



School District of Altoona

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Dr. Connie Biedron, Superintendent

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ALTOONA BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
Altoona Commons Addition
September 3, 2013
6:30 p.m.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Altoona Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Helen Drawbert at 6:30 p.m. in the Altoona commons addition.
2. Roll call was taken and the following were present:
Helen S. Drawbert, President
Robin E. Elvig, Vice President
Michael J. Hilger, Clerk
Bradley D. Poquette, Treasurer
David A. Rowe, Member
Dr. Connie M. Biedron, Superintendent
Joyce M. Orth, Board Secretary
3. Reading of Public Notice. Report of notice was given. All posting requirements were met and posting places are noted: Altoona City Hall, Altoona Post Office, school district office, high school office, middle school office, and elementary school office.
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Rules for Meeting
6. Approval of Minutes. a. August 19, 2013 Regular Meeting. Motion by Elvig to approve the minutes with a correction to 7.a.(4) to specify the UW-EC group as the College of Education and Human Sciences, and that the new building will open for classes in January 2014, and that high school students will have the opportunity to tour facilities and display art work in the building, seconded by Hilger. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Board President Welcomes. Helen Drawbert officially welcomed Pedersen Elementary principal, Joann Walker and student representative to the board, John Disalle.
8. Public Participation. a. Non-Agenda items - public comment and concern. (1) Sheila Presler, parent, commended changes made both physically and systematically to accommodate parents and students in the "Back to School" day process. In addition, she expressed concern over class sizes for elementary specials noting first grade and third grade in particular, and indicated that she wanted to be sure that the board was aware of the class sizes. Helen Drawbert made note that Dr. Biedron keeps the board informed of issues, including class sizes. (2) Susan Sivertson, staff member, shared positive chatter that she is hearing in the hallways, and thanked the board for allowing her to paint the halls. (3) Mike Hilger inquired about the breakfast program, asked for participation data, and suggested future discussion about ways to promote the program. (4) As a follow-up, Dave Rowe mentioned that some schools have withdrawn from federal food and nutrition programs.

