

Board of Education
High School Library
February 20, 2017

President Mark DeAmico called the regular monthly meeting of the School District of Howards Grove to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. DeAmico noted that the meeting had been posted as prescribed by law and the news media notified.

Board members present were Mrs. Bramstedt, Mr. DeAmico, Mr. Dehne, Mr. Pearce, and Mrs. Plass. Administrators present included Tracy Bandt, Jason Cole, Scott Fritz, Andy Hansen, and Chris Peterson. Also present: Matt Last, Dave Richart, Lisa Schultz; Steve Ottmann; Lori Carstens, Sara Demmon; Stephanie Jeanty, Julie Johnson, Tonya Masters, Bethany Miller, Renae Wunsch, Shari Vogel; Northview Elementary School students and their parents: Nicole Van Dalen, Eleanor Mair, Reese Kapellen, Brielle Stetson, Sam Parnitzke, Matthew Kue; High School Student Council representatives: Caleb Holzman, Jack Peterson.

Motion by Mrs. Plass, second by Mr. Dehne, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Dehne, second by Mr. Pearce, to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2017 Regular Board Meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mrs. Plass, to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Mr. Dehne, along with the following vouchers payable for the month of January:

#10 - General Fund	}	\$	846,750.83
#27 - Special Education Fund			
#50 - Food Service Fund			
#30 - Debt Service Fund		\$	0.00

Motion carried, 5-0

There were no amendments to the 2016-2017 adopted budget this month.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

The April School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, April 24, 2017.

The Board acknowledged and extended their gratitude and appreciation to the following individuals and/or organizations, for their support of the school district and students, through their generosity of the following donations:

A \$500 donation was received from VIAND Hospitality LLC (Log Cabin & Parker John's Restaurants) for the Northview Music Program.

The Howards Grove PTO donated \$527 for Drums Alive funding at Northview.

A donation in the amount of \$170.36 was received from the Howards Grove PTO to cover costs associated with the Junior Kindergarten class fieldtrip to Rocky Knoll.

The Howards Grove PTO donated \$200 to cover food costs for the staff during Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board acknowledged a thank you note received from a staff member related to the holiday gift given to staff members by the Board.

ADVISORY MEMBER REPORTS:

There were no Advisory Member Reports this month.

STUDENT LEARNING PRESENTATION/STUDENT ADVISORY REPORTS:

Student Council representatives Jack Peterson and Caleb Holzman reported that Student Council members made a presentation to the high school teachers relative to students having their backpacks in the classrooms. The staff agreed to allow the backpacks on a trial basis. So far, everything seems to be working.

Final changes are being made to the re-designed Super Fan t-shirts. The Valentine's Day sucker sale was very successful. Plans are being made for activities during the week of Spring Fling.

A group of students from grades Kindergarten through 4 shared a sampling of their reading projects completed using techniques of the Readers/Writers Workshop. The progression of reading and skill levels included basic reading and writing, research and facts, poetry, opinion writing, and chapter book reading.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. The Board discussed, but took no action related to the snow make-up day.
2. Motion by Mrs. Plass, second by Mrs. Bramstedt, to approve the pupil non-discrimination report as presented. Motion carried, 5-0. The report will be available in the District Office for viewing.

OTHER REPORTS:

1. A preliminary review and report of student enrollment for the 2017-18 school year was discussed. Areas to watch include Jr. Kindergarten. Possibilities of a before school program is being explored. Overall enrollment numbers, including those of Open Enrollment, will continue to be monitored and will be presented to the Board at a later date.
2. Chris Peterson provided an update on the referendum/auditorium project. The Advisory Committee met last week and discussed a building plan, some design changes, and the need to stay within budget as there could be very little money left over for other maintenance and technology projects. Bids for the project are expected to be sent out near the end of March. One board member expressed concern that if donations don't come in and cuts need to be made, are we going to have a facility we're disappointed in? Meetings are scheduled during the next two weeks with various potential donors. Naming rights options could also help in bringing the costs down.

3. Building Reports

Northview - Submitted by Jason Cole, Principal

Nicole Jacques and Courtney Mashin - "Computer Days" in their classroom. Nicole is Thursday and Courtney is on Friday - Reading and Math - students love it and look forward to "computer day." Pictures posted on NV Facebook page. Introducing coding into their classroom for Response to Intervention (RTI) through a program called OSMO.

Sneak Up week - Huge success.

Character Counts Week - OmegaMan Assembly

Kohler's second grade teachers will be observing NV second grade teachers in March for writers workshop and debrief with teachers

Readers and Writers Workshop in New York; about 10 staff members will be attending in June and August.

Pupil Services - Submitted by Tracy Bandt, Special Education Coordinator & School Psychologist

The Special Education Department is engaging in discussion about how to limit the amount of pull-out special education instruction and increase time in the classroom for our students. Curricular structures provided through Readers' and Writers' Workshop is helping with this, but this is a continuing discussion we are having.

We are also having continual conversations about providing appropriate support for social-emotional development and meeting the needs of all students in that respect. This is also an area of focus across the state, as concerns have grown in this area over the past few years. We will continue to look for ways to provide intentional intervention in this area. This is one area of focus for the high school special education department, in particular. Scott and I are meeting with the high school special education team to improve our practices in this area.

Middle School - Submitted by Andy Hansen, Principal

Preparations for summer school continue to progress. Course proposals are due this week. We have fewer classes proposed at this time and are looking to find a teachers for a few classes. Next up will be putting the course proposals together and getting that onto the school website in preparation for registration.

We have been very busy in preparing for the upcoming round of state Forward testing as well as completing our NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) testing in the eighth grade. Our middle school was randomly selected to participate in the NAEP and we completed that testing February 8. For the Forward, we are creating a building-wide as well as grade level schedules that will best fit our students. We plan to begin testing April 10.

Finally, we are actively preparing for our next round of parent/teacher conferences and for the new format we are trying. We conference Tuesday and Thursday Feb. 21 and 23. We are experimenting with a scheduled/invited conference on Tuesday Feb 21 and a night of drop in conferences on Thursday Feb 23.

High School - Submitted by Scott Fritz, Principal

Thank you to the NHS for organizing another great blood drive last week at the High School

We are currently in the process of taking student registration requests an beginning to build the Master schedule for 2017-18

Congratulations to the Forensics Team for taking 1st place in the Big East Conference meet "South Division".

National FFA week is this week. Thank you to the FFA for preparing dress up days and contests for students this week.

ACT preparation - Both the English and Math departments are working with students preparing them for the upcoming ACT test. (Prep includes test

taking strategies and some content specific interventions). Other subject areas have been incorporating ACT-like questions in their regular classes.

Congratulations to the Girls' basketball team on their conference Championship and Conference Tournament Championship.

Congratulations to the Boys' basketball team for taking 3rd place in the Conference Tournament game at Lakeland.

Good luck to both teams in their respective WIAA tournament series.


District Update - Submitted by Chris Peterson, Superintendent

No decision has been made at the state level with regard to changing the school year start date.

A template of the district's home page using a new website was presented by Chris Peterson. The new website will include an App, live feed area, district Facebook and Twitter pages, news articles and calendars. Notifications and updates would be visible on multiple areas of the website at the same time.

Motion by Mr. Pearce, second by Mrs. Bramstedt, to convene in closed session as set forth in Section 19.85 (1)(c), (e) of the Wisconsin Statutes to deliberate the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of employee(s), and for preliminary discussion related to negotiations.

Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mrs. Plass, to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.


Richard Pearce, Clerk