Board of Education Special Meeting # 16
March 31, 2009

Board Members present:  Ken Artis, Ramie Bakken, Lois Corey, Don Mathews, Laurel Meek, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Ron Wirtz

Board Members absent:  None

The meeting was called to order by President Don Mathews at 6:05 p.m.

Notices of the meeting were delivered to the Banner Journal, Jackson County Chronicle and WWIS Radio and posted in three (3) public places on March 25, 2009.

Discussion was held on the staffing issues for the 2009-2010 school year. The Board decided to act on each staffing issue individually.

Ron Wirtz moved to accept the recommendation to add a Kindergarten Teacher for the 2009-2010 school year. Ken Artis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ken Artis moved to accept the recommendation to add a 1st Grade teacher for the 2009-2010 school year. Ramie Bakken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ron Wirtz moved to approve the addition of the BRAGS teacher for the 2009-2010 school year as presented. Ramie Bakken seconded the motion. Roll call vote:

Yes: Ken Artis, Ramie Bakken, Don Mathews, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Ron Wirtz
Abstain: Lois Corey, Laurel Meek
Motion Carried

Ron Wirtz moved to reduce one Special Education teacher for the 2009-2010 school with the special education teacher moving to replace a 2nd grade teacher that will be retiring at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. Ramie Bakken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ron Wirtz moved to approve the recommendation to hire an additional .5 FTE school psychologist for the 2009-2010 school year. Lois Corey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski moved to approve the hiring of a .5 FTE Curriculum & Instruction Coordinator for the 2009-2010 school year. Lois Corey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ken Artis moved to deny the request to reduce the Technology Education Department staff by one FTE for the 2009-2010 school year. Mary Jo Rozmenoski seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Yes: Ken Artis, Lois Corey, Don Mathews, Laurel Meek, Mary Jo Rozmenoski. Nays: Ramie Bakken, Ron Wirtz. Motion carried.
Ken Artis moved to authorize the District to apply for the Charter School Implementation Grant to cover costs involved with the Black River Area Green School (BRAGS) for the 2009-2010 school year. Ramie Bakken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ken Artis moved to approve the Charter between the School District of Black River Falls and the Black River Area Green School Governance Board. Ron Wirtz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Blanford presented an overview of the findings of the Facilities Study Committee. The recommendation of the committee is to build a school for grades 1-5 on the McNulty property. The District Office facilities would be incorporated into the new building.

Forrest Street Early Learning Center would be remodeled to accommodate Early Childhood through kindergarten age students. It was recommended that 4K would continue with the Community Partner sites.

The recommendation also includes closing and selling Third Street Elementary and the District Office, and possibly Gebhardt Elementary.

A special Board meeting will be set up with Brad Simonson, architect, with HSR Associates, regarding timelines, costs, etc. involved with building a new school. The meeting will be set for either April 6 or April 13.

Ramie Bakken moved to adjourn to executive session under section 19.85 (1)(c) to discuss administrator’s contract and 19.85 (1)(e) to discuss acquisition or real estate at 9:48 p.m. Lois Corey seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ken Artis, Ramie Bakken, Lois Corey, Don Mathews, Laurel Meek, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Ron Wirtz.

Nays: None

Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned to executive session.