

Board of Education
High School Library
July 18, 2016

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: Mrs. Bramstedt, Mr. DeAmico, Mr. Dehne, Mr. Pearce, and Mrs. Plass. Administrators present: Jason Cole, Scott Fritz, Andy Hansen, and Chris Peterson. Also present: Lael Bagnall, Zach Holzer, Angie Houston, Katelyn Houston, Matt Last, Dawn Laboy, Steve Ottman, Cinda Pennings, Joey Pennings, Dave Richart, Lisa Schultz, Janina Siemers; and Jerry Dudzik representing Springsted.

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

Motion by Mr. Dehne, second by Mrs. Bramstedt, to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2016, regular board meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.

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

#10 - General Fund	}	\$1,672,165.54
#27 - Special Education Fund		
#50 - Food Service Fund		
#30 - Debt Service Fund		\$ 0.00

Motion carried, 5-0.

There were no amendments to the 2015-2016 adopted budget this month.

The School Board and administration acknowledged and expressed 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:

The Howards Grove PTO donated \$1092.09 toward bussing fees for the end of the 2015-16 school year.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board acknowledged a Thank You note received from Bev Biederwolf.

The Board acknowledged a Thank You note received from Leah Paul, District Athletic Trainer.

ADVISORY MEMBER REPORTS:

There were no Advisory Member Reports this month.

STUDENT LEARNING PRESENTATION/STUDENT ADVISORY REPORTS:

There were no Student Learning Presentations or Student Advisory Reports this month.

The Board recognized Joey Pennings who was present at the Board Meeting, working toward earning his Boy Scout merit badge for Communication.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Chris Peterson provided background information related to consideration of building an auditorium including costs and uses of such an addition, and the results of the recent community survey. State aide, the tax levy and mill rate were also discussed. A detailed list of additional capital improvement projects that can be accomplished with funds from a referendum was presented.

Jerry Dudzik from Springsted provided a power point presentation and explanation of financing goals, financial strategy to meet those goals, the bond rating process, debt structure, interest rates, and minimizing the tax impact.

Following lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mr. Dehne to approve moving forward with a \$4.7 million dollar referendum for the purpose of paying the cost of school building and improvement program consisting of construction of an auditorium, capital improvement projects at District buildings and grounds, and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment, per a publicly posted list. Motion carried, 5-0.

2. Motion by Mr. Pearce, second by Mrs. Plass, to Table the discussion related to changes to the Support Staff Handbook. Motion carried, 5-0.
3. Motion by Mr. Dehne, second by Mrs. Bramstedt, to accept the letters of resignation received from Kasey Smith, Business Education Teacher; and Tracy Righi-Smith, English Teacher. Motion carried, 5-0.
4. Motion by Mrs. Plass, second by Mr. Dehne, to approve the issuance of a contract to Ms. Kimberly Zimmer for the position of Business Education teacher for the 2016-17 school year as presented. Motion carried, 5-0.
5. Motion by Mr. Pearce, second by Mrs. Bramstedt, to change the date of the April 17, 2017 Regular Monthly Board Meeting to Monday, April 24, 2017. Motion carried, 5-0.
6. Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mr. Dehne, to approve the CESA 7 Contract for the 2016-17 school year. Motion carried, 5-0.

7. Motion by Mr. Pearce, second by Mrs. Plass, to approve the high school fund raising activities for the 2016-17 school year as presented. Motion carried, 5-0.

OTHER REPORTS:

1. 1:1 Computer Initiative Update

A letter has been mailed to parents and staff members regarding the 1:1 computer initiative. Parent meetings will be held on July 19, 20 and 25 regarding policies, guidelines, and insurance. The machines are currently being imaged according to district specifications. Training for staff will take place during August inservice.

