

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
EMMONS SCHOOL DISTRICT 33
March 17, 2011

The following were present:

Dan Jordan, President
Damian England, Vice President
Jackie Zogran, Secretary

Laurie Christophersen
Jim Galante
Michele Reiser
Dr. Robert Machak, Superintendent
Donna Trischan, School Secretary

Board Members not present:

Eileen Huston

President Jordan called the meeting to order with roll call at 6:14pm.

Motion to move to Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, and collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules or one or more class of employees by Jackie Zogran. Second by Michele Reiser. Yes: Zogran, Jordan, Reiser, Galante, England, Christophersen. No: 0

The Board moved to Closed Session at 6:15pm.

Motion to suspend Closed Session at 7:05pm by Michele Reiser. Second by Jim Galante. Yes: 6. No: 0.

The Board moved to Open Session at 7:12pm.

Also present were staff members Lisa Lawler, Erich Grauke, Cyndy Thielen, Carol Schuettenberg, Natalie Mihovilovich, and Cheryl McCameron, and community members Amy Wiatt, Nora Ourada, Paul Ourada and Audra McCormick.

VISITORS TO BE RECOGNIZED:

No comments offered from visitors.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to approve the March 17, 2011, agenda by Laurie Christophersen. Second by Jim Galante. Yes: 6. No: 0.

Motion to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2011, meeting, by Michele Reiser. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: 5. No: 0. Abstain: 1.

Motion to approve the minutes from the February 23, 2011, meeting, by Jackie Zogran. Second by Jim Galante. Yes: 5. No: 0. Abstain: 1.

Motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2011, meeting, by Damian England. Second by Laurie Christophersen. Yes: 5. No: 0. Abstain: 1.

Motion to approve the February/March bill list by Laurie Christophersen. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: England, Zogran, Jordan, Reiser, Galante, Christophersen. No: 0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

All-Day Kindergarten Pilot Update:

Dr. Machak reported that a survey of 2011-12 Kindergarten parents was conducted regarding their preference of either All-Day Kindergarten or Half-Day Kindergarten. Seventeen of the 20 families indicated that they would choose the full-day option if it was available. He recommended that the Board move forward with the Full-Day Kindergarten pilot program and suggested that the Kindergarten registration date be moved up to possibly mid-April.

ISAT Review:

Dr. Machak discussed the various ideas designed to boost brain function for testing. Grades 3-8 had a zero hour PE class the week of ISATs. The structured physical activity got the kids moving and helped to get them in the right frame of mind for testing. Also, a staff member had given Dr. Machak research, showing that peppermint helps with test performance. Students were offered bottled water and sugar-free peppermint LifeSavers during the break each day.

ISAT test results typically arrive towards the end of July or early August.

Principal's Cabinet Update:

Dr. Machak reported that the Middle School Principal's Cabinet put together a Talent Show and a Semi-Formal Dance. The 3-5 Principal's Cabinet finalized the themes for Spirit Week. They also discussed their concern for inappropriate language on the bus. Dr. Machak spoke with the bus company and steps were taken to deal with this issue.

School Consolidation Report:

At the last county superintendent's meeting, Roycealee Wood, the regional superintendent, recommended that each district have their Board look at the template for the position that IASA and IASB have taken on school consolidation. The Board discussed the desire to have the community decide what happens to our district, not the politicians in Springfield.

Investigation of Class Size Policies:

Dr. Machak reported that the Township Elementary School Districts do not have policies on class size.

Investigation of Tuition-Based Enrollment Policies:

Dr. Machak presented information regarding the Non-Resident Tuition Policies of Township Elementary School Districts.

TREASURER'S/BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT:

5% Tracking Sheet:

Mrs. Lawler presented the 5% tracking sheet to the Board.

Snow Removal Costs:

Mrs. Lawler presented an analysis of snow removal costs and the benefit of purchasing the truck.

Three-Year Comparison – Tournaments:

Mrs. Lawler reviewed profits from the various tournaments held at Emmons in the past three years.

SEDOL:

Dr. Delp acknowledged Emmons for our Academic Excellence Award at the March meeting. Also, in the past five years, Emmons has had a high attendance rate at the SEDOL meetings.

IASB:

Nothing to report other than what was discussed earlier in the meeting.

GOALS REPORTS:

Administrative Evaluations:

Working on track to complete the superintendent evaluations by the end of the month.

Long-Range Planning:

The committee met and came up with a lot of great ideas. The task force will meet again on April 27, 2011, at 7:00pm.

Fiscal Accountability:

Information regarding negotiations was discussed in closed session.

Policy Update and District Mission:

There are policies to be reviewed and to be accepted.

Academic Excellence:

The committee has not met, but Dr. Machak has kept everyone up to date regarding the Math Curriculum review and the Language Arts Curriculum review.

Administrative Procedures:

No updates at this time.

Negotiations Committee:

Details discussed in closed session, however the tentative date is still April 1, 2011.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A request was received to revise a statement in the December 16, 2010, minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Board held a second reading of policies 4:60, 4:90, 5:20, and 5:185.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion to approve the updates on Policies 4:60, 4:90, 5:20, and 5:18 by Jackie Zogran. Second by Laurie Christophersen. Yes: 6. No: 0.

Motion to approve a Comcast Telecommunications contract by Jackie Zogran. Second by Jim Galante. Yes: Christophersen, Zogran, Jordan, England, Reiser, Galante. No: 0.

Motion to adopt a Full-Day Kindergarten Pilot Program for 2011-12 school year by Damian England. Second by Michele Reiser. Yes: Zogran, Jordan, England, Reiser, Galante. No: 0. Abstain: Christophersen.

Motion to approve the amendment to the minutes of the December, 2010, BOE visitor comments by Jackie Zogran. Second by Jim Galante. Yes: 6. No: 0.

Motion to approve the IASA/IASB School Consolidation Resolution by Jim Galante. Second by Laurie Christophersen. Yes: Christophersen, Zogran, Jordan, England, Reiser, Galante. No: 0.

Motion to grant tenure to Mr. Daniel Wiegel by Jackie Zogran. Second by Laurie Christophersen. Yes: Christophersen, Zogran, Jordan, England, Reiser, Galante. No: 0.

Motion to grant tenure to Mrs. Marge Watkins by Michele Reiser. Second by Jim Galante. Yes: Christophersen, Zogran, Jordan, England, Reiser, Galante. No: 0.

Motion to approve the 2011-12 School Year Bus Contract by Jim Galante. Second by Jackie Zogran. Yes: Christophersen, Zogran, Jordan, England, Reiser, Galante. No: 0.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION:

No comments offered from visitors.

Return to Closed Session:

Motion to return to closed session at 10:15pm for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, and collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more class of employees by Laurie Christophersen. Second by Michele Reiser. Yes: 6. No: 0.

Return to Open Session:

Motion to reconvene Open Session at 12:24am by Jim Galante. Second by Laurie Christophersen. Yes: 6. No: 0.

Motion to adjourn by Laurie Christophersen. Second by Michele Reiser. Yes: 6. No: 0.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Trischan
School Secretary

Date

President

Secretary

