

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools  
Board of Education  
Meeting Minutes  
March 21, 2005**

Notice of Regular Meeting published in the March 17, 2005 Ashland Gazette.

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on March 21, 2005 by President Randy Beranek.

**Present:**

Randy Beranek, Kevin Garner, Dave Lutton, David Nygren, Suzanne Sapp and Cindy Vest were present.

**1. Approval of Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda includes minutes of previous meeting, financial reports, and current monthly claims including special education contract with Nebraska Medical Center for educational services and renewal contract for Control Services for mechanical systems. .

Motion by Lutton with second by Nygren to approve the consent agenda including special educational contract with Nebraska Medical Center and renewal contract for Control Services. Roll call: Voting yes: Beranek, Garner, Lutton, Nygren, Sapp and Vest. Motion carried.

**2. Visitors and Communication from the Public**

There was no communication from the public.

**3. Administrative and Practitioners Reports.**

Principals Teresa Bray and Ray Bentzen presented to the board on the evaluation process of certified teachers.

Mrs. Bray presented a handout outlining the assessment and development of certified staff. Mrs. Bray presented the process for certified staff's performance goals, formal evaluations, informal observations and the summative evaluations. Board members questioned that if teachers were aware of the evaluation they could be better prepared. Mrs. Bray advised the board that with the principal's training and documentation of the observation, the principals are able to judge effective teaching. Another question received was if consideration was given for evaluation information from paraprofessionals or parents. Mrs. Bray advised the board that certainly if any information was received regarding a teacher it would be reviewed but generally these people do not have the training to evaluate good teaching.

Mr. Bentzen presented a handout with an overview of Essential Elements of Instruction. This is a program the staff and administration has been learning the past few years through workshops from Marilyn Baker and training at Westside School District. The district continues to provide staff training and trains new staff members. Mr. Bentzen explained the concept of EEL is teaching to the objective. He outlined the components and had the board participate in a learning session.

Mr. Bentzen reported on several events. Ashland-Greenwood students took Conference Champions for the second year at the Quiz Bowl. Eight students went to the State Speech competition. Kris Kresak, Adam Lichtas and Jess Herman place first<sup>†</sup> in OID.

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The Senior Tribute pep rally is scheduled for this Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. Thursday is the Ashland Rotary Invitational Track Meet. The spring musical "How to Succeed in Business without Even Trying" will have performances on April 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mr. Bentzen spoke to the board on a proposed choreography schedule for the dance team. The proposal would allow for Jennifer Smith to work with the dance team on an ongoing basis starting with sessions for dance team tryouts. Jennifer would be paid as a contracted provider. This proposal will be brought to the board for approval at a future meeting.

Mrs. Bray had nothing to report.

Mr. Pease reported to the Board that Seminole Energy had contacted him regarding the district purchasing fuel through a coop group called N-Jimp. This year the group has received bid pricing which is lower than the guaranteed pricing of Cornerstone. Supt. Pease will bring this issue back to the board at the next meeting.

**Old Business**

**4. Option enrollment capacities for 2005-06.**

Supt. Pease presented to the board the proposed option enrollment capacities for 2005-06. The proposed capacities are 60 students for Kindergarten, 66 students for grades 1 through 3, 69 students for grades 4 through 6, and 75 students for grades 7 through grades 12. Special Education programs are at capacity.

Motion by Sapp with second by Lutton to approve the 2005-06 option enrollment capacities. Roll call: Voting yes: Beranek, Garner, Lutton, Nygren, Sapp and Vest. Motion carried.

**5. 9000 level policy revisions.**

Motion by Garner with second by Vest to approve the level 9000 series policy revisions. Roll call: Voting yes: Beranek, Garner, Lutton, Nygren, Sapp and Vest. Motion carried.

**6. 2005-06 staffing levels.**

Discussion was held regarding the proposed 2005-06 staffing levels. Member Vest asked if there was a need for additional staffing of a psychologist for special education purposes. Supt. Pease advised the board that a school psychologist does not give direct services to students and the district was looking into a program regarding the staffing of a shared psychologist. The nature of the students verified disabilities impacted how labor intensive specialized programming may be. Additional staffing of teacher's aides may be added or shifted if additional students were verified with disabilities. Another solution for students of the district would be to contract for services with another school system or agency.

Member Lutton expressed that he would like to see an increase in foreign language in the district at an earlier age.

Motion by Vest with second by Sapp to approve the 2005-06 staffing levels. Roll call: Voting yes: Beranek, Garner, Lutton, Nygren, Sapp and Vest. Motion carried.

**7. Board goals from March 7 workshop.**

Supt. Pease presented to the board a list of goals from the board retreat on February 7. The board was in agreement with the list presented. The only suggestion to make goal two inclusive of all eligibility issues including grading and use of alcohol, tobacco or drugs.

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**New Business**

**1. Board Representative for Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Foundation.**

Motion by Lutton with second by Sapp to appoint Kevin Garner as the board representative on the Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools Foundation Board of Directors. Roll call: Voting yes: Beranek, Lutton, Nygren, Sapp and Vest. Member Garner abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

**2. Overnight travel policy revisions.**

Supt. Pease presented policy 6153.1 with revisions outlining some of the considerations that could permit approval for overnight travel. The proposed policy revisions are the results of discussion at the previous board meeting. Member Garners suggested the use of the term "will consider: such things as: if the event is more than one day, type of competition or activity, departure times, weather conditions. Discussion was held among members. No revisions are planned for the regulation. This policy revision will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

**3. Policy 1411 Law Enforcement Investigations.**

Supt. Pease presented to the board proposed revisions of policy 1411 regarding law enforcement investigation. On several occasions the school has been told by law enforcement agencies that our policy was not legal. Recently the county attorney told Supt. Pease that he would cite the administrators for obstructing justice if they enforced the policy. Supt. Pease has had the proposed changes for policy 1411 approved by the district's legal counsel. This revision will be brought back to the next meeting for approval.

**4. Capital Outlay Plan for 2005**

Supt. Pease presented to the board for their review a proposed capital outlay plan for 2005. He asked the board review the list and make recommendations for priorities. Priority one are expected to be completed in the 2005-06 year. It was recommended to remove the request to pave west gravel lot at high school with the community planning committee looking into the development of a community building. The plan will be brought back for board approval at the next meeting.

**5. Superintendent's contract.**

This matter will be moved to the end of the agenda and discussed in executive session.

**Information Items:**

Building and Grounds Committee met with AYBA regarding the softball field project. The committee asked the AYBA for a master plan of the project to help the district determine which costs might be shared. The AYBA has contacted an architect requesting review and staging of the project.

Highway 66 between Ashland and Mahoney State Park is set for closure April 4. Supt. Pease advised the board that one or more of the existing bus routes would need to be revised to accommodate the highway construction.

**6. Executive Session.**

Motion by Lutton with second by Vest to move into executive session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss the superintendent's contract. Roll call: Voting yes: Beranek, Garner, Lutton, Nygren, Sapp and Vest. Motion carried.

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**7. Reconvene**

The board reconvened from executive session at 9:08 with no action taken.

**Adjournment:**

President Beranek adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. at the Board Conference Room in the North annex of the Elementary School building at 1200 Boyd Street.

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Minutes submitted by: Cindy Vest