - Director of Buildings and Grounds Dennis Kuchenmeister presented a cost comparison for schools with geothermal systems. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**Report on Field of Dreams** – Athletic Director and Associate Principal Mark Pollex explained the Field of Dreams Project at the High School. Mr. Pete Weston, of Design Alliance Architects, Inc., presented a plan for a concession stand/restrooms/storage facility on the premise which would be constructed through volunteer efforts. Board Members would like a strategic master plan and vision developed to detail what is needed and where in the future. Once completed, this will be presented to the Buildings and Grounds Committee. The Board thanked Mr. Weston and the others who volunteered their time and resources to the Project.

**Board Finance Committee Report** – Mr. Chady stated the Finance Committee reviewed the state budget and proposed aid, renegotiated interest agreement with the District's depository and the following agenda items.

**Request for Approval for an Inter-Fund Payment from the General Fund (Fund 10) to the Post-Employment Benefits Trust (Fund 73)** – Director of Business Services Jason Demerath explained 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 Trust Fund (Fund 73). The payment from Fund 10 to Fund 73 will consist of 105% of the total amount of health insurance payments for all retirees (regular or special education and food service) during the 2008-09 fiscal year, plus the implicit (health insurance) rate subsidy. This transfer will be made after Board approval. Then, on or before June 30, 2009, Fund 73 would 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. Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm, 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 \$580,000) be made from the General Fund (Fund 10) to the Post-Employment Benefits Trust (Fund 73) on Friday, June 26, 2009 and on or before June 30, 2009, 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 \$552,361) be made from Fund 73 to Fund 10 to reimburse Fund 10 for the post employment benefits it paid during the 2008-09 fiscal year.

**Request for Approval to Pursue a State Trust Fund Loan to Refinance the District’s Prior Service Pension Liability** – Mr. Demerath stated in order for the District to consider the use of a State Trust Fund Loan to refinance the District’s Wisconsin Retirement System unfunded pension liability, it is necessary to apply for the loan to lock in the interest rate and reserve the money should the District decide to utilize this option. Chisholm moved, seconded by Thomann, and approved unanimously by roll call, the Board of Education approve the pursuit of a State Trust Fund Loan to refinance the District’s prior service pension liability obligation.

**School Breakfast, Lunch and Milk Prices for 2009-10** – Food Service Director Armando Martinez indicated the school breakfast, lunch and milk prices for the 2009-10 school year will remain the same as last year. An equipment replacement plan will be sent to Board Members.

**Approval of Paid Tuition Agreement** – Chisholm moved, seconded by Koebke, and approved unanimously by voice vote, the Board of Education approve one student as a paid-tuition student for the 2009-10 school year.

**Request to Transfer Funds** – Mr. Demerath stated the transfer request is from Luther Elementary School. Due to the implementation of a new health curriculum, the health textbook account was overspent. The following transfer balances the account by shifting money from the telephone account, which was under budget. Chisholm moved, seconded by Koebke, and approved unanimously by roll call the 2008-09 General Fund (Fund 10) Expenditure budget be adjusted as follows: Decrease Central Services by \$1,316 and increase Physical Curriculum by \$1,316.

**Board Policy Committee Report** – Mr. Thomann outlined future policy topics and stated the Policy Committee reviewed the following policies. Thomann moved, seconded by Chady, and approved unanimously by voice vote, Board Policy 343.42 – Postsecondary Enrollment Options (Youth Options Program) be removed from the table. Koebke moved, seconded by Chady, and approved unanimously by voice vote, Board Policy 343.42 – Postsecondary Enrollment Options (Youth Options Program) be adopted for use in the School District of Fort Atkinson. Chady moved, seconded by Thomann, and approved unanimously by voice vote, Board Policy 731.3 – Surveillance Cameras be removed from the table. Koebke moved, seconded by Chady, and approved unanimously by voice vote, Board Policy 731.3 – Surveillance Cameras be adopted for use in the School District of Fort Atkinson. Koebke moved, seconded by Chady, and approved unanimously by voice vote, Board Policy 443.4 – Controlled Substance Abuse be placed on the table and considered at the July Board Meeting.

**Board Communication and Technology Committee Report** – Mrs. Chisholm stated the Committee met with Director of Technology John Ottow to discuss technology in the District and video testimonials.

**Receipt of Gift to the School District** – Thomann moved, seconded by Chady, and approved unanimously by voice vote, the Board of Education accept the donation of computer equipment from Bret

Gundlach, trees from Carl Jung and computers from Fort HealthCare and thanks Bret Gundlach, Carl Jung and Fort Healthcare for the generous donations.

**PERSONNEL**

**Appointment, Resignation and Retirement Requests** - Thomann moved, seconded by Chady, and approved unanimously by roll call the following individuals be employed in the School District of Fort Atkinson effective at the beginning of the 2009-10 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: Paul Christiansen, 1.0 FTE, Middle School Associate Principal; Marin Dobson, 1.0 FTE, High School Science Teacher; and Alyssa Ottow, 1.0 FTE, Purdy Elem. English Language Learner (ELL) Teacher.

**Labor Agreements** – Dr. Fitzpatrick stated there were no agreements to present.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** - Mr. Chady presented the Treasurer’s Report. Thomann moved, seconded by Chady and approved unanimously by roll call, District bills be approved for payment as posted up to June 9, 2009, in the amount of \$436,148.39 and the construction bills in the amount of \$5,032.62.

**WASB/CESA REPORT(S)** – Upcoming WASB conferences were discussed.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS** – Approval of length of school day and designation of fund balances.

**CLOSED SESSION** – At 10:20 p.m., Koebke moved, seconded by Thomann and passed unanimously by roll call, to convene in closed session as authorized under ss. 19.82(1) and 19.85(1) and 19.85(1)(c) of Wisconsin Statutes to discuss negotiations and personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Kopps  
Board Secretary

**MINUTES APPROVED:**



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Kent Koebke, Clerk  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON

**July 27, 2009**

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Date