Meeting # 18

MINUTES OF MEETING # 18 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLACK RIVER FALLS ON JUNE 16, 2008 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM.

Board Members Present: Ken Artis, Ramie Bakken, Lois Corey, Don Mathews, Laurel Meek, 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, WWIS Radio Station and Jackson County Chronicle and posted in three (3) public places on June 12, 2008.

Meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board voted on the appointment of a new board member. Mary Jo Rozmenoski was elected to serve on the Board of Education until April 2009 replacing Barb Sedelbauer who has resigned.

Mary Jo Rozmenoski was administered the Oath of Office.

Don Mathews introduced Paul Blanford as the new superintendent replacing Dennis Richards.

Ron Wirtz moved to approve the consent agenda. Lois Corey seconded the motion. Motion carried. The consent agenda included the May regular and special meeting minutes, monthly expenditures, the acceptance of the resignation Tim Swenson, adaptive physical education teacher and Nick Brylla, vocal music teacher, effective at the end of the 2007-08 school year, and the employment of Stacia Nelson, 5th grade teacher, Becky Blaken, gifted/talented teacher/coordinator and Andrea Schultz-Borck, EBD teacher beginning with the 2008-09 school year.

Jeff Warmke and Ethan Duxbury gave a presentation on the Tiger Investment Club for the 2007-08 school year. The club had a net income of approximately $15,400 this year. Milt and Lydia Lunda were thanked for their continued support of the Tiger Investment Club.

Ramie Bakken moved to set June 7, 2009 as the graduation date for the 2008-09 school year. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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Jill Collins, Director of Business Services, explained the necessary budget revisions for the 2007-08 school year. Lois Corey moved to approve the budget revisions as presented. Ron Wirtz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jill Collins presented an overview of the 2008-09 budget development.

Ron Wirtz moved to give approval to the fund 10 2008-09 expenditure budget in the amount of $18,326,678 with a total tax levy of $5,833,127. Ramie Bakken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ron Wirtz moved to approve the tax levy rate of $7.14 per $1,000 of equalized value for the 2008-09 school year. Ramie Bakken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The 2008-09 student and building handbooks were reviewed. Ramie Bakken moved to approve the 2008-09 student and building handbooks as presented. Laurel Meek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Paul Blanford and Sherri Torkelson explained the rationale for the hiring of a part-time secretary to work with the 4K program, 3.5 hours per day/5 days per week during the school year. Ron Wirtz moved to approve the hiring of a part-time secretary to work with the 4K program. Ramie Bakken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Unusually Hazardous Transportation (UHT) Proposal - Jeff Walker, transportation supervisor, presented a proposal to reduce the number of stops the buses make by having K- 5 students walk up to ¼ mile to catch the bus. Students in grades 6-12 would be required to walk if they lived up to 2 miles from school. However, a couple of areas will remain in the UHT plan for 6-12 grade students due to lack of sidewalks.

Ron Wirtz moved to accept the transportation proposal and changes to the UHT plan. Ramie Bakken seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 6-1 vote.

Ron Laudon presented an update on the Baseball Field Bleacher Project. The Legion Baseball Organization is in need of additional funds to complete Phase 5 of the project which includes the announcing, concession and bathroom structure that will cost approximately $83,184. The Legion has received another grant from the Lunda Charitable Trust of $25,000 to help with Phase 5 of the project and is asking the district for a commitment of $58,000 toward the project.
Jill Collins anticipates there will be enough money left in the budget and could be carried over to 2008-09 to cover the $58,000 cost of the project.

Ramie Bakken moved to approve the $58,000 to complete Phase 5 of the Baseball Field Bleacher Project. Ken Artis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Eagle Scout Project – HS Band reorganization – Levi Miles, high school band student, presented an overview of a project he would like to complete for his Eagle Scout Service Project. Levi would like to reorganize and paint the band room and the practice rooms at the high school. The cost of the paint and shelving will be paid for by Band activity funds and a donation from the Music Boosters.

Ken Artis moved to allow Levi Miles to go ahead with the band room renovations at the high school. Ron Wirtz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dave Roou and Bob Lecheler gave an update on the D’s and F’s received by students in the middle and high school for the 4th quarter of this year. They would like to continue focusing on this goal to help students achieve better grades.

Dr. Blanford reported that the School Perceptions survey will be brought to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

Kathy Rumsey, School Nurse, reported on the happenings of the school nurse during the 2007-08 school year.

Policy Committee – The policy committee forwarded the following policies, rules, exhibits for 1st reading by the Board of Education:
   Policy 235 – Director Pupil Services Job Description
   Policy 364.1 – Acceptable Use agreements for students, staff and guests
   Along with the rules, and exhibits
   Policy 669 – Fraud Reporting and rule

There were no changes to the policies, rules and exhibits presented so they will be put on the agenda for final action at the July Board Meeting.

The next Policy Committee Meeting will be held in August.
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Mike Hodges from WPPI presented a proposal to help make the district more energy efficient. There is a $6,000 grant available to do the assessment. He would then like to return to the district with the results of the assessment.

Ken Artis moved to waive the rules to allow a vote on the energy assessment. Ron Wirtz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ron Wirtz moved to allow the energy assessment and for Mike Hodges come back to the board with a report on his findings. Ken Artis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Future Agenda Items:

- School Perceptions Survey
- Core agenda items
- Update on Tennis Courts
- Update on large maintenance projects
- Update on Portable Classrooms

Ramie Bakken moved to adjourn to closed session under Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining issues regarding the BRFESPA at 9:08 p.m. Ken Artis seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ken Artis, Ramie Bakken, Lois Corey, Don Mathews, Laurel Meek, Mary Jo Rozmenoski, Ron Wirtz
Nays: None

Motion carried.

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Ramie Bakken, Clerk Barb Prochaska, Recording Secretary