

Mendota School District 289

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Narration: District 289 Education Center - February 20, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Community School District 289, LaSalle, Bureau and Lee, was held on February 20, 2007 in the District 289 Education Center Board Room.

Declaration: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Johnson at 7:06 p.m. with the following Board members answering present: Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Absent: none

Resolution: Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Cassidy to approve the agenda with the following additions. Item M - Consider approval of Field Trip over 50 miles and Item N - Discussion of Curricular issues for 2007/2008. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried.

Resolution: Consent of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Barth to approve the consent of Agenda. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.220 & 4.50, 4.10)

Report: Board Report

A discussion was held on the response letter from the City of Mendota, made a part of these minutes, was held. The Board members asked the Principals of each school building to meet and post the necessary uniform signs as requested.

The Technology Committee met in January and continued working on the Scope and Sequence and recommendations to expand.

The Inservice Committee plans for the February 21, 2007 inservice are a Reading and Analysis of DRA assessments along with an ISAT workshop. The middle school (4-8) teachers will have RESPRO - "Reading in Curriculum Areas". The Special Aide Teachers will meet to discuss next year plans. The Music Teachers will meet with the High School Music Department.

The Evaluation Committee will be meeting on February 26, 2007 to continue working on the Teacher Evaluation forms. The committee is making progress and hopes to have the task completed by April.

Mrs. Burress has talked with the Illinois Association School Board regarding a new TAG facilitator.

Public Participation: PRIDE

Connie Crawford from PRIDE informed the Board that the Book Fair - "Buy 1/Get 1 Free" and family night will be March 29, 2007 at Blackstone School. The next PRIDE meeting is February 26, 2007 with the election of new officers. Mrs. Crawford wanted to reconfirm that PRIDE is very involved in all three school districts of #289 and in addition to raising funds to support request from staff members, they also provide many treats, rewards and incentives to the students.

Mrs. Kelly, Blackstone School Principal, informed the Board members that the District #289 "Kindergarten Round Up" for the 2007/2008 registration will be held on March 15, 2007 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. The same format will be followed as last year.

Ernie Engstrom, Lincoln School Principal, informed the Board members the gym floor at Blackstone School had been examined/assessed. He will keep the Board members informed as the situation progresses.

Mrs. Burress stated that the Cooperative Curriculum Director position will be advertised with a final selection in Mid April. (2.230)

Public Hearing: Public Hearing - Working Cash Fund Bonds

At 7:43 p.m., Mrs. Burress opened the public hearing for the intent to sell \$1.5 million in Working Cash Fund Bonds. A brief discussion and review of information presented was held. There being no further questions from the public, the hearing was closed with a motion by Mrs. Prescott, second by Mrs. Phalen, at 7:50 p.m. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried (2.020 #3)

Resolution: Authorization of Extension of Enterprise Zone

After a brief discussion lead by Emily McConville, Mendota City Clerk, a motion was made by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mrs. Phalen for the resolution authorizing the Extension of the Enterprise Zone as requested by the City of Mendota. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.020 #14)

Resolution: Bid Approval - Unit Ventilators

The Notice for Bid for unit ventilators was published February 16, 2007. A 10 day notification of publication is required before action can be taken on this matter. The bid approval for the Unit Ventilators will be conducted at the reconvened meeting on March 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the District #289 Education Center Board Room. (2.020 #13)

Resolution: Evaluation Instruments

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Barth, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to approve the proposed Superintendent and Principal evaluation instruments. Mrs. Burress will provide a personal performance binder for the Board members to review by the March 20, 2007 board meeting. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.020 #2)

Resolution: School Calendar 2007/2008

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Cassidy to adopt the proposed 2007/2008 school year calendar. The school year will begin with two teacher institute days on August 21st & 22nd. The first day of student attendance, being a 1/2 day, beginning on August 23, 2007. The calendar has a January 3, 2008 student return date from christmas vacation with an approximate school ending date of May 27, 2008. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Nay - Mrs. Morris. Motion carried. (2.020 #10)

Resolution: Title I Summer School

After a discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Barth not to proceed with the Title I Summer School. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Abstain - Mrs. Morris. Motion carried. (2.020 #6)

Discussion: Middle School Retention School

After discussion, the Board members asked that more information about 6-8 grade retention summer school be gathered by the Principal and Assistant Principal at Northbrook School and present the data at the reconvened meeting on March 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the District #289 Education Center Room.

Resolution: Junior High Reading & Math Tutoring sessions

After a discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mrs. Prescott not to offer the Middle School tutoring sessions for direct instruction in reading and math. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mrs. Prescott, Mrs. Phalen and Mr. Barth. Nay - Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Pohl and Mr. Johnson. Abstain - Mrs. Morris. Motion carried. (2.020 #6)

Resolution: Advertise for employment of personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mrs. Prescott to post positions for an Assistant Boys Track coach, Girls Head Track coach, and a full time Occupational Therapist position. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.020 #3)

Discussion: IESA membership 2007/2008

After a discussion Ms. Johnson, Northbrook Assistant Principal, was asked to survey the coaches of each sport and report back to the board of their opinion on the IESA membership for the 2007/2008 school year. (2.020 #6)

