

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Aitkin Independent School District No. 1
Aitkin, Minnesota 56431
April 20, 2015

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Hasskamp with five members present. Mr. Burgstaler and Mr. Janzen were absent.

A motion was made by Mr. Hoge, with a second by Ms. Hills, to approve the agenda with the following changes: adding Samantha Croatt to and removing Nick Joerg from item #12 (Approve hirings); adding a Staff Introduction for Jason Cline, Activities Director, under item #5 (Scheduled presentations). All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Scheduled presentations:

Middle School Student Council Representatives Anne Courtemanche and Amy Gaulke spoke about the council's recent service activity and fundraiser held for the Remnica House. They are also planning for an upcoming dance.

Senior High Student Council Representative Katie Bruesewitz talked about a recent fundraiser held for Kids Against Hunger. The council is busy planning for the Mr. AHS and Spring Week activities, and applications are being accepted for next year's student council.

Jason Roos, Technology Integrationist, and Jason Cline, Activities Director, introduced themselves to the Board.

Dr. Jim Call, President of the Aitkin Education Foundation (AEF), gave the Board an update on the group's activities.

Seven members of the school's Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter made a presentation to the Board on a recent trip taken by the group to FFA Day at the Capitol. Board member John Chute traveled with the group as a chaperone. They also gave the Board a presentation on a trip taken by six students to the National FFA Convention last October.

Old business:

No old business was discussed.

New business:

A motion was made by Mr. Hoge, with a second by Mr. Welshons, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 16, the Board Work Session on March 30, and of the Special Meeting held on April 8.
- Office receipts for the month of March in the amount of \$1,353,230.46.

- Report of expenditures for March including \$343,456.14 for bills, and \$795,105.46 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare, and 403B.
- Insurance Account checks #13468-13484 in the amount of \$9,581.51.
- Collateral Report for April.
- Donations for March in the amount of \$7,726.23.
- Wire transfers for March in the amount of \$900,000.00.
- Accepted a retirement:
Lorelie Robinson - Elementary Teacher, effective at the end of the 2014-2015 School Year.
- Approved a lane change:
Vicki Bill - from MA+30 to the MA+45 lane
- Approved the following extracurricular assignment:
Teresa Larson - Yearbook Advisor
- Approved a request for leave of absence:
Katie Dotzler - requested FMLA leave from August 31 through November 23, 2015.
- Approved hirings:
LuAnn Larson - Cleaner, effective May 4, 2015
Meredith Sander - H.S. Counselor, effective 2015-2016 school year
Samantha Croatt – H.S. Counselor, effective 2015-2016 school year
- Approved Employment Agreements:
Bob Lake - Play drumset for musical rehearsals and performances
Lucy Oehler - Director of the musical orchestra, score study, rehearsals and performances
- Approved the Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teaching Contract of Sue Buhlmann, a Probationary Teacher.
- Approved the Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teaching Contract of Teresa Larson, a Probationary Teacher.
- Approved the Resolution Relating to the Termination and Nonrenewal of the Teaching Contract of Laurie Stensland, a Probationary Teacher.
- Approved the 2015-2016 School Calendar.

All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Hoge, to approve a salary agreement with Vic Keil, Food Service Supervisor for 2014-2015-2016. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Administrative reports:

Board members' reports:

Mr. Hoge reported on the Rippleside PAC Meeting held earlier in the evening. The group discussed the upcoming Wellness Night, which will be held on May 7.

He also reported on the Rippleside PTO Meeting that was held earlier in the evening. The group raised over \$6,000 in the recent Little Caesars fundraiser. They considered grants for Tier II behaviors, science, art and a school-wide activity. The group is also planning for the upcoming sixth grade graduation.

Ms Hills reported on the Paul Bunyan Education Cooperative's Board of Delegates Meeting that was held on March 30, where the Board discussed changes to the bylaws.

Committee reports:

Mr. Welshons updated the Board on a Safety Committee Meeting held on April 13. The group discussed the District's workers compensation insurance rates and actions that the District can try to take to prevent losses.

Mr. Chute and Ms Hills attended the Meet and Confer Meeting on April 14. The group discussed the 2015-2016 school calendar, which was approved on the consent agenda.

Based on recommendations made by the Facilities and Finance Committee, Mr. Welshons made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hoge, to approve a change order from Lundberg Plumbing and Heating for up to \$296,625, including two extra electrical panels and a change order from Climate Makers for \$20,850.00 for controls related to the project. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Mr. Hoge made a motion, with a second by Ms. Hills, to approve the quote from Seating and Athletic Facility Enterprises for \$79,216.00, including removal and demolition of the existing bleachers. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Superintendent's report:

Mr. Novak gave the Board an update on the status of bills relating to education funding at the State legislature. A lot of discussion is happening surrounding the Governor's initiative to have all-day preschool for 4-year olds. Districts, including Aitkin, are concerned about having adequate facilities to house the new programming.

Mr. Novak will attend a meeting on EIP in Chisholm on Wednesday. The District will be applying for EIP dollars to fund the recent computer leases and the purchase of new servers.

Mr. Novak will be on the radio on April 21 to discuss the Morris Leatherman survey. The company reports that the survey is going well and that results should be available by May 4.

Principals' reports:

Mr. Peterson reported on last Friday's kindergarten registration. He recognized the efforts of the PTO in raising money for many activities in the building. He reviewed the dates for several spring events happening at Rippleside.

Mr. Pederson reported that the school is heavily involved in testing, including plans for an upcoming ACT testing day for juniors. Three members of the speech team qualified for the Section Tournament, and Jake Fontaine qualified for competition at the State Tournament. Aitkin won the "It Can Wait" campaign competition by having the most commitments to not text and drive. He attended the Region 7A Meeting and reported that we will be receiving a refund. Spring sports are in full swing. The last day for seniors will be Friday, May 22.

Mr. Hasskamp presented the upcoming meeting schedule as listed in the agenda. Tuesday, May 12, is being discussed as a potential date for a negotiation's meeting with Education Minnesota - Aitkin. The meeting details will be confirmed with EM-A and the Board negotiators.

Comments from visitors:

Adam Carlson thanked the Board for their commitment to many areas, including technology, staffing, and investing.

Jake Jaskowiak, High School English Teacher, thanked John Chute, Cindi Hills, and Jeremy Janzen for their responses to two letters he sent regarding concerns he raised.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Hoge. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Tiffany Gustin
Secretary