

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools
Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2008**

Opening

A meeting of the Board of Education of the Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools was convened in open and public session at 7:30 p.m. on 17th day of November 2008 by President Suzanne Sapp.

Present

The roll was called and the following Board members were present: Randy Beranek, Melvin Cerny, Kevin Garner, David Lutton, and Suzanne Sapp. Member Nygren was absent.

Notice

Notice of the meeting was posted in advance in the Superintendent's Office, 1225 Clay Street, Ashland, NE. Notice of this meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

Public Participation

No public requested participation in the agenda.

Call to Order

The meeting was duly called to order.

Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting

At the beginning of this meeting, President Sapp announced and informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall of the meeting room, behind the board members.

Agenda Change

Superintendent Pease reported that an addition to the agenda was added after it was mailed and prior to the 24 hour deadline to New Business, F. Consideration and Action to Accept the 2007-08 Audit.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Garner with second by Lutton to approve all of the items on the consent agenda. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, and Sapp. Member Nygren was absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Visitors and Communication from the Public

There were no visitors or communication from the public.

Administrative and Practitioners Reports

Erica Woods-Schmitz, coordinator of SENCAP, and Stefanie Hoffman, an Ashland Greenwood High School student, presented to the board on the program designed for students to be exposed to health careers through funding provided by the ESU#6 Perkins Consortium. Erica explained the benefits of exposing students to all the different

choices of medical careers while earning college credit and highlighted plans for expansion in the program.

Stefanie told board members that twice a week she attends classes at Bryan LGH. During class time she has job shadowed a Radio Technologist, had some hands on training with a Surgery Tech Nurse and listened to several speakers on different medical fields. Board members thanked Erica and Stefanie for their presentation.

Mrs. Finkey reported that the book study groups had begun meeting this year. The two books selected for the groups to read are How to Grade for Learning by Ken O' Connor and What Great Teachers Do Differently by Todd Whitaker.

Mrs. Finkey also reported on an SIP action plan activity named STOP Day. A STOP day activity is designed to check that teaching staff members are using the training required to identify and implement reading comprehensive strategies. Teachers are required to complete an implementation reflection at the conclusion of the activity. A STOP day was held on November 3 and administrators visited 30 classrooms. Mrs. Finkey outlined the "7 Keys to Comprehension" and gave the board some examples of the types of strategies observed.

Mrs. Bray presented a handout to the board with pictures of recent community sharing and parent involvement. Items pictured in that handout included community members reading to classrooms, the Veterans Day Program, and the Ashland Rotary presenting dictionaries to third grade students.

Mr. Bentzen reported to the board that following the last board meeting he had placed an advertisement for a middle-school social studies teacher. He has received a good response for this position and was in the process of having applicants complete the Gallup survey to screen applicants. Bentzen hopes to have a recommendation for this position at the December board meeting.

Supt. Pease told board members that he and other members of his office staff would be out of the office during the next few weeks. His plans include a visit to Hershey, NE on Tuesday with several other staff members to review notebook use by that district. Other plans this week include Nebraska School Boards Association State Conference.

OLD BUSINESS

RUS Grant

Supt. Pease reported that this matter is still pending having received no new information regarding equipment bids from the ESU #2. Pease will keep the board informed of the project as he receives information.

Substitute Personnel

Consideration and action to approve Angie Goff as a para-professional substitute and Lawrence VanderSchaff as a substitute teacher.

Motion by Beranek with second by Garner to approve Angie Goff as a para professional substitute and Lawrence VanderSchaff as a substitute teacher. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, and Sapp. Member Nygren was absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Temporary Early Retirement Program

Consideration and action to approve the Temporary Early Retirement Program for 2009-2010. Discussion was held

Motion by Lutton with second by Beranek to approve the Temporary Early Retirement Program for 2009-2010. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, and Sapp. Member Nygren was absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Vision Consultant

Supt. Pease presented to the board a contract with the ESU #3 for a vision consultant.

Motion by Cerny with second by Garner to approve a contract with the ESU #3 for a vision consultant. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, and Sapp. Member Nygren was absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

FBLA Overnight Travel

A request was made to the board to have permission to stay overnight at the FBLA State Leadership Conference April 2 – 4 in 2009, in Omaha, NE. A second request was presented to the board for approval of overnight travel to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference June 24 – June 29, 2009 in Anaheim, CA. This request is only necessary if a member of FBLA is elected as a FBLA state officer or any students qualify based on placing in the top 2-3 in an event at State Leadership Conference.

Motion by Lutton with second by Beranek to approve the overnight travel for FBLA to the State Leadership Conference April 2 – 4 2009, in Omaha, NE and overnight travel to attend the FBLA National Leadership Conference June 24 – June 29, 2009 in Anaheim, CA, should any FBLA students qualify for this event. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, and Sapp. Member Nygren was absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

TEAC Accredited Institutions

Supt. Pease advised board members that a request was made for approval of hours with an institution that is TEAC but not NCATE or NCTE approved. The current Master Contract with the AGEA does not currently permit TEAC institutions and he is requesting direction from the board regarding this matter. Discussion was held. Member Garner stated that since TEAC is approved by the USDE he felt it should be included in our Master Agreement. Member Lutton stated that he did not feel we should open the Master Agreement that this should be negotiated for the next agreement. Member Beranek asked why this college may have been selected for additional hours. Pease told board members that online courses have become very popular and teacher may shop for course titles and pricing. Members were in agreement that this matter should be negotiated with the next Master Agreement. No action was taken by the board.

2009-10 Calendar

Supt. Pease presented to the board a 2009-10 preliminary calendar and a 2009 preliminary Summer School Calendar for review and discussion. Pease also provided the board with starting, ending and other key dates for Lincoln, Millard and Elkhorn

Public Schools. Discussion was held. Supt. Pease will present these calendars to staff for comments and bring those comments and a recommendation back to the board for approval.

Advisory Committee on Facilities

Supt. Pease reported on the Facility Advisory Committee. Pease told board members that the group has been very responsive and positive. At the last meeting the group had looked at some building designs. The next meeting is planned for December 6. Pease said he hopes to come to the next board meeting with some direction provided by this committee.

Member Beranek told board members that he had a concern as he had heard from some community members that the school is paying for the auditorium. Discussion was held. Beranek would like this matter clarified at the next meeting of the Facilities Advisory Committee. Pease advised that he tells the Facility Advisory Committee that the library project is independent project and not associated with the Community Resource Center project. Pease told board members that he had the architect lay out plans to be able to add the center in the future so as not to close the door on that possibility. Pease told board members he would clarify that no commitment has been made by the school regarding the community resource center project and/or auditorium.

2007-08 Audit

Consideration and action to accept the 2007-08 audit. The audit had been mailed to board members prior to tonight's meeting for review.

Motion by Garner with second by Cerny to accept the 2007-08 audit report in compliance with state and federal laws. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, and Sapp. Member Nygren was absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Information Item

The Nebraska Association of School Boards and Nebraska Association of School Administrators State Conference is scheduled for November 19-21 at the Embassy Suites in LaVista. Members were informed that they could register on-site.

Other business presented for future considerations

No other items were presented for future consideration during this session.

Adjournment

President Sapp adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m. The next Regular Meeting will be held 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 15, 2008 in the Library of the High School at 1842 Furnas Street, Ashland, NE. An agenda for the meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Superintendent's Office, 1225 Clay Street, Ashland, NE 68003.

Minutes submitted by:

Kevin Garner, Secretary