



Knowing, valuing, and appreciating the uniqueness of every child

- Call to Order:** 7 p.m. by Connie Conine, President. Pledge of Allegiance followed by reading of the district's Mission statement. Roll call taken; quorum established.
- Members Present:** Connie Conine, President; Paul Krause, Vice President; Francis Kleckner, Treasurer; Kendall Thistle; Stacie Stark; Paul Moore; Rick Hamm
- Excused/Absent:** Tom Hoffmann; Gerry Orten, Jr.
- Others Present:** William Harbron (via teleconference); Barb Peterka; Kurt Bergland; Pam Warner; Roger Sinnen; Sean Preisler, OHS student rep; Jean Schroeder; Nici Tomkiewicz; Steven Baumeister; Tim Burmesch; Mark Jaeger, *Ozaukee Press*; Vicki Depies
- Agenda:** Motion to adopt the agenda in print made by F. Kleckner, seconded by R. Hamm. ***Motion carried unanimously.***
- Public Forum:** No items submitted.
- Celebrations and Announcements:** W. Harbron congratulated Jim Salamone and Chris Raisbeck for their outstanding job with last Saturday's music festival, the students who advanced to the state competition, and Roger Sinnen and his custodial team to prepare the facilities for the event.
- Consent Agenda:**
- Motion to approve Consent Agenda Part I-Business made by P. Krause, seconded by F. Kleckner. ***Motion carried unanimously.***
 - Motion to approve Consent Agenda Part II-Student & Personnel Recommendations made by F. Kleckner, seconded by S. Stark. On behalf of the Board, K. Thistle expressed a sincere thank you to retirees, Jim Salamone, Barb Prokopowicz, and Vickie Mantyh, for their many years of service, wishing them a long and happy retirement. ***Motion carried unanimously.***
 - Motion to state on record that policies EL-10 Communication and Counsel to the Board, and EL-11 Annual Report to the Public were reviewed as listed on Consent Agenda Part III-Governance Policy made by P. Krause, seconded by F. Kleckner. Concerning policy EL-10, item 9.b., C. Conine asked W. Harbron if he felt the Board had improved in making requests for information as a whole, rather than individually. W. Harbron replied there has been much improvement; requests are now being made during Board meetings when everyone is present. C. Conine then asked the Board how Bill is doing in providing information to the Board; e.g., too much, too little, etc. The Board feels the information provided is okay. Concerning item #5 in the policy, K. Thistle requests to see more opposing views presented; most input is received from the public instruction point of view. Additional pros and cons would be appreciated. P. Krause stated W. Harbron's information provided to the Board is very thorough and concise. ***Motion carried unanimously.***
- Discussion Items:** Review and discussion of preliminary budget: P. Krause stated that the Finance Committee feels the budget is not complete enough to present to the Board at this time. The committee is not recommending a referendum. It is proposing a balanced budget with solid financial footing. Staffing is being reviewed and the committee is being cautiously optimistic. K. Thistle questioned use of the term, "solid," when the district still does not have a high fund balance. P. Krause replied that "solid" is a relative term; we are no longer looking at huge budget cuts and no preliminary lay-offs are anticipated. Factors to be reviewed include student enrollment data, class sizes, staffing, virtual school enrollment, government stimulus package, and things we can combine; after which time, the budget will be more solid. The Finance Committee plans to present the preliminary budget in April. Concerning summer projects, R. Sinnen requested that he be given enough time to order necessary items; with the current state of the economy, products may be difficult to get.
- First Policy Readings:**
- ***Board Governance Policy EL-8, Financial Administration (revised)***: Revisions accepted; present for second reading in April.
 - ***Parent Groups, Athletic Clubs, and Other Community Support Organizations Policy (new)***: K. Thistle questioned how this policy affects community organizations, such as the Fredonia Lions and the YMCA; i.e., those using our facilities, but not affiliated with the district. The policy should state whether the organization is affiliated with the district or conducting a school-sponsored event, perhaps led by a school district employee.

What is our intent with this policy? If using our name, the policy is to ensure that the organization follows proper protocol in handling its finances. The policy should spell out whether the organization is using our name or if a school district employee is involved with an event. The district wants the policy followed; it is not considered "advisory." C. Conine questioned whether organizations are using the district's tax exempt number and if it is floating around out there. The question will be directed to Walter Clarke. Since there is such a broad spectrum of clubs, the policy's intent is to establish precise bookkeeping/audit practices and safeguards for accountability. The policy is intended to prevent mishandling of funds and parents feeling misled. Outside organizations must follow guidelines when using our facilities, but we can't tell them how to run their accounting practices. Although organizations may not be directly affiliated with the district, their close association with the district is viewed by the community as being tied into it. Recommendation for the Policy Committee: The policy should delineate whether or not an organization uses the district's name.

- **Whistle-blower Policy (new):** P. Krause questioned whether employees have access to an ombudsman or confidential whistle-blower hotline when dealing with confidential issues. Perhaps it is something we should consider, especially in matters relating to administration. S. Stark provided clarification of item C.

