

# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON

## Board of Education

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 27, 2009

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The monthly meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Fort Atkinson was held Thursday, August 27, 2009. President Scott Johnson 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 Bob Chady, Clerk Kent Koebke and Member Rodger Thomann were present. The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance. President Johnson 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** – Chisholm moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting dated July 27, 2009. Motion seconded by Koebke and passed unanimously by voice vote.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON AGENDA AND NONAGENDA ITEMS** – Mr. Carty Monahan, N1807 S. Main Street, Fort Atkinson, thanked the Board for keeping the Driver Education Program in the District and for being able to teach the program for the last 40 years. Mr. Monahan voiced a concern that since his contract was not renewed he felt one teacher may have a difficult time scheduling all the students for behind-the-wheel instruction.

### INSTRUCTION

**Report on WKCE Test Results** - Director of Instruction Amy Oakley presented a report on Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE) test scores. Mrs. Oakley stated overall the test results were comparable to last year, District students exceeded the State average in all areas but two, tenth graders scored at the top of the Badger Conference in Reading and fourth graders were number one in math in the "Like 10" comparison. Members discussed examining high performing districts in an effort to increase student proficiency. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Stimulus)** – Director of Special Education and Pupil Services John Peterson, Director of Business Services Jason Demerath and Director of Instruction Amy Oakley presented information on how the District has budgeted American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Stimulus) funds for the next two years. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**Report on the Opening of Schools** - Dr. Fitzpatrick reported on the opening of schools for the 2009-10 school year.

**Postsecondary At-Risk HSED Requests** – No requests

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

### NONINSTRUCTION

**Board Buildings and Grounds Committee Report** – Director of Buildings and Grounds Dennis Kuckenmeister reported on the District’s maintenance projects.

**Adoption of Handbooks** – Chisholm moved, seconded by Koebke, and passed unanimously by voice vote the general and supplemental Student/Parent Handbooks for Barrie, Luther, Purdy, and Rockwell Elementary Schools, Fort Atkinson Middle School and Fort Atkinson High School, the Fort Atkinson High School Code of Conduct, and the K-12 Special Education Handbook be approved as extensions of Board policy and approved for use in the 2009-10 school year. Board Members asked handbooks with changes highlighted be sent electronically in advance of approval.

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

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

**Board Communication and Technology Committee Report** – Mrs. Chisholm stated the committee reviewed the referendum timeline, discussed surveying graduates, testimonials and the District’s website.

**Acknowledgement of Ordinance No. 675 and No. 676** - Clerk Kent Koebke stated a notification was received from the City of Fort Atkinson that Ordinance No. 675 and Ordinance No. 676 have been adopted by the Fort Atkinson City Council regarding the annexation of land in the Town of Koshkonong to the City of Fort Atkinson.

**Receipt of Gift to the School District** – Thomann moved, seconded by Chisholm, and passed unanimously by voice vote Board of Education accept the donation of school supplies from Diane Greco and the Board of Education thank Diane Greco for the generous donation. It was noted additional school supplies were distributed to area students through the Ready Kids for School Program.

## **PERSONNEL**

**Resignations and/or Retirements** - Chady moved, seconded by Thomann, and passed unanimously by voice vote the resignation request of Catherine Hagen, Middle School Art Teacher, effective July 28, 2009, be accepted and that section 1.05(6) of the negotiated agreement between the Board of Education and the Fort Atkinson Education Association, Inc., be applied and the Board of Education thank Catherine Hagen for her one year of service and dedication to the students and community of the School District of Fort Atkinson.

**Appointments** - Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm, and passed unanimously by roll call the following educators 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 contract and upon completion and satisfactory results of the pre-placement health screening and background checks: Sara Granzow, .5 FTE, Art at the Middle School; Heather Moritz, 1.0 FTE, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade at Luther Elementary, Noreen Montgomery, 1.0 FTE, Teacher of English Language Learners at the High School; and the one-year appointments of Gale Nevins, .5 FTE, Reading Recovery Teacher at Purdy Elementary and Mary Lynn Vaillancourt, .5 FTE, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade at Purdy Elementary.

**Approval of Compensation for Administration** – Koebke moved, seconded by Chady, and passed unanimously by voice vote the Board of Education approve an increase in salary and benefits of 1.99% for administrators for the 2009-10 school year and a salary freeze for the 2010-11 school year. The Board

expressed gratitude to the administrators for their dedication and efforts and for taking a very low salary increase for the first year and a salary freeze for the second year.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Mr. Chady indicated the regular financial report would not be presented due to the conversion to the new business software, regular budget reports will be available next month, and the listing of checks will not be printed with the minutes but will be available at [www.fortschools.org](http://www.fortschools.org). Chady moved, seconded by Chisholm and approved unanimously by roll call, District bills be approved for payment as posted up to posted up to July 31, 2009 in the amount of \$678,590.44.

**WASB/CESA REPORT(S)** – Board Members discussed WASB conferences.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS** – Summer school report and ACT exam results. The February Board Meeting will be changed from February 18 to February 25, 2010.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Chady moved, seconded by Thomann and approved unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Kopps  
Board Secretary

**MINUTES APPROVED:**



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Kent Koebke, Clerk  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT ATKINSON

**September 17, 2009**

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Date