

Nippersink School District 2
Regular Board of Education Meeting
February 23, 2010

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, Nippersink School District 2, was called to order by President Patty Anderson at 7:01 p.m. in the Nippersink Middle School Library.

Members Present: Anderson, Bushing, Bianchini, Callaby, Samuel, Maurer, Langlois
Absent: None
Also Present: Dr. Oest, Superintendent and Dr. Hain, Business Manager

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda for approval included the following:

- ✓ Regular Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2010
- ✓ Closed Session Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2010
- ✓ Board Bills \$1,059,754.70
- ✓ Treasurer's Report
- ✓ Staff Resignation: Theresa Burns (Spec. Ed. Secretary)

Motion by Langlois and seconded by Bianchini to approve the consent agenda with the exclusion of 3.7, Employment of Staff.

Roll Call

Ayes: Bushing, Callaby, Bianchini, Maurer, Samuel, Langlois, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7 – 0

Public Input

None

Presentation

National Park Refuge Presentation

Cindy Skrukru and Ron Erdmann addressed the Board on behalf of Friends of Hackmatack, regarding the effort to have land which includes parts of Walworth County in Wisconsin, and McHenry County in Illinois, designated as a National Wildlife Refuge. The process for establishing this National Park Refuge was outlined. Opportunities for schools and the benefits to the local, as well as greater communities involved were identified. Dr. Oest mentioned that the school districts, as taxing bodies, may ultimately become involved in public hearings and zoning hearings as the plan to receive national designation progresses.

Village of Richmond Business Incentive Program

The Village of Richmond, in their efforts to find a way to entice small business to the area, but without hurting the taxing bodies, submitted a proposal for the schools to review. The original plan offered an incentive rebate scheduled out over five (5) years. During initial discussions, Mrs. Maurer suggested the schedule be shortened on rebates occurring over 3 years instead of 5 years. The school districts would see no, or minimal loss in general state aid.

Further discussion took place on the possibility of a cap. Mr. Kielpinski acknowledged the possibility of a per- property cap on the 2nd year forward, but no cap on the number of properties to be approved under the program. Clarification was also made that the tax credit on property involved in the program would be on the commercial improvement to the property, not on the residential portion.

The Board expressed great appreciation for the initiative by the Village of Richmond and for involving the school districts in the development of the program. The plan appears to be the most conservative model and a work in progress. General consensus by the Board for moving forward was to:

- use the 3-year rebate schedule (100%, 50%, 25%)
- with a cap on the total % of the rebate in years 2 and 3
- revisit the Incentive Program yearly
- no sunset, determine threshold
- include in the intergovernmental agreement, a clause that the IGA would survive a consolidation of school districts

Reports

- Revenue/Expenditure Report, Special Education Revenue/Expenditure Report, Imprest Account Report, Impact fee Report, ISDLAF Report, Transportation Report
- Administrative Reports

Superintendent

Dr. Oest reminded Board Members of the Kishwaukee Division Meeting at Hampshire High School on March 10th and to let Ms Miller know if interested in attending. The District is in receipt of a \$1062 Library Grant; thank you Mrs. Larson. Additional information shared included:

- Current total of unreceived payments from the state as of February 11th - \$375,000. (\$178,000 in categoricals and \$197,000 in transportation)
- The Nippersink Education Foundation Board of Control has offered to make a donation of \$15,000 to Nippersink District 2 to be used towards technology infrastructure.
- Mrs. Jones and her staff were congratulated for receiving ISBE honor roll status for meeting AYP over the course of three years by having scored above 90% in the meet/exceeds category of the state test.

Business Manager

Dr. Hain pointed out that approximately \$10,000 in impact fees have been received fiscal year to date. The average received per year from 2004-2009 was \$383,000. The balance in the Capital Projects Fund is such that the available money will only be used for emergency repairs.

Meetings for the Wireless Wide Area Network (WWAN) have concluded with the build date set for Spring Break. The 10 megabyte system has been increased to a 15 megabyte system for an additional \$650 per month. An additional switch and router were purchased for \$5,000. It was suggested that additional technology training would likely be needed with the improvements to the network.

Dr. Hain mentioned the emergency repair to the “gym area” boiler at Spring Grove School. Price options range from \$40,000 to \$125,000. One of the two boilers

is functional and believed to be able to sustain through the balance of the heating season.