Resolution: Increase Referee compensation

After a discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Barth to increase the referee compensation for the 2007/2008 school year from \$45.00 to \$50.00 (\$65.00 for a 3 game night). The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.020 #3)

Discussion: Review Board Policy Amendments

Board members were asked to read and be prepared to discuss the Board policies updates as presented and recommended by the Policy Committee. (2.020 #1)

Resolution: Hire Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Barth to hire Julie Zinke as a PreK Special Needs classroom aide. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.020 #2)

Discussion: Tuition reimbursement/Proposed policy

After discussion, the proposed and first reading of the "Tuition Reimbursement policy" was reviewed. The policy states: The Board of Education of District #289 will not provide college education tuition reimbursement to any non-certified employees. The Board may, solely at it's discretion, consider exceptions on a case by case basis without establishing any precedent. (2.020 #2)

Resolution: Field Trip/over 50 miles request

A motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to approve the proposed field trip to Springfield for Ms. Henkel's 3rd & 4th hour classes. The students are studying the driving reform laws and would view the legislative process. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (6.240)

Discussion: Curricular Issues/ School year 2007/2008

Mrs. Burress informed the Board members of the "Northbrook School - Parent Survey Spring 2007" that was included in the mid-term grade reports mailed to parents of School District #289. The survey was to obtain feedback that will assist in the development of the school improvement plan. The survey covered the areas of curriculum, teaching & learning, school atmosphere, school administration & management along with parent-teacher conferences. The surveys had a return deadline of February 28, 2007. The board members will view and weigh the responses gathered from the survey for the curriculum issue in the vacancy created by the retiring Industrial Art teacher.

A discussion was also held on possible room expansion with either portable mobile units (rent or purchase cost) or contracting with the Mendota High School for the use of the vacant vocational building. (2.020 #2)

Narration: Recess meeting

The meeting was recessed at 10:11 p.m. to reconvene on March 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the District #289 Education Center Board Room.

Declaration: Reconvened meeting of February 20, 2007

At 7:11 p.m. on March 6, 2007 the Board reconvened from the recessed meeting of February 20, 2007. The following Board members responded to roll call: Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth.

Absent: None

Resolution: Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to approve the agenda. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried.

Resolution: Act Upon bids for Unit Ventilators

After a discussion and review of the received bids, a motion was made by Mr. Barth, seconded by Mr. Cassidy to accept the bid of Johnson Contracting, Inc. of Moline, Illinois in the amount of \$184,834.00 for unit ventilators at Blackstone school and Northbrook school. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried.

Resolution: Life Safety Amendment

After review of the information and a discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, and seconded by Mr. Barth to approve the Life Safety amendment to include the replacement of unit ventilators at Blackstone school and Northbrook school. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried.

Resolution: Summer Retention School

After a discussion a motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mr. Barth to offer the 6, 7, & 8 grade retention summer school for eligible students to be determined at the discretion of the administration. Mr. Cassidy requested that a copy of the letter sent to ineligible students be given to the Board. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Nays - Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Morris. Motion carried. (2.020 #6)

Discussion: Curricular Issues for 2007/2008

Mrs. Burress and Mrs. Pozzi informed the board members of the security issues discussed with Police Chief, Thomas Smith, and the security system in place at the Mendota High School. The first priority would be a front door buzzer system in each school building and the second priority would be security cameras at Northbrook school. There is a \$32,000.00 grant available for a security system that consist of a \$16,000.00 match grant. The board members asked that a proposal for each priority be compiled and presented at the March 20, 2007 Board meeting.

Mrs. Burress asked the architect about the fan issue at Blackstone school. The architect informed the Board members that the error in the fan was his and that the correct fan will be installed at no cost to the district.

Mr. Engstrom, Lincoln School Principal, informed the Board members of the structural issue on the Blackstone school gym floor with contractors. The Board members asked that a proposal for the completion of the structural issue be compiled and presented at the March 20, 2007 Board meeting.

A discussion was held, with the architect, on the cost of a portable mobile unit for additional classroom space along with the additional cost of providing plumbing and electrical to the unit that is required to be placed 30 feet from any present building.

Mrs. Morris asked Mrs. Burress to place an item on the March Board meeting agenda labeled "Architect".

Mr. Cassidy asked the Board members to consider going to a bimonthly board meeting for the next several months. This would shorten the time frame of the board meetings and the completion of items on the agenda. He also asked that the Board members and school staff to compile a list, by priority order, of items needing/wanting to be completed for the school district. (2.020 #2)

Resolution: Advertise for an Industrial Art Teacher

After Mrs. Pozzi, Northbrook school Principal, presented the results of the “Northbrook School - Parent Survey Spring 2007” a motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to advertise for an Industrial Art Teacher with a background in technology. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.020 #2)

Resolution: Adjourn to Executive session

A motion was made by Mr. Barth, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. to executive session to discuss personnel issues and discipline. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried.

Resolution: Return to Open session

A motion was made by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mr. Barth to return to open session at 9:37p.m. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried.

Resolution: Adjourn meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mr. Barth at 9:37 p.m. to adjourn to the next regular meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Education Center Meeting Room. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Johnson, President

Mr. Pohl, Secretary