

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools
Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2010**

Opening

A meeting of the Board of Education of Ashland-Greenwood Public School was convened in open and public session at 7:30 p.m. March 1, 2010 by President Cerny.

Present

The roll was called and the following Board members were present: Randy Beranek, Melvin Cerny, Kevin Garner, David Nygren, Suzanne Sapp and Karen Stille. No members were absent.

Notice of the meeting was posted in advance in three locations including 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.

Call to Order

The meeting was duly called to order.

Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting

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

Agenda Change

Consideration and action to approve the agenda/

Motion by Garner with second by Nygren to approve the agenda. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Nygren, Sapp and Stille. Voting no: none. No members were absent and not voting. Motion carried.

Administrative and Practitioners Reports

Teresa Bray presented a handout to the board outlining elementary activities in the month of February. Bray reported that artist, Mark Kistler held two assemblies with elementary students and quickly involved the students in drawing. The assemblies by Mark Kistler were funded through an Ashland-Greenwood Foundation Grant submitted by Cori Lightfoot and the PTO. Other activities Bray reported on included field trips, the Young Authors Celebration, 6th Grade Science Fair and Jays Club. Bray reported that the Jays Club is an after school club to provide instruction and practice activities in the area of reading and math. 27 students are participating in the program that will run through April assisted by two para professionals and five teacher that are volunteering their time.

Craig Pease reported to the board that the certification of State Aid has been delayed until March 10.

Pease also reported to the board on a variety of legislation topics pertaining to school systems. Pease reported on was LB1021 which addresses activity organizations and could impact how NSAA operates. Pease also reported on proposed legislation that if passes will move the date of birth for which you can enroll a student in kindergarten to July 31. This change would help to reduce the age spread in students. The legislation also mandates an assessment test for students born after July 31.

OLD BUSINESS

Construction

Supt. Pease reported to the board that at the Elementary School construction continues and that sewer lines in the fenced area is complete and now the ground will be readied for footings. Pease presented the board a copy of the application for the well permit for the Geothermal well field at the high school. Pease told board member that he is to meet with the city on Thursday night at the city council meeting to discuss concerns the city has with the drilling of the well fields. Pease told board members that the concerns of well fields are generally contamination. Pease advised the board that he had a meeting with an employee from Loop Tech, the engineer, and a representative from the State of Nebraska to discuss the well field issue. Loop Tech advised that the equipment is cleaned and once the well is drilled it is sealed with a mixture of bentonite, sand and water. It was also recommended that they also use chlorinated water. Pease will keep the board updated on the permit issues and construction progress.

Policy 5142.6

Consideration and action to approve policy 5142.6 related to dating violence.

Motion by Nygren with second by Stille to approve policy 5142.6. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Nygren, Sapp and Stille. Voting no: none. No members were absent and not voting. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Teacher Resignation

Principal Jacobsen presented to the board a letter from Jean Ann Watermeier resigning her position at the end of this school year.

Motion by Beranek with second by Sapp to accept the resignation of Jean Ann Watermeier. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Nygren, Sapp and Stille. Voting no: none. No members were absent and not voting. Motion carried.

Vehicle Purchase

Consideration was given to the transportation committee proposal for vehicle. Pease reported to the board that the transportation committee had met to discuss the replacement of the two 15 passenger vans. Pease discussed the options available to purchase and the recommendation of the committee to purchase Ford Expeditions. The estimated vehicles cost is around \$30,000 with an extended version costing an additional \$5,000.

The vehicles could be ordered with commercial trim which would have no carpet and allow for easier clean up. Pease reported that two vehicles had been budgeted for purchase and including federal stimulus funding of \$35,000. Beranek mentioned that he thought a small vehicle might be beneficial to the district for smaller groups of staff attending workshops.

Motion by Beranek with second by Garner to approve the purchase of two Ford Expeditions, one vehicle to be extended package. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Nygren, Sapp and Stille. Voting no: none. No members were absent and not voting. Motion carried.

Certificated Staff Levels for 2010-11

The proposed certificated teaching staff levels for the 2010-11 year were presented to the board for review and input. The staffing includes an additional Kindergarten and 1st grade teacher. This will allow us to take advantage of the new classrooms and get our class sizes down to about 16-17 in each classroom. The Kindergarten's additional staff would be depend on final Kindergarten Round-Up numbers.

Interlocal Agreement

Pease presented to the board an Inter-local Agreement with Saunders County for truancy officer. Pease advised board members that through a county grant we have had the services of a truancy officer this past school year. Randy Wiese has reported that the position has been very helpful in improving attendance for some students. Saunders County Attorney Scott Tingelhoff would like to expand the program by moving the person to full-time. The proposed Inter-local agreement would ask school districts to contribute to the funding of the position. It is estimated the district's share as about \$4,000 in 2010-11. Pease told board members he had asked for a breakdown of the estimated district costs and would bring this and the agreement back to the board for possible approval.

Real Estate

It was determined this matter will be discussed in executive session.

Informational Items

No informational items were presented

Executive Session

Motion by Nygren with second by Garner to enter executive session at 8:39 p.m. to discuss strategy related to real estate purchase. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Nygren, Sapp and Stille. Voting no: none. No members were absent and not voting. Motion carried.

Reconvene

The board reconvened from executive session at 8:53 p.m.

Other business presented for future considerations

No other business was presented for consideration.

Adjournment

President Cerny adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 15, 2010, in the Library of the High School at 1842 Furnas Street, Ashland, Nebraska. All meetings are open to the public. 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, Nebraska.

Minutes submitted by:
