

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools
Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2009**

Opening

A meeting of the Board of Education of the Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools was convened in open and public session at 7:36 p.m. on 19th day of January 2009 by Vice President Randy Beranek.

Present

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

Oath of Office

Member Nygren stated the Oath of Office.

Visitors and Communication from the Public

Visitors included Dale Rolofson to view the board proceedings. Matt Flynn was present to speak to item 8. A., Acceptable Use Policy and Laptop Handbook.

Call to Order

The meeting was duly called to order.

Announcement of Open Meetings Act Posting

At the beginning of this meeting, Vice President Beranek 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 advised of the changes to the agenda including additions to Old Business, Item F., 8. C., Building Project Plans and the addition to New Business of 9. F., Request for wavier of Sunday Use of School Facilities. Pease reported to board members that changes were submitted 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

Motion by Nygren with second by Cerny to approve the changes to the agenda including additions to Old Business, Item F., 8. C., Building Project Plans and the addition to New Business of 9. F., Request for wavier of Sunday Use of School Facilities. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Lutton, and Nygren. Members Garner and Sapp were absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Nygren with second by Cerny 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, Lutton, and Nygren. Members Garner and Sapp were absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Administrative and Practitioners Reports

Jill Finkey reported to the board that she had applied for and received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association for two collections of reproductions of famous American Art history prints. The pictures will be displayed at both media centers and include a Teachers Resource Book.

Finkey also reported that January is National Mentoring Month. Finkey explained the benefits of the mentor program partnering adults with students. Currently the district has 8 mentors teamed up with students. She told board members that there is always a call for more mentors if any one knew of someone that would be interested. Member Nygren asked how students were selected. Finkey explained some of the processes used to select students.

Teresa Bray brought for the board to two books created by the preschool students. Family Book of our Preschool Program pictures each family and a writing piece from each child. Each child also created a cardboard book with a focus on numbers. The books will be read and each family will receive a copy in a book bag at Family Reading Night.

Ray Bentzen reported to the board that the high school had been busy hosting tournaments. Bentzen reported that girls basketball team placed second at the Holiday Tournament, the wrestling team placed third at the Ashland-Greenwood Tournament, and the speech team place third at the Ox Bow Invite.

Bentzen reported to board members on upcoming events. On Wednesday 45 sophomore and juniors will attend a career fair. The wrestling team will travel to Raymond Central on Saturday for the Nebraska Capital Conference Wrestling Tournament. Next Monday band students will travel to Kearney Nebraska for an Honor Choir event held at University of Nebraska in Kearney. Also on Monday the boys basketball team will travel to Syracuse for Nebraska Capitol Conference Tournament. The district will be hosting girls basketball Nebraska Capitol Conference Tournament on Tuesday night.

OLD BUSINESS

Acceptable Use Policy and laptop Handbook

Board members received a draft copy of Acceptable Use Policy and Laptop Handbook in the mailed agenda. Matt Flynn spoke to the board and highlighted some topics included in the handbook. Items that Flynn presented to the board were a zero hour class period at the beginning of the days for students leaving laptops at school to pick up daily. Flynn discussed filtering software, conditions and rules for use, privilege statement, student pledge, consequences for violations and repair or replacement of laptops. In discussing the protection plan of the laptops Flynn told board members that many vendors have warranty plans and that will provide adequate coverage for protection of laptops. Discussion was held.

Acceptable Use Policy and laptop Handbook, continued

Member Lutton pointed out he had not seen in the handbook anything regarding not allowing students to install software on laptops. Pease said that would be added. Member Nygren stated he liked the idea of having students provide a fee for laptop use. This could encourage students to take better care of the laptop. Other members agreed.

Policies

Consideration and action on proposed Board Policies related to ADAA: Policies 1300, 1301, 1302 and 1331. These policies are a result of law updates and recommended by the district's law firm.