- (5) Helen Drawbert announced an upcoming legislative breakfast, scheduled for October 14 at 7:30 a.m. The venue is to be announced. b. Agenda items - public comment and concern. None.
9. Treasurer's Report. a. Approval of Checks for Payment. Motion by Elvig to approve general fund checks totaling \$207,621.33 and student activity fund checks totaling \$1,091.00 as presented, seconded by Rowe. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
10. School Showcase. a. Back to School Day Updates. Principals, Joann Walker, Pedersen Elementary; Gary Pszeniczny, intermediate/middle school; and Jeff Pepowski, high school, shared highlights from today's back to school events. Changes made at the elementary school provided time for parents and students to meet with the teachers. Participation numbers for the intermediate and middle schools show that 97% of students/parents attended. As in the past, high school freshman were in attendance for the full-day, and highlights from the orientation day were shared.
11. Information. **a. Committee Reports.** (1) Demographic Trends and Facilities Planning Committee. Regular committee meetings were held on August 20 and 29. In addition, a subcommittee met on August 27. The committee is firming up facility options to address overcrowding and safety issues, and working with School Perceptions on the survey process for the community. They will host a public information meeting on October 8, 7-8:30 p.m. (a) Board Review of Draft School Perceptions Survey. The School Perceptions survey (draft 7) which includes conceptual drawings and information about the four options developed by the committee was reviewed. The board is scheduled to act on the survey at the September 16 board meeting. The survey window will open on September 30 with a deadline of October 14. (2) Parks and Recreation Committee. Robin Elvig shared highlights from the August 26 meeting. **b. President's Report.** (1) WASB Employment & School Law Seminar. The WASB will sponsor the Employment and School Law Seminar, October 10-11 and October 31-November 1, in Wausau and Madison respectively. (2) WASB Region 4 Fall Meeting. The Region 4 Fall Meeting is scheduled for October 16 at the 29 Pines in Eau Claire. (3) Review Draft Board Goals. Board Goals were reviewed. Helen Drawbert and Dr. Biedron will work on number three; number four will be deleted. (4) Board Member Meet & Greet Schedule. A board member will be available from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the second board meeting of each month to meet and greet guests. Helen Drawbert will host the first session, scheduled to begin on September 16. **c. Superintendent's Report.** (1) Employment Update. Employment transfers and new staff to date were reviewed, as well as the number of applications received for external postings for certified staff. (2) Open Enrollment Exceptions Update. Open enrollment exceptions as of today were reviewed. As of this time, the district has received 20 nonresident applications to attend schools in our district, compared to 7 applications for resident students to attend in another district. (3) Library Board Meeting. The August 21 meeting was reviewed. (4) New Teacher Orientation. New teacher orientation, luncheon and tours were held on August 23. Mike Hilger and Brad Poquette attended the luncheon. New staff will be invited to attend the October 7 board meeting for introductions and a welcome. (5) Teacher Inservice. The August 28 opening breakfast and all-staff meeting was reviewed. The all-staff meeting included a skit by the team that attended the PLC Institute in Minneapolis in July. (6) Substitute Teacher Orientation. Orientation for new subs was held on September 3 at 5:00 p.m. (7) Race to the Top Grant. Dr. Biedron shared an update about the Race to the Top Grant. The Memorandum of Understanding is included on the agenda (see 12.f.). (8) Public Notice Regarding Fund 80. The required public notice regarding funds allocated for Community Program and Service Fund (Fund 80) was included for reference. The notice is published on the business services webpage. (9) Property Purchase Process. Dr. Biedron updated the board regarding the pending purchase of one-acre of property adjacent to the high school at 809 7th Street West. An offer based on the board's authorization in closed session on August 19, was accepted for purchase price (\$154,000), but denied on two other contingencies, one being waiting for voter approval (as required by statute) at the upcoming Annual Meeting on October 21. (The other "zoning" contingency has since been found to be unnecessary.) The board will consider calling an earlier Special Meeting of the Voters on September 16. (See 12.g.) A follow-up offer would be made to the property owners' contingent on voter approval on September 16.

12. Board Action after Consideration and Discussion. a. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Extracurricular Positions. Motion by Rowe to employ coaches/advisors to fill extracurricular positions for 2013/14: Jenna Baxter, National Honor Society co-advisor; Lori Watt, middle school yearbook; Michelle Mitch, graduation coordinator; Janessa Poirier, high school tennis girls’ assistant, seconded by Elvig. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. b. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Foodservice Position. Motion by Elvig to employ Linda Lindberg to fill foodservice position as recommended, seconded by Rowe. Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. c. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Part-time High School Aide Position. Motion by Rowe to employ Jessica Lehman to fill part-time (4-hours per day) high school aide position as recommended, seconded by Poquette. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. d. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Part-time Special Education Aide Position. Motion by Elvig to employ Patricia Lenz to fill part-time (.35) special education aide position as recommended, seconded by Hilger. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. e. Consider Approval of Facility Use Fee Schedule – 830-Exhibit. Motion by Rowe to approve 830-Exhibit with a change to the “Registration Fee” Request for over 20 Events category to reflect a charge of \$35 for Rate A and Rate B, seconded by Elvig. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. f. Consider Approval of Memorandum of Understanding for Race to the Top Grant. Motion by Poquette to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Race to the Top grant as presented, seconded by Hilger. Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. g. Consider Motion to Call a Special Meeting of Electors on September 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. Motion by Hilger to call a Special Meeting of the Voters to be held on September 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., seconded by Elvig. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
13. Adjournment. Motion by Rowe to adjourn at 8:39 p.m., seconded by Poquette. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Regular Meeting of the Altoona Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, September 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Altoona commons addition. This meeting will follow a Special Meeting of the Voters to be held at 6:30 pm. in the Altoona commons addition, 1827 Bartlett Avenue.

Joyce M. Orth CAP, Board Secretary

District Clerk

Date

The vision of the Altoona School District, in partnership with our students, their families, and our community, is to build a foundation for life-long learning and the emotional well-being of our students. We are dedicated to offering large school opportunities with a small school approach.