

# Mendota School District 289 Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Narration: District 289 Education Center - January 16, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Community School District 289, LaSalle, Bureau and Lee, was held on January 16, 2007 in the District 289 Education Center Board Room.

## Declaration: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Johnson at 7:07 p.m. with the following Board members answering present: Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris and Mr. Cassidy. Absent: Mr. Barth.

## Narration: Board Member entering meeting

Mr. Barth entered meeting at 7:09 p.m.

## Resolution: Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Cassidy 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: Consent Agenda - Disposition of minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to approve the Consent Agenda with the following change "accept, with regret, the resignation of Rita Randecker, 6th grade language teacher, for end of school year 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. (2.220)

## Resolution: Consent Agenda-Treasurer's, Imprest Fd, Activity/Cafeteria Report

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to approve the Treasurer's, Imprest Fund, Activity, and Cafeteria report as submitted. 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 Agenda - Approval of Bills

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Morris to remove the item labeled "Education of non-certified tuition reimbursement" for Petra Estrada in the amount of \$567.00 from the approval of bills report. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (4.50, 4.10)

## Report: Board Reports

Mrs. Burress discussed the District/School status AYP in which Northbrook school is in school improvement status. The targets unmet were for the Special Education subgroup. The school does have viable plans in place and have strengths that can be used to it's advantage. This subgroup did make adequate yearly progress in 2005 and must make AYP two years in a row to be exempt from "School Improvement Status".

**Resolution: Board Reports.. cont....**

Mrs. Burress did attend the Mendota City Council meeting held January 15, 2007. This meeting was on the expiration and extension of the current enterprise zone. The extension is for an additional 5 years and would allow projects to receive a 50% tax abatement. The Board members asked Mrs. Burress to have Emily McConville, City Clerk, attend the next regular board meeting, February 20, 2007, to discuss the enterprise zone map and the advantages to the school district if the extension is granted.

Mrs. Burress reminded the Board members that nominations for Educator of the Year award must be submitted by April 5, 2007 and that the TAG meeting is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. on January 30, 2007 in the District #289 Education Center Board Room.

Mrs. Burress recommended that District #289 set a goal of beginning the process of developing a Strategic Plan following the upcoming board election in April. The Strategic Plan would act as a roadmap with a primary mission of providing students with the best possible education. The Plan would focus on five areas and as progress is made goals and strategies would be updated and modified.

Mr. Engstrom presented the bid from Specialty Flooring for the sanding, varnishing, painting and repairing of Blackstone school gym floor in the amount of \$5,263.00, Lincoln School gym floor and bleachers in the amount of \$7,206.00 and Northbrook School gym floor "maintaining" at \$985.00. The board members asked that the Building & Grounds committee to visit each school gym and review the estimate and report back to the Board at the TAG meeting on January 30, 2007.

**Public Participation: None**

No comments were heard from the floor. (2.230)

**Resolution: Approve Technology Updates/Purchases**

After discussion on the need to purchase updates on the voice mail system, with a cost from Simplex Grinnell of \$4,604.00 for Blackstone school and \$3,844.00 for Northbrook school, a motion was made by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to order and install the voice mail system updates for both 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. (2.02)

**Resolution: Board Policy**

After discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to accept the Board policy revision with the removal of the word "sexual harassment" in the Uniform Grievance section under Investigation the section will read - If a complaint contains allegations involving the superintendent, the written report shall be filed with the School Board. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes: Mrs. Prescott, Mrs. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris and Mr. Barth. **Nays:** Mr. Johnson and Mr. Cassidy. Motion carried. (2.26)

**Discussion: Videos/Educational purposes**

Mrs. Morris asked that research be conducted for a policy in reference to videos being used for educational purposes in classroom. She would also like to check with the surrounding school districts for information on their policies in reference to videos in curriculum. The Board members agreed to have Mrs. Morris proceed with the research and report back at the February 20, 2007 Board meeting. (2.24)

**Narration: Set Committee meeting**

A committee meeting was set for 9:00 a.m., on February 6, 2007 at Java Jan's - 602 South Main Street, Mendota to review the IASB new and amended policies.