Dr. Hain also shared some preliminary estimates and information on a slab built structure to replace a double mobile at SGE. The mobiles currently meet requirement standards, but are old and beginning to require large amounts of maintenance. Discussion ensued with concerns expressed about liability with using in-house construction. Board Members requested to see more detailed financial projections for the project, a utilization study of classrooms at SGE, and suggested a prioritization by the Building Committee of the classroom construction, the plumbing, heating, and water leakage concerns throughout the District.

The Board requested information on the progress by the architect on the Master Plan and the “to-do” list generated by the Decennial Review of 2006. Dr. Hain stated that the “A” list of requirements and recommendations has been completed. Much of the architect’s time has been filled with addressing the emergency heating plant situations.

Student Board Member

Eric Papparigian reported on the middle school students current activities. Activities since last month included a recap of current sports activities, FPS Regional Competition at NMS on February 20th and 27th, the Band Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser, field trip to the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Solo and Ensemble Competition, the Drama Club’s play, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” on Friday, Career Day, Parent Teacher Conferences and the February Dance and flower sale.

RGS Principal

Mrs. Jones thanked Mrs. Larson for obtaining the Monarch Award grant. Students enjoyed being read to by members from the community (and our very own Dr. Oest, Mrs. Anderson, and Mrs. Veillon). The PTO meeting was cancelled due to snow. The PTO Media Tech Committee is hoping to complete the installation of projection equipment in the final seven classrooms with donations from the recent Mr. Z’s fundraiser and Tailgate fundraiser.

SGE Principal

Mr. Pittman announced that SGE Kindergarten Screening/registration would conclude on Wednesday with approximately 40 children registered. A reminder was given that March 13th is the Roaring 1920’s auction and dinner fundraiser at the Riviera in Lake Geneva.

NMS Principal

Mr. Molitor spoke of the total number of discipline issues to date; a 50% reduction from the same time last year. He also shared an incentive being used by Mr. Augustyn. Mr. Augustyn has a “Wall of Fame” in his office. Students are invited to sign his wall for an assortment of positive achievements efforts.

Special Education Coordinator

Mrs. May-Zelle will have Mr. Evans present Fluent Reading Trainer (FLRT), an intervention currently being used to increase reading speed and proficiency in comprehension.

Curriculum Director

Mrs. Veillon spoke of the 5th grader's visit to the Middle School as a wonderful opportunity. She also attended the 2010 McHenry County Spelling Bee to support J.R. Gomoll, 6th grader from Nippersink Middle School. J.R. won the McHenry County Bee and has earned a trip to Washington, D.C, to compete in the Scripps National spelling Bee in June.

ISAT Testing results for the week for March 1-5 were impressive. The AYP target for 2010 is 77.5% students meeting and exceeding the target. NSD 2 target attainment for all students: Reading 91%, Math 93%.

Old Business

D2/D157 Consolidation

Dr. Oest shared that the third Committee of Ten meeting took place on February 17th. The sub-committees on Finance, Tax Rate, Timeline, and Communication met in small groups. The next meeting is set for March 3rd. Dr. Oest reminded the group that the 1st week in May is the deadline for submitting petition to the Regional Office of Education. Dr. Oest also shared with the committee, and both Board's of Education as well, a statement on consolidation as reported by the Taxpayer Action Board to the Illinois State Board of Education. The report urged state policy makers to accelerate consolidation, noting that there are approximately 200 single-school districts.

Mrs. Anderson addressed an issue with the Board, regarding one Board Member's persistence to direct administration to contact District 2's attorney to obtain a list of other options regarding consolidation. Mrs. Anderson did not support this request given that both Boards of Education had already voted on moving forward with establishing the Committee of Ten and to ultimately place the consolidation issue before the community for their decision on the issue. Not being satisfied with Mrs. Anderson's response, Mrs. Anderson chose to bring the matter before the Board. Mr. Samuel defended his request for legal consultation.

A lengthy discussion took place with the initial issue evolving into matters of effective and appropriate Board Member responsibilities, duties, and protocol. The standards and principals of the IASB Board Member Code of Conduct were addressed, along with references made to the recent Board Member training provided by the IASB. Separation of duties was also addressed with clarification made between administrative duties, School Board Member duties, and Committee of Ten Member duties.

In conclusion, consensus by 6 of 7 Board Members was:

- there is no need to seek further legal advice on the matter of consolidation options
- if, in preparing for a Board Meeting, a Board Member feels the need to require an excessive amount of Administrator time, that issue must come before the Board as Board business, for authorization by the Board to give direction to the Administrator
- Board business takes place at the Board table at legally scheduled meetings.