2. Building Reports

High School – Submitted by Scott Fritz, Principal

- Connor Siemers represented our FFA chapter during convention and will be participating at State Fair with the State FFA Honors Choir from August 11th to August 14th.
- Congratulations to the baseball team on a good season.
- Good luck to all of the athletes beginning to prepare for their upcoming fall seasons
- Thanks to Karen, Laura, Kori, Dave Richart and everyone who helped get things ready for the upcoming registration days.
- Thanks to Matt, Brian, Paul, Jenny, and Deb for getting the HS ready for the start of the year.

Middle School – Submitted by Andy Hansen, Principal

- The first portion of summer school was completed Friday July 15. We have had a very successful summer session so far. Classes concluded with some performances – our high school band performed at the Silver Dollar Parade. Our middle school drumline class also performed at Silver Dollar. We had a performance by our guitar class and one act play. Our art students have done several art projects at the schools including wrapping trees with yarn and painting Little Free Libraries which are in front of both Northview and the middle school. We have a second session of summer school that will begin August 8 and conclude August 19. I would again like to thank Shelly Kuether for all her work.
- We have been busy preparing for Registration. Registration dates are July 27 and August 1. I continue to be amazed at the work both Jeannine and Lonna do in the office preparing for and running registration.
- Our science materials, the science Fusion books, have arrived. Tim Bartz has been organizing and inventorying the books. I would like to commend the work of the middle school science team. They have done an amazing job restructuring the curriculum to align with these new materials.

Northview – Submitted by Jason Cole, Principal

- Great seeing and meeting students, staff, and parents during summer school
- Everyone has been extremely helpful throughout the transition process. Special thanks to Shelly.
- I have met with 29 teachers last week, and look forward to spending time meeting the remaining staff.
- Installation of the new playground started today and is progressing well. Thanks to all of the volunteers who are helping with the project.

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

- There are a lot of administrative tasks over the summer, and I would like to thank Mary VerDuin for her willingness to put in extra time to help me throughout the summer. We have created systems that have dramatically improved our administrative process and I could not do it without Mary's help.
- We have completed the first of three facets of a compliance review with DPI and have met with a parent advocate through CESA 7 to gain some insight as to how we can best provide support to our parents.
- As we prepare for next school year, our teachers spending countless hours thinking about new teaching strategies and activities for their students. One exciting initiative is being investigated by Kristin Menart, our Early Childhood teacher. She is researching the possibility of offering a playgroup for the community with children of preschool age. She is working with community child care settings and will be sending a survey to parents to assess their interest. This is in response to requests made by parents for more playgroup opportunities during our preschool screening this past spring.

District Report – Submitted by Chris Peterson, Superintendent

- Work continues on the 2016-17 budget. Auditors from Schenk will be in the district in August.
- We have posted the coaching positions for boys and girls soccer, and are working on reviewing applications and conducting interviews. We believe that we will have some great candidates for both positions.
- All of the new district cameras have been installed and are operational.
- On Tuesday August 30th we will have our first building meetings for staff, and on August 31st we will have our all district meeting. The all district meeting begins with a breakfast for all staff. If you are free the morning of August 31, please feel free to join us for breakfast and to meet/greet staff as we reconvene for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Mr. DeAmico thanked the Board members for their thoughts and consideration regarding the referendum discussion earlier in the meeting. Their dedicated work and willingness to contribute is appreciated.

Motion by Mrs. Plass, second by Mr. Dehne, to convene in closed session as set forth in section 19.85(1)(c),(e),(f) of the Wisconsin Statutes to deliberate the employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of employees, to consider personal history as it relates to a specific person(s), and for discussion related to a transportation contract with Harms Bus Company. Vote by the Board: Bramstedt, aye; Dehne, aye; DeAmico, aye; Pearce, aye; Plass, aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Plass, second by Mr. Dehne, to reconvene into open session for possible action on items discussed in closed session. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mrs. Plass, to approve the two student requests for early graduation pending completion of all required coursework. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Dehne, second by Mr. Pearce, to approve a 1.5% raise for all support staff. Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Mrs. Bramstedt, second by Mrs. Plass, to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.



Richard Pearce, Clerk