



NORTHERN OZAUKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD of EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
Monday, September 14, 2009 · 7 p.m.  
OMS/OHS Library

**Call to Order:** 7 p.m. by Paul Krause, Board President. Pledge of Allegiance followed by reading of the district's Vision Statement.

**Members Present:** Paul Krause, President; Stacie Stark, Vice President; Francis Kleckner, Treasurer; Tim Burmesch, Clerk; Steven Baumeister; Steven Burmesch; Kendall Thistle

**Excused:** Tom Hoffmann, Rick Hamm

**Others Present:** William Harbron, Superintendent; Walter Clarke, Business Mgr.; Chris Koss, Auxiliary President; Jason Becker, HR/Accountant; Mark Jaeger, *Ozaukee Press*

**Agenda:** Motion to adopt the agenda in print made by F. Kleckner, seconded by S. Stark. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

**Public Forum:** Steve Paulus addressed the Board concerning the day care discussion and the response from Mr. Harbron. Steve thinks the Board should consider having the district spend \$5000 to find out why students leave the high school. Steve said he received no response from Mr. Harbron about the administrator who said the kids are better when they come out of the YMCA program than they are from other day cares in town. P. Krause said he thought that was addressed in the letter. Steve also stated that when a parent comes in front of the Board and asks the Board to solve a problem, the Board says go back to the administrator when that parent followed procedure. Administration said no to his request. Steve was at the meeting in which P. Krause told the parent that's for the administrators to take care of. If parents know that they won't get an answer out of the Board, then Steve doesn't think the district needs a board; we'll just let the administrators run the whole show.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendall Thistle addressed the Board, indicating that the statements written in the Ad Hoc Land Committee's report on recommendations to date (page 36 of the Board packet) are not completely accurate. K. Thistle stated that the district's water problems began after it entered into an amended land exchange agreement. He went on to say that the Thistles did not take any specific action to block the flow of water across their property. He added that as of today, they still have not received any requested information from the Ad Hoc Land Committee from back in July. As far as declining the offer to mediate, the Thistles and the district have been involved in a mediation-type process twice prior to this latest event. The first time, it was deemed that any excessive storm water on the district property was caused by a lack of grading and seeding in the new development. The latest letter the Thistles received on mediation included only one party to participate, and set forth conditions so outrageous that they had to decline. He added that the district's legal counsel has rendered an opinion regarding the district's flooding problem (June 9 memo from Mike Lokensgard), which states that the developer is in violation of the land exchange agreement. The letter also mentions that the district would have a strong case against the developer if the district chose to litigate the matter. The Thistles find it rather interesting that item #3 on page 36 recommends pursuing civil action against only them. Based on actions taken and comments made by Board members, the Thistles feel there may be members who have a personal grudge against them. The seemingly one-sided focus in this matter leads them to believe there may be someone on the administrative team or on the Board who has possibly received a favorable deal on some land or something.

**Celebrations and Announcements:**

The district recognized Mr. Joe Short, Village of Fredonia President, for presenting the TIF district dissolution check in the amount of \$109,712.88 and accompanying documents. Mr. Short provided a brief history of the TIF district. Other recognitions were made as follows:

- ▶ The IT team of Mike Skurek, David Dich, Dave Malueg, and Stacey Jahn for the extra hours invested with the start of WV, OES, OMS, and OHS
- ▶ Roger Sinnen and the maintenance and custodial teams for their investment of time to prepare the schools and grounds for the 2009-10 school year
- ▶ Vicki Depies for planning and coordination of the annual Welcome Back to School Picnic
- ▶ The administrators, faculty, staff, and Board members who assisted with the annual picnic
- ▶ WV administration, faculty, and staff members for handling the start-up of WV in a highly professional manner

- OES, OMS, and OHS administration, faculty, and staff members for a positive start of the school year
- The students who worked with the IT team and maintenance and custodial teams during the summer
- Alan Dust was recognized by Sean Preisler for his new direction with the OHS band program
- OHS recognitions from Kevin Parker:
  - New staff members for jumping right in
  - Entire high school staff for a great start to the 2009-10 school year
  - Andy Gremminger for coordinating all academics (including virtual courses)
  - Peggy Brown and Heather Krueger for the time and effort put into room 431; especially the organization of virtual courses
  - Jane Krepsky for maintaining the high school office and training of student aides
  - Student aides for stepping in and running with the responsibilities
  - Lee Baldwin for handling the weather and bus situation on Friday, August 28
- Pam Warner recognized Bonnie Brunner for a positive transition and investment in the OMS program
- Walter Clarke recognized Jason Becker for his outstanding effort in working with the annual audit and preparing the first payroll of the year
- Stephen Burmesch recognized the many volunteers who assist in the schools, including the OMS WOW program and ambulance services at athletic events

- Consent Agenda:**
- Motion to approve Consent Agenda Part I Business, items 1, 2, 3, and 4, made by F. Kleckner, seconded by S. Stark. **Motion carried unanimously.**
  - Motion to approve Consent Agenda Part I Business, item 5, made by F. Kleckner, seconded by P. Krause. **Motion carried with one opposed.** K. Thistle asked R. Hamm to share his opinion with the Board. Rick realizes the district needs to borrow, but feels that the amount is too much.
  - Motion to state on record that Governance Policies listed on Consent Agenda Part III Board Governance Policies, were reviewed made by S. Baumeister, seconded by T. Burmesch. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- Action Items:**
- H1N1 flu: W. Harbron provided background information on recommendations concerning school closings due to a flu outbreak. Board discussed whether missed school days would need to be made up, and if so, how the Board wishes to address make-up days. K. Thistle feels we should make up the time, at least meeting the state minimum. P. Krause suggested that we try to fill in the days during the trimester in which they're missed. Motion to make up missed days to at least the state minimum requirement and that trimester breaks be adjusted to make sure that trimesters are as equal as possible, preferably using February 5, spring break, or extending the end of school, made by R. Hamm, seconded by T. Burmesch. The Board agreed that there is no limit to the number of days that should be made up. **Motion carried unanimously.**
  - First Policy Readings:
    - Governance Policy B/SR-5, Monitoring Superintendent Performance, was revised by the Policy Committee to include some of the wording from deleted policy B/SR-5E, Annual Summative Evaluation. K. Thistle requested that this policy be held until the October Board meeting and that a strike-out copy be provided to track changes. Policy B/SR-5 will be returned in October for first reading with tracked changes. P. Krause stated there are a handful of changes to the superintendent's evaluation instrument itself, which he would like the Policy Committee to review before next year.
    - Policy B-1, Guiding Principle for the Board of Education, Compensation, will be brought back for second reading in October, with removal of second occurrence of "two seats Town of Fredonia" in the Election and Term of Office paragraph. Only the language in this policy was changed to clarify how Negotiations Committee members are compensated; no procedural changes were made.

**Performance Data**

**Review:** Board members and administrators formed teams to review 2008-09 district testing data and the schools' plans to improve academic achievement.

**Monthly Reports:**

- OHS student representative report: Sean Preisler said the start of school went well. He added that students are very happy with the new OHS band teacher, Mr. Alan Dust. Sean stated he has a few classes using the new L to J quizzes, which are interesting and he hopes will be helpful.
- Ad Hoc Land Committee report: F. Kleckner updated the Board on recent activity. Roger Sinnen measured the deepest part of the pond at 4'9". In winter, it measures 6½ feet at the point of where it started flowing around the berm. Roger went on to explain options to drain the pond as determined by estimates from two excavators. P. Krause commented that we are trying to solve a problem that we didn't create. The question of whether we are assuming long-term liability by fixing a problem we didn't create should be directed to our legal counsel. He also stated it is not our role to determine fault in this case. P. Krause consulted WASB, whose legal team recommended legal action against both MasterCraft and the Thistles, rather than solely the

Thistles, and let the court sort out the at-fault issue. With three options before the Board, P. Krause asked what to do to give guidance to the committee. S. Stark and P. Krause both feel option #1 cannot be taken due to the hazard of leaving it as is. The Board was unanimous on this opinion. P. Krause feels option #2 might be the most expedient short-term method; however, previous boards have made expedient decisions, causing the current Board to wrestle with their mistakes. P. Krause added that although we may have an estimate to drain the land, hidden costs may be present (e.g., DNR, permit fees). Water problems are not easily solved. T. Burmesch stated that before proceeding, we should consult legal counsel as to if we undertake any responsibility, or assumption thereof, by modifying existing grade to drain it on our own behalf, then do we assume liability if conditions should arise that cause damage elsewhere. P. Krause agreed, and added two issues we need to consider in fixing it ourselves: 1) We are guaranteed to be assuming long-term maintenance of the solution, and 2) we could be assuming additional liability if something were to go wrong with that solution. Option #1 is ruled out. Questions need to be answered, including the two already posed to W. Harbron for legal consult, and if we do decide to pursue a civil suit, what are the ramifications of including MasterCraft in the suit and letting the court sort it out. Discussion followed concerning whether this is considered a long-term fix or if other problems may develop 25 to 50 years from now. P. Krause is more concerned with the possibility of collateral damage if someone were to fall through the ice, a child slipping and drowning, the dyke failing and flooding the property owners, etc. P. Krause would like to refer the matter back to committee with a sense of urgency that we take action as quickly as possible. Questions should be answered and a special Board meeting called.

- Committee chairs updated the Board on recent activity.
- W. Harbron presented current enrollment figures and student-teacher ratios for 2009-10.

**Next Agenda:** Agenda items for the October 12 Regular Board Meeting consist of those listed on Attachment H, with addition of a short report on start-up of the YMCA Before- and After-School Program.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, October 12, 2009, 7 p.m., OMS/OHS Library.

P. Krause asked Board members to complete the Meeting Assessment Form and Conflict of Interest signature page.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by F. Kleckner, seconded by T. Burmesch. ***Motion carried unanimously.*** Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Timothy C. Burmesch  
Board Clerk

TCB:vld

/s/

Paul Krause  
Board President