Student Registration Fees

Dr. Oest provided a list of the 2009-10 District 2 Registration Fees and a copy of the 2009-10 McHenry County School Fees Survey. As requested at the February meeting, the number of families in District 2 is 987. The current amount of fees collected to date

is \$27,165. Fees collected for FY09 were \$16,359. The number of approved waivers was provided. Discussion followed. There was no support for a suggestion to put a family cap on registration fees to no more than 2 children.

Hearing no motion to change registration fees, the registration fees for 2010-11 will remain the same; Early Childhood Education \$75, Kindergarten \$95, Grades 1-8 \$125. Items to consider for the registration fee discussion for 2011-12 are to introduce the idea of charging a separate fee for band and the possible removal of the sliding scale waiver for reduction of fees.

BOE Belief Statements and Goals for 2009-11

Dr. Oest gave an update to the work related goals.

Belief Statement 1

Goal 1: Upcoming presentation at March meeting

Goal 2: Ongoing

Belief Statement 2

Goal 1: On target

Belief Statement 3

Goal 1: In process

Goal 2: In process

Belief Statement 4

Goal 1: Nothing addressed to date

New Business

School Calendar FY11

The Tentative FY11 School Calendar was presented for review. The calendar corresponds similarly to the current calendar. The school year begins on August 16th for staff and August 18th for students. The school year ends on May 26th. Final recommendation for Board consideration /approval will be presented at the March Board meeting.

Enrollment/Program/Staffing FY11

Dr. Oest shared a section/enrollment analysis FY11 with the Board. After a review of current class sizes, it was determined that one or more classroom teacher positions could be reduced at RGS. The legal timeline requires that reductions be made 45 days before the end of the school year, therefore requiring a Board decision at the March Board meeting. Dr. Oest was asked to provide more information on the percentage of time that Special Education teachers come into the 4th grade classroom at SGE. The Board also asked Dr. Oest to be prepared to share the Administration's recommendation on the reductions.

2010 8th Grade Graduation Date

Motion by Bushing and seconded by Samuel to establish the Nippersink Middle School 8th grade graduation ceremony for Thursday, May 27th at 6:30 P.M. at Richmond-Burton Community High School.

Roll Call

Ayes: Bianchini, Maurer, Samuel, Bushing, Langlois, Callaby, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7 – 0

Policy (First Reading)

Dr. Oest noted that there are two sets of policies for review. The Board will be asked to approve the policies at the March Board Meeting.

- A. 2:200 Type of School Board Meetings
- B. 2:250 Access to District Public Records
- C. 4:110 Transportation
- D. 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
- E. 6:60 Curriculum Content
- F. 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
- G. 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited
- H. 7:180 Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment
- I. 4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs
- J. 4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds
- K. 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day
- L. 8:70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

Public Input 2

None

Closed Session

Motion by Bianchini and seconded by Maurer to move into Closed Session at 10:16 P.M. to consider information pertaining to the appointment, employment, dismissal, performance, discipline and compensation of employees of the district, and collective bargaining matters.

Roll Call

Ayes: Maurer, Samuel, Bushing, Bianchini, Langlois, Callaby, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7 – 0

Return to Open Session at 11:02 P.M.

Action After Closed Session

Board Member Bushing was not present during Closed Session.

Motion by Callaby and seconded by Samuel to approve the retirement notice of Patty Buchert effective at the close of the 2009-10 school term per the terms of the collective bargaining agreement.

Roll Call

Ayes: Callaby, Samuel, Langlois, Maurer, Bianchini, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

Motion by Maurer and seconded by Bianchini to approve the immediate transfer of employee Michelle Lomas from aide to secretary.

Roll Call

Ayes: Maurer, Bianchini, Langlois, Samuel, Callaby, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

Motion by Bianchini and seconded by Langlois to approve the two Memos of Understanding with the RSGEA pertaining to holidays and sick days as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes: Bianchini, Langlois, Callaby, Maurer, Samuel, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

Adjournment

Motion by Langlois and seconded by Samuel to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 11:05 P.M.

Roll Call

Ayes: Samuel, Maurer, Langlois, Callaby, Bianchini, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

Next Regular Meeting March 23, 2010

Board of Education of Nippersink

School District 2

ATTEST:

Board Secretary

Board President

March 23, 2010