**Discussion: School Calendar for 2007/2008**

A discussion was held and suggestions made for the beginning day, ending day, and holidays for the 2007/2008 school calendar. Mrs. Burress will collect feed back, suggestions and recommendations for change into consideration when drafting the new proposed version of the 2007/2008 school year calendar. (6.20)

**Resolution: Cooperative Curriculum Director Position**

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to table this item to the January 30, 2007 meeting. The personnel committee will meet with Mr. Prusator, Superintendent and Mrs. Aughenbaugh, Principal at Mendota High School and also investigate to gather information on other school districts with Curriculum Directors. The following roll was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.020)

**Resolution: Parent/Teacher Advisory Committee**

A motion was made by Mrs. Morris, seconded by Mr. Barth to establish a Parent/Teacher Advisory Committee for Student Discipline and Safety formed by the Superintendent. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.150, 7.203, 7.190)

**Discussion: Public use of playgrounds/facilities after hours**

After discussion, with regards to individuals and vehicles being on school property after dusk and the noise pollution being reported by surrounding school district tax payers, the board members asked Mr. Johnson, Board President, to draft a letter to the Mayor of Mendota. The letter is to ask the city police officers to work together with the School District in the enforcement of reducing the noise pollution at the playgrounds after dusk.

After a short discussion it was also established that the use of school facilities will not be permitted/allowed for individual birthday parties. (8.010 & 8.030)

**Resolution: Move to Executive session**

At 10.35 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to move to executive session to discuss specific personnel issues as resignations, employment of personnel and the principal evaluation instrument. The motion was carried by voice vote. Motion carried. (2.200)

**Resolution: Return to Open session**

At 11:20 p.m. a motion was made to return to open session. A voice vote was recorded. Motion carried. (2.200)

**Resolution: Accept Employee resignation**

A motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to accept, with regret, the resignation of Penny Wamhoff, as a special education teacher's 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)

**Resolution: Tuition reimbursement**

A motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to approve the final reimbursement of the "Education of non-certified tuition" for Petra Estrada in the amount of \$567.00. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. **Nays** - Mr. Johnson. Motion carried.

**Narration: Recess meeting**

A motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mr. Johnson at 11:20 p.m. to recess the meeting to January 30, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the District #289 Education Center Board Room. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Declaration: Reconvened meeting of January 16, 2007**

At 6:04 p.m. on January 30, 2007 the Board reconvened from the recessed meeting of January 16, 2007. The following Board members responded to roll call: Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Absent: Mr. Johnson.

**Resolution: Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Mr. Cassidy (for absent board member Mr. Johnson) seconded by Mrs. Morris to add item "F" - labeled "Discuss non-certified tuition reimbursement" the following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Barth. Motion carried. (2.020)

**Narration: Board member entering meeting**

Mr. Johnson entered the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

**Resolution: Approval of Agenda... cont.**

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Cassidy to add item "G" labeled "Title I Summer School" and item "H" labeled "Reimbursement for Master Teacher certification assessment fee". 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: Hire personnel/Employment of personnel**

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Cassidy to hire Cory Walter as a special education teacher's 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)

**Discussion: Cooperative Curriculum Director Position**

After discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen for the approval to Mrs. Burress to proceed with the posting of the position for a "Cooperative Curriculum Director" that will serve both the elementary and high school districts for school year 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. (2.020)

**Resolution: Gym floor reconditioning**

After discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Prescott, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to approve the bid from Specialty Flooring for the sanding, varnishing, painting and repairing of the gym floors at Blackstone school, Lincoln 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. (2.020)

**Discussion: Executive session tapes**

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mrs. Phalen to allow Mr. Johnson with the board secretary, Mr. Pohl, to listen to the Executive Session tapes of the regular board meetings of July 18, 2006 and August 15, 2006. The following roll call was recorded: Ayes - Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Prescott, Mr. Pohl, Mrs. Phalen, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Cassidy. **Nays** - Mr. Barth. Motion carried.

**Discussion: Non-certified tuition reimbursement**

After discussion, Mr. Johnson requested that this item "non-certified tuition reimbursement" be placed on the Board Agenda for the February 20, 2007 regular Board meeting for action.

**Discussion: Title I Summer School**

After discussion this item was moved to the February 20, 2007 regular Board meeting agenda for action.

**Discussion: Reimbursement for Master Teacher Certification assessment fee**

Mrs. Burress presented a request by Sarah Henkel for reimbursement in the amount of \$1,000.00, assessment fee, for the retake of the Master Teacher Board certification. No action was taken.

Resolution: Adjournment

A motion was made by Mrs. Phalen, seconded by Mr. Cassidy at 8:25 p.m. to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting on February 20, 2007 p.m. in the District Education Center meeting room. Motion carried by voice vote.

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Mr. Johnson

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Mr. Pohl