- **District Conflict of Interest Policy (new):** This policy covers the Board and administration. K. Thistle stated that if a conflict of interest exists, a Board member should not be excluded from debate over an issue, but should abstain from voting on the issue. S. Stark replied that if a Board member is allowed to debate an issue, the Board could be swayed to vote a certain way, and thus, influence the outcome. K. Thistle again questioned whether a Board member, being an elected official, could be excluded from debate. If a personal matter, the Board member could debate an issue as a private citizen via the Public Forum. P. Krause asked whether the district has a form or procedure to be used to declare conflict of interest. He suggested that we come up with a way to declare it, perhaps a half-page form. Guidelines should also be established pertaining to degree of separation. S. Stark stated the Policy Committee will check with the school attorney and WASB for clarification on excluding a Board member from debate when conflict of interest is determined.

- **Investment of School District Funds Policy (new):** Accepted as presented. Return for second reading in April.

Action Items:

Second Policy Readings:

- **Video Media Use in the Schools:** Only change was to separate "Unrated" into its own category. P. Moore made a motion to can this policy; it is not needed. Supervision should enforce its own judgment and policies concerning media use in the classroom. K. Thistle seconded the motion. P. Krause feels the policy is necessary due to recent events. P. Moore feels media is a tool for instruction and a policy of this type puts the responsibility on the Board to determine suitability. In dealing with moral content, P. Krause asked whether, as a Board, do we want to leave it up to an individual we hire to determine what moral content is correct for the students. P. Moore questioned terminology in item #4; there is nothing that says we can't do this, and that materials are selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weakness. Roll call vote: S. Stark, no; P. Moore, yes; F. Kleckner, no; P. Krause, no; K. Thistle, no; R. Hamm, no; C. Conine, no. **Motion failed.** Motion to approve policy as written made by P. Krause, seconded by S. Stark. Further discussion followed. Roll call vote: S. Stark, yes; P. Moore, no; F. Kleckner, yes; P. Krause, yes; K. Thistle, no; R. Hamm, yes; C. Conine, yes. **Motion carried 5-2.**

- **Pre-employment Drug Testing:** Motion made by P. Krause, seconded by C. Conine to approve policy contingent upon adding "substitute teacher" wording to section I. Coverage, item B. Covered positions. Voice vote: 5 yes, 2 no. **Motion carried.**

- **Board of Education Meeting Agendas and Minutes:** Motion to adopt policy as written, with removal of the word "Audiotape," made by P. Krause, seconded by F. Kleckner. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- **Policy I-5 Field Trips:** Motion to adopt policy as revised made by R. Hamm, seconded by P. Krause. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Final Service Agreements for Wisconsin Virtual Learning:

- The Aventa Service Agreement had not been finalized as of tonight's meeting; will be presented in April.

- Motion to approve Calvert Service Agreement made by R. Hamm, seconded by C. Conine. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- Motion to approve Florida Virtual School Service Agreement made by F. Kleckner, seconded by S. Stark. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Monthly Reports:

- Sean Preisler reported that he has advanced to state WSMA competition with his piano piece, along with the saxophone quintet. The WSMA event went very smoothly. He also reported that second trimester exams went well.

Committee reports:

- Student Learning & Achievement: Presently debating graduate preparedness for life after high school. Will add to March 23 Board Workshop agenda.

- Finance/Buildings & Grounds: Minutes distributed in Board folders.
- Negotiations: Next meeting Monday, March 23.
- Policy: No further report; policies under consideration were reviewed tonight.
- Ad hoc land committee: No report at this time.
- Administrative reports: B. Peterka clarified number of special education open enrollment applications. Two hundred seven were received; the number is proportionately higher each year. Barb figures on 50 percent of that count. Approximately 30 will not be special ed. K. Bergland explained that WIVA has an approximate 50 percent retention rate, but is running ahead of that this year. A document will be mailed at the end of March asking undecided families to commit to enrollment. We expect to retain 55 percent of current families and 55-60 percent of prospective families. Enrollment should be approximately 1150 for next year. C. Conine is glad that W. Clarke is investigating other options for financing the laptop lease for the virtual school; the 6 percent rate is steep. The district plans to switch Internet providers from Bertram to another provider for next year. C. Conine asked about the \$231,100 which may be received through the federal stimulus package; W. Harbron explained that if the funds are received, we are not sure as yet where the money will be applied. K. Bergland provided clarification on students who were deemed "on the edge" for remaining enrolled in WIVA. Some students were lost in January at the third Friday count, others didn't respond to contacts to revive their status, while others responded and have made progress.
- Topics for March 24 Board Workshop: Special education funding (clarify flow-through funds), discussion of summary information from both Board Dinner & Conversation Sessions, graduate preparations for life after high school, fiscal health targets (targeting fund balance), negotiations strategies, and closed session after Workshop for further discussion of negotiations strategies.
- C. Conine asked Board members to begin inviting people to attend the April 23 Board Dinner & Conversation Session. She also stated she is unable to attend the MATC meeting on March 21 for election of its board members and asked for someone to attend and vote in her stead. P. Krause will check to see if he is available.

Next Agenda: Agenda items for the April 13 Regular Board Meeting will consist of those listed on Attachment H, with the addition of second trimester data reports and approval of the Aventa Service Agreement.

Next Meeting: Board Workshop, Tuesday, March 24, 2009, 6:30 p.m., followed by Closed Session, OMS/OHS Library. Regular Board Meeting, Monday, April 13, 2009, 7 p.m., OMS/OHS Library.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by P. Krause, seconded by R. Hamm. *Motion carried unanimously.* Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Thomas A. Hoffmann
Board Clerk

/s/

Connie Conine
Board President

TAH:vld