

School District of Gibraltar Area
Fish Creek, Wisconsin
Regular Meeting of Gibraltar Board of Education
Minutes of *January 11, 2016*
Community Room #266
6:00pm

Call to Order

President Mark Weborg called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Lynn Herman, Wendy Minten, Suzanne Brennan, Mike Peot, Mark Weborg, Fred Anderson, Lynnea Hickey

Excused: None

Also Present: Tina Van Meer, Superintendent; Arba LeClair, Business Manager; Gereon Methner, Secondary Principal, Tim Mulrain, Dean of Students; Evelyn Eckhardt, Board Secretary; 9 visitors

Adjourn to Executive Session per §19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., to Discuss Employee Personnel Matters – Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation and review educational services specific to students pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(f), 118.125 and 115 Sub. Chap V.

Moved Minten/Herman to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. per §19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., to Discuss Employee Personnel Matters – Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation and review educational services specific to students pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(f), 118.125 and 115 Sub. Chap V. Aye – Herman, Minten, Brennan, Peot, Weborg, Anderson, Hickey. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Return to Open Session

Moved Anderson/Peot to return to open session at 7:01 p.m. with the intent to reconvene back to closed session once open session is over. Aye – Herman, Minten, Brennan, Peot, Weborg, Anderson, Hickey. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on December 14th

Moved Brennan/Hickey to approve the minutes of the December 14th, 2015 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried

Board Discussion With Representative Joel Kitchens

Representative Joel Kitchens attended the Board meeting to discuss current work happening at the state level and answered questions from the board and audience.

Kitchens explained many things are happening now that are preventative, to keep bad things from happening. Does not believe the referendum bill will pass, had been working on a substitute amendment. Transgender bathroom bill appears to be dead. He is working on a bill trying to get mental health access to schools. Another bill he is working on is a pilot program where through a grant, a chosen CESA will find a person to help with counseling students. Trying to solve problem of businesses needing employees and college graduates are having trouble finding

Regular Meeting of Gibraltar Board of Education
Minutes of January 11, 2016
Page 2

jobs. DPI is coming out with software to help students with choices for their future, a 2 year program, to be evaluated for expansion after that.

Brennan asked about school start date waiver. This went through a hearing and has not gone forward any more. They were trying to allow an exemption for schools who took a certain percentage of AP exams. Kitchens is pretty sure it is a dead bill.

Weborg asked about talk or thought into state/federal mandates for special ed or ELL for financial help for districts.

Van Meer very concerned about Referendum Bill. The community is concerned with maintaining high quality programming at our school. She gave a specific story of a Gibraltar referendum that failed in 2002 and then passed in the next two months, without asking for any more or less money. Given this new bill, right now, that referendum would have failed with a loss of 2.2 million dollars, which would have been devastating to the district. With the new bill it wouldn't have been able to have another referendum for two years. Kitchens doesn't believe non-rural districts understand the problem with this bill, schools could go bankrupt.

Brennan asked if there are any 2016 resolutions that put up a red-flag. Kitchens had not seen them before tonight, but he thinks a lot of the resolutions are going to be hard to pass.

DPI will be coming out with new report card. Right now report cards are weighted towards schools that send kids to 4 year colleges.

Van Meer commented about the amount of mandated testing, would love to see districts with high achievement and learning and who show proficiency be evaluated every 3 years like our teachers are. Peot remarked that one of the problems is that the tests keep changing.

Stephen Seyfer commented there will not be a school report card this year and asked if there will be one next year. Kitchens remarked he was told there would be.

Van Meer asked if there was anything more that the audience or board could do other than writing letters and attending hearings to support public education. Kitchens believes that the referendum bill was one that it was important for people to be very vocal about.

Hickey asked if anyone would visit if they were invited to our school, to help show them our successes and challenges in our district. Poverty level is increasing in our area. Some of the challenges mentioned include transportation to a spread out area, keeping high quality teachers in this area, continuing to offer courses with small class size, and problems making long term financial plans with so many changes occurring.

Weborg mentioned he will be meeting with the governor.

Communication

Thank you for the Holiday Dinner from Sue and Joe Jarosh.

Thank you from the residents of Scandia Village for the holiday dinner.

Thank you from Gibraltar Student Council for supporting the annual holiday dinner.

Open Discussion

Herman- had privilege of judging DECA competition, even though we are a small school, we compete with huge schools. Our students did great and were well behaved, six students advancing to the state competition; Mrs. Witteborg does a great job. Dr. Methner mentioned a press release will be going out.

Regular Meeting of Gibraltar Board of Education

Minutes of January 11, 2016

Page 3

Hickey asked if we have wi-fi on our busses. Not at this time. Looking into a CESA 7 program concerning bus wi-fi.

Minten- commended Mr. Carriere on his work with Robotics class on Saturdays. It is a self-paced and self-driven class. Mrs. Van Meer visited Robotics class, witnessed high school students volunteering by mentoring the younger students. Robotics is a result of an Innovation Grant. Invited Mr. Carriere to share his work to the board and bring some of his students as well as some of the older volunteers.

Discuss the 2016-2017 School Year Calendar

The Board reviewed and discussed a draft of the 2016-2017 calendar. Van Meer sent out a survey to teachers and support staff to get input about the 2016-17 calendar. Draft includes 175 contact days, 187 teacher days, reminded we are on minutes of instruction now, not days. Four day August Academy: need more time at the beginning of the school year to set up classrooms, building leadership teams planning involving professional development, provide more individualized professional development for teachers. 91% of staff surveys indicated they want to have the Friday before Labor Day off, 92.5% of respondents want November 23 to continue as a vacation day. One day of Parent/Teacher conferencing instead of two. March is ACT testing month, pushes spring break to the last week. A vacation day was added to the Monday after Easter. Discussion concerning Spring Break days, athletics, and testing windows impelled Van Meer to meet with the athletic department and staff to see if there are other options for the placement of Spring Break.

Weborg moved item IX to item XX.

Review WASB Delegate Assembly Resolutions

Paper