

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools
Board of Education
Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2008**

Opening

A meeting of the Board of Education of the Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools was convened in open and public session following the public hearing at 4:00 p.m. on 18th day of February 2008 by President Suzanne Sapp.

Present

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

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.

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

There was no change to the published agenda.

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, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Visitors and Communication from the Public

There were no visitors or communication from the public.

Administrative and Practitioners Reports

Mrs. Heusman reminded the board that February 29, Clay Anderson will be speaking to the Elementary and MS/HS students. The Clay Anderson day will have a community parade followed by a dinner at SAC Museum. Tickets are still available at local banks.

Mrs. Heusman reported to the board that at the March 17th board meeting three teachers will give a short presentation of the student response system Clickers being used in the classrooms.

Mrs. Bray reported to the board on two upcoming events at the Elementary School. She reported that on the evening of February 21st a kindergarten-parent meeting will be held

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Administrative and Practitioners Reports, continued

for 2008-09 Kindergarten Class. The 6th grade Science Fair will take place on Tuesday, February 26th and will hold an open house that evening.

Mr. Bentzen reported that Andy Mink won his second consecutive wrestling state championship. Andy will be the first champion for Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools to win two consecutive years. Bentzen congratulated Coach Beranek. Member Beranek added that the Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools place 18th in the state competition and that our conference schools fared well with six individual champions.

Mr. Bentzen also reported that the ACT Test Prep program would be starting March 4. This program is helpful for students preparing to take the ACT tests.

Mr. Bentzen reported that the girls basketball team won sub districts and would compete at the district basketball competition this Friday. The boys basketball team will compete tonight at the sub district competition at Roncalli Catholic High School.

Supt. Pease reported to the board that he had received a call from Dan Smith of D. A. Davidson & Co. advising him the district may want to look at refunding the bonds. Supt. Pease passed out a handout showing a \$48,000 savings for the district. Mr. Smith may be able to address the board to discuss the savings. Member Lutton questioned the actual savings over the extended period versus the cost of refinancing. Member Nygren asked if this was the only agent that did bonding for schools. Supt. Pease told board members that there were two firms that do most of the work in Nebraska with school bonds. Pease also stated that sometimes you can negotiate a lower fee from the fiscal agent. Member Cerny stated that if there could be a savings for the district they should listen to Mr. Smith's presentation.

Building Committee Meeting

Supt. Pease suggested the Building Committee meet for the purpose of discussing construction alternatives, acquisition of professional assistance, establishing an advisory committee and other matters related to possible consideration of facility improvements and expansion. Pease suggested this matter be moved to the end of the meeting when the board discusses the date and time of the next board meeting.

Capital Outlay Plan 2008

Consideration and action to approve the 2008-09 Capital Outlay Plan and authorize the Superintendent to implement the plan as approved.

Motion by Beranek with second by Nygren to approve the 2008-09 Capital Outlay Plan and authorize the Superintendent to implement the plan as approved. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Facility Improvement

Consideration and action to authorize the Superintendent to implement Facility Improvement Measures proposed by Trane.

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Facility Improvement, continued.

Resolution by Cerny with second by Lutton whereas the Board of Education authorizes the superintendent to implement a Performance Contract with Trane for the amount not to exceed \$327,325.000 for the Facility Improvement Measures discussed.

After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

Option Capacities 2008-09

Consideration and action to approve the option capacities for 2008-09 and to authorize the Superintendent to approve option enrollment applications within these established capacities.

Motion by Garner with second by Nygren to approve the option capacities for 2008-09 and to authorize the Superintendent to approve option enrollment applications within these established capacities. After discussion and on roll call vote, the board voted as follows: Voting yes: Beranek, Cerny, Garner, Lutton, Nygren and Sapp. Voting no: none. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

7000 Series Policies

Supt. Pease presented the 7000 series policies to the board for review. He discussed several policies that need revising to update outdated language and outdated practices. Supt. Pease had sent these policies to the district's legal counsel for review. Legal counsel has recommended two new policies that deal with alternatives available to school districts for new construction and improvements. Discussion was held. The 7000 series policies will be brought back to the board for revisions at a later board meeting.

Information Items

The Ashland Greenwood Public Schools Foundation will hold their annual dinner to honor employees, students and graduates at 6:00 PM on Friday, April 4th. Tickets will go on sale in March.

Correspondence has been received from the Nebraska Department of Education approving our pre-school education program. Supt. Pease told board members that this is the second year of approval for the Pre-school education program. After the program has been approved three years in a row the district will receive state funding for the program.

Supt. Pease told board members that Blue Cross Blue Shield had released the 2008-09 rates. The program has changed from a two tier program to a four tier program, tiers include: Employee Only, Employee/Spouse, Employee/Children, Employee/Spouse /Children, Blue Cross Blue Shield is claiming a rate increase of 5.9% but Pease states the increase may actually be higher based on the actual tiers our district employees will be in.

Other business presented for future considerations

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

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Adjournment

President Sapp adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m. The building committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the high school prior to the next regular board meeting. The next Regular Meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 17, 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