

READING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 29, 2009

MINUTES

President Pridgeon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the North Annex Building of Reynolds Elementary School.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Members present: Galloway, Iveson, Kovacic, Pridgeon, Sanders, Sigler, Weaver

Members absent: None

Others present: M. Potts, T. Coolman, T. Davis, J. Wiler, K. Wolodkin, J. Hemker, K. Childrey, A. Filip, B. Barnes, K. Weidmayer, M. Weidmayer, J. Weidmayer, J. and J. LaRue, and T. LaRue, N. LaRue, M. Wentz, L. Stone, D. Rose, C. Hartshorn

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: Information item J. "Extension of Contracts for Administrators" was added to the agenda. Agenda was approved with this addition.

NICE THINGS:

Winning entries from the Elementary Science Fair were on display for board and guests to view prior to the meeting time. Kim Wolodkin, Science Fair coordinator, introduced our scientists, Legand Stone, Marie Weidmayer, Tara LaRue, and Joey Weidmayer. These students each summarized their projects for the board and guests. With 80 entries, our Science Fair was a big success.

Mr. Potts congratulated our food services supervisor, Faith Kaufmann, and her staff for an excellent 100% health inspection at both buildings. The high school, having received a 100% inspection for two consecutive years, was awarded a certificate of excellence. Five of our teachers attended the MACUL conference. Title IID grant money paid for the conference and was used to purchase a cart with a laptop that is already in use by our teachers.

Scott Sigler mentioned the staff pictures that were taken at the beginning of the year and appreciates them being displayed in all buildings.

Randy Sanders voiced his appreciation to Kim Wolodkin for her efforts in organizing the Science Fair.

Kathy Childrey announced that Jann Hemker is being recognized as teacher of the year by the MEA. Congratulations Jann!

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion made by Kovacic and supported by Galloway to approve the minutes of the March 25 regular and closed session and the April 9 strategic planning meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: Galloway, Iveson, Kovacic, Pridgeon, Sanders, Sigler, Weaver

Nays: None - Motion carried.

Iveson moved to approve the financial reports as given. Motion seconded by Sigler.

Ayes: Galloway, Iveson, Kovacic, Pridgeon, Sanders, Sigler, Weaver

Nays: None - Motion carried.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Principals' Reports – Tim Davis gave the elementary update to the board including scheduled events for the remainder of the year. (Pride Day, Track and Field Day, Kindergarten Graduation, 6th Grade Honors and Graduation, and Talent Show) Kindergarten screening and round-up are completed. Our numbers so far appear to be consistent with previous years and what we have projected.

The high school report was perused with some input from Mike regarding the exploration of shared classes with Camden Frontier Schools. ACT testing at the junior class level has shown scores increasing slightly over the past three years.

Advertising for Bids on the 519 W. Elm Street Property (house only) – Advertising has been done and the deadline for bids is May 20, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Bid results will be available to the board at the May 20, 2009 regular meeting.

Potential Sale of Two Lots on Elm Street – We have had a person approach the board wanting to purchase two Elm Street front lots for building a new home. The board agreed to look at the offer and then accept or negotiate the offer.

Bus Lease – Considerable board discussion was held. The board would like more information, cost comparisons in more detail between the lease option and regular upgrade purchasing and maintaining of our own fleet. Also needed are what will be covered by the lease agreement as far as maintenance and repairs. The possibility of leasing only part of the fleet was discussed. The board has requested a copy of the results of the county-wide transportation study as well.

Budget Projection Update – We are still waiting to hear on final insurance cost increases. We are looking for ways to reduce our deficit. Discussion was held regarding Cognitive Impaired Classroom and Resource Rooms and the impact of making changes in those programs.

End of the Year Calendar – We have added a full day of instruction to make up our required hours due to weather cancellations. The last student day will be half a day on June 4th, with the teachers reporting on June 5th until 11:00 a.m. The annual Retirees Breakfast will be June 5 at 7:30 a.m.

Sinking Fund – A committee to research, develop and move forward with plans to maintain/repair/upgrade our buildings will be formed. A sinking fund is our best option to generate these vital funds. The committee will consist of a couple of board members and community members.

Who Owns Magic Square – Some discussion was held regarding the map presented to the board of the Barre Field area and what it means to our school. Property owned by Gerald and Peggy Bloom is being considered for purchase by the Athletic Booster Club.

ISD Biennial Election –

Motion was made by Sigler and supported by Galloway to suspend the rules of order to act on the Resolution to Consider Designation of Electoral Representative for the June 1, 2009 Biennial Election.

Ayes: Galloway, Iveson, Kovacic, Pridgeon, Sanders, Sigler, Weaver

Nays: None - Motion carried.

The Resolution to Consider Designation of Electoral Representative for the June 1, 2009 Biennial Election was offered by Sanders and supported by Iveson. (See attached.) Roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Galloway, Iveson, Kovacic, Pridgeon, Sanders, Sigler, Weaver

Nays: None - Resolution declared adopted.

May 5, 2009 School Election – We have one board position open with Scott Sigler and Kathy Weidmayer running for that position. Also on the ballot is the Headlee override vote to return the ISD special millage to the original 3 mills. This is very important for the special education costs for Reading.

Extension of Contracts of Administrators – Consideration of extending the contracts of administrators to June 30, 2011 will be an action item for May. This will keep the administrators contracts at two years without negotiating the terms of the contracts.

FUTURE MEETINGS: May 20, 2009 regular meeting

Motion to go to closed session to discuss negotiations was made at 8:33 p.m. by Kovacic and supported by Sigler.