Motion by Lutton with second by Cerny to approve policies 1300, 1301, 1302 and 1331. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Lutton, and Nygren. Members Garner and Sapp were absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Building Project

Pease presented the plans of the building project for board to review and discuss. Pease told board members that facility advisory committee felt strongly about adding classrooms. Some members of the committee were sentimental about adding on to the elementary building. Pease stated that he felt building on another site would increase building costs considerably. Beranek commented that the project plans affect a lot of programs in the district including grades preschool through 12, cafeteria, P.E., band. Pease told board members that if they are in agreement he would recommend a Construction Manager at Risk and the recommended timeline of the process. Pease stated that time did not allow for this issue to be on a May ballot. A special election could be held in June and it could be possible for that to be held by mail in ballot. Pease told board members that he feels we are at a good time to move forward as commodities are at a low at this time and he was aware that some of the school districts with building projects were having bids come in lower than projected. Discussion was held. Member Nygren stated the mail ballot could offer favorable results. Member Beranek stated he felt we would want enough time to be able to inform the public properly. Member Cerny stated that he was aware that pricing was low at this time. The timeline of actual building was discussed. Board members were in agreement to proceed with the first two phases of the plan.

Motion by Lutton with second by Cerny to approve the Resolution regarding Selection of Construction Management at Risk Construction Delivery Method under the Political Subdivisions Construction Alternatives Act, Neb. Rev. Stat §§ 13-2901, and to Approve Related Policies and Appointment of Construction Management at Risk Contractor Selection Committee. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Lutton, and Nygren. Members Garner and Sapp were absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

TERIP Early Retirement Agreement

Consideration and action to approve an early retirement (TERIP) agreement for Wendy Hughes.

Motion by Nygren with second by Cerny to approve the early retirement (TERIP) agreement for Wendy Hughes. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Lutton, and Nygren. Members Garner and Sapp were absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Substitute Teacher

Consideration and action to approve Jan R Schelkopf as a substitute teacher.

Motion by Lutton with second by Cerny to approve Jan R Schelkopf as a substitute teacher. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Lutton, and Nygren. Members Garner and Sapp were absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Board Committees

Vice President Beranek appointed board members to the following committees for 2009.

Building, Grounds and Transportation Committee: Cerny, Nygren and Sapp

Personnel Committee: Beranek, Garner and Lutton

Finance Committee: Beranek, Lutton and Nygren

Curriculum & Americanism Committee: Cerny, Garner, and Sapp

Non-Certified Salary Team: Nygren, Garner and Sapp

Certified Staff Negotiations Team: Beranek, Cerny and Lutton

Member Nygren asked that board committees be revisited next month since member Garner and Sapp are absent.

Appointments

Consideration and action to appoint Craig Pease as District Representative for all state and federal programs. Consideration and action to appoint Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Centennial Bank and the Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund as district depositories and investment accounts for all funds.

Motion by Nygren with second by Lutton to appoint Craig Pease as District Representative for all state and federal programs and to appoint Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Centennial Bank and the Nebraska Liquid Asset Fund as district depositories and investment accounts for all funds. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Lutton, and Nygren. Members Garner and Sapp were absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Conflict of Interest

Declaration of Conflict of Interest by Board Members for the record:

Randy Beranek noted for the record that his wife, Kathy Beranek is employed as the hot lunch supervisor and his son Eric Beranek is employed as a maintenance director. Randy also serves the head wrestling coach for the district.

Melvin Cerny noted for the record that he is a board member for the Ashland Youth Ball Association, AYBA.

Kevin Garner noted no conflicts for the record

David Lutton noted for the record that he is the owner of Lutton Law, Ashland, NE.

Conflict of Interest, continued

David Nygren noted for the record that his wife Shari Nygren is employed by the district as a Kindergarten teacher. He also noted he is a board member for the Ashland Youth Ball Association, AYBA.

Suzanne Sapp noted for the record her husband's business is Lee Sapp Ford-Mercury, Ashland, NE.

Request for Sunday Use

Supt. Pease presented a request from the Post Prom Committee to waive the Sunday use of school facilities on April 19 for post prom activities.

Motion by Cerny with second by Nygren to waive the Sunday morning use of school facilities on April 19, 2009 for post prom activities. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Lutton, and Nygren. Members Garner and Sapp were absent and not voting. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Information Item

NASB/NCSA Labor Relations Conference is in Kearney on February 2-3.

The National School Boards Association Conference is scheduled for April 4-7 in San Diego, CA. Member Lutton requested information regarding this meeting.

Other business presented for future considerations

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

Adjournment

Vice President Beranek adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The next Regular Meeting will be held 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 2, 2009 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:

Secretary