

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

**Board of Education**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**October 23, 2008**

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The monthly meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Fort Atkinson was held Thursday, October 23, 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 and Clerk Rodger Thomann were present. Member Scott Johnson arrived at 7:12 p.m. 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** – Mr. Thomann moved, seconded by Mrs. Chisholm, the minutes of the regular meeting dated September 18, 2008, be approved. Motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Johnson absent.

**RECOGNITIONS**

**Recognition of Girls' Tennis Team** - The Board of Education recognized members of the Girls' Tennis Team for being conference champions, member Leah Dahl who advanced to state competition and Coaches Mike DeRubeis and Kari Dahl.

**Recognition of Megan Eske** - The Board of Education recognized Megan Eske, First Grade Teacher at Rockwell Elementary School. Mrs. Eske was the recipient of the Fort Atkinson Rotary Club's Educator-of-the-Month Award.

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

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT** - Kim LeRoy presented a report on activities in the buildings. Will Cook presented a report on activities at the Middle School.

**INSTRUCTION**

**Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Report** - Mrs. Susan Henn, GATE Coordinator, presented a report on the Gifted and Talented Education Program (GATE). A copy of the information is attached.

**Strategic Plan Report** - Director of Instruction Naomi Gray, Elementary Principals Dave Geiger and Vicki Wright and Director of Special Education/Pupil Services John Peterson reported on the Strategic Plan progress including balanced literacy, RTI and data utilization at the elementary level. High School Principal Jeff Zaspel reported on differentiation and the 3 Questions/Professional Learning Communities (PLC) at the secondary level. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**Approval of Requests to Participate in the Postsecondary At-Risk HSED Program** – Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Thomann and approved unanimously by roll call that Fort Atkinson High School student DS 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 District pay the full cost of the program as outlined in Wisconsin Statutes.

**Approval of Requests to Participate in the Youth Options Program** – Mr. Chady moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson and approved unanimously by roll call that Fort Atkinson High School students AG, JH, JO, CR, AS, AV, AB, LF, AK, MM, RN, HR, BP, CR, BR, CV, TZ, and CR be permitted during the 2008-09 school year to attend an institution of higher education under the Youth Options Program and payment of tuition charges and granting of high school credits be based upon successful completion of the courses and upon credit and tuition recommendations for the courses in which the student enrolls.

**Board Curriculum Committee Report** – The Board Curriculum Committee discussed data points and reporting out of data points and Wisconsin Green and Healthy School Program.

**NONINSTRUCTION**

**Board Buildings and Grounds Committee Report** – Director of Buildings and Grounds Dennis Kuchenmeister stated the geothermal heating and ventilating upgrades and solar projects are near completion, wind energy and solar photovoltaic projects assessments are under consideration.

**Enrollment Report** - Dr. Fitzpatrick indicated the District has 2,884 students enrolled for the 2008-09 school year, 142 non-resident students are attending school in Fort Atkinson and 68 resident students attend in other districts.

**Board Policy Committee Report** – Mr. Thomann indicated the Policy Committee reviewed four policies that will be brought to the Board in November.

**Board Finance Committee Report** – Mr. Chady indicated the Board Finance Committee looked at District investments and the instability of the markets, 403B options, financial impact of open enrollment students, School Nutrition Program and indicated a new accounting and business software is being considered by the incoming Business Manager and a committee.

**School Nutrition Program Report** – Nutrition Director Armando Martinez reported on the Nutrition Program. A copy of Mr. Martinez’s presentation is attached.

**2008-09 Budget And Tax Levy Adjustments And Certification** – Business Director Ardell Wiederhoeft presented necessary budget revisions based on information that has become available since the budget was presented at the Annual Meeting in July. Mr. Wiederhoeft reported unlike last year, this year the news is good due to three major factors: 1) Beginning the 4-year old kindergarten, 2) the increase in State general aid and 3) changing health insurance carriers. Mr. Chady moved, seconded by Mr. Johnson and approved unanimously by roll call to approve the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED that the 2008-09 Income and Expenditure budgets be adjusted as follows:**

**GENERAL FUND (Fund 10) INCOME**

<b>Decrease Taxes by</b>	<b>\$403,092</b>
<b>Decrease Interest on Investments by</b>	<b>100,000</b>
<b>Increase Other Revenue, Local Sources by</b>	<b>174,100</b>

Decrease Payment for Services by	14,254
Increase State Aid – Categorical by	29,000
Increase State Aid – General by	366,461
Decrease State Aid – Special Project Grants by	2,700
Increase State Aid – Tax-Exempt Computers by	<u>9,661</u>

With a Resulting Net Increase of \$ 59,176

**GENERAL FUND (Fund 10) EXPENDITURES**

Increase Undifferentiated Curriculum by	\$ 10,588
Decrease Regular Curriculum by	131,951
Increase Vocational Curriculum by	24,507
Increase Physical Curriculum by	4,598
Increase Co-Curricular Activities by	3,949
Increase Special Needs Curriculum by	3,947
Increase Pupil Services by	3,058
Decrease Instructional Staff Services by	17,906
Increase General Administration by	4,879
Decrease School Building Administration by	11,267
Increase Business Administration by	314,067
Decrease Central Services by	9,112
Decrease Insurance & Judgments by	10,391
Decrease Other Support Services by	2,500
Decrease Interfund Operating Transfers by	60,876
Increase General Tuition Payments by	<u>34,449</u>

With a Resulting Net Increase of 160,039

**SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND (Fund 20)**

Decrease Total Revenues & Other Financing Sources by \$ 49,982

Increase Instruction by	21,419
Decrease Support Services by	16,902
Decrease Non-Program Transactions by	<u>54,499</u>

Decrease Total Expenditures & Other Uses by \$ 49,982

The net change in the local property tax levy, as a result of all of the adjustments above, is a decrease of \$403,092.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the tax to fund the 2008-09 School District budget be set at \$13,733,882 and that the necessary certification of said levy be forwarded to the Clerk of the City of Fort Atkinson and the Clerk of each of the appropriate townships.

**Board Communication Committee Report** – Mrs. Chisholm indicated PTO groups have been meeting and highlighted Superintendent Advisory Committee agenda items.

**Receipt of Gifts to the School District** - Mr. Chady moved, seconded by Mrs. Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote the Board of Education accept the monetary donation to purchase a camera for the High School Cross-Country Program from Sport & Spine Clinic and miscellaneous supplies for use in the District from Highsmith, Inc., and the Board of Education thank Sport & Spine Clinic and Highsmith, Inc., for the generous donations.

**PERSONNEL**

**Resignations, Appointments and/or Retirements** – Mr. Chady moved, seconded by Mr. Thomann and approved unanimously by voice vote the resignation request of Connie Swantz, Summer School Coordinator, effective immediately be accepted and the Board of Education thank Connie Swantz for her four years of service and dedication to the students and community of the School District of Fort Atkinson as Summer School Coordinator.

Mr. Chady moved, seconded by Mrs. Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote the retirement request of Doug Zernicke, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher, effective the end of the first semester of the 2008-09 school year, be accepted and the Board of Education thank Doug Zernicke for his 28½ years of service and dedication to the students and community of the School District of Fort Atkinson.

**Approval of Stipend for Board Secretary** – Mr. Thomann moved, seconded by Mr. Chady and approved unanimously by roll call the annual stipend for Debra Kopps be set at \$2,600.00 for her services as secretary to the Board of Education for the 2008-09 school year.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** - Treasurer Chady presented the Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Chady and approved unanimously by roll call that District bills be approved for payment as posted up to October 7, 2008, in the amount of \$774,141.65 and the construction bills in the amount of \$351,662.49.

**WASB/CESA REPORT(S)** – Board Members attended and will attend future WASB conferences.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS** – AP exam results, school nurse report on immunizations, Strategic Plan progress including communication agenda, election timeline review, new course proposals, 5-Year financial projection, 403B, and Carl Perkins Consortium Agreement. Mr. Johnson stated the Board might want to review the proposed Hwy. 26 bypass and the potential additional water on High School grounds. The Building and Grounds Committee will discuss.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Chady moved, seconded by Mrs. Chisholm and approved unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Kopps  
Board Secretary

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

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

11-20-08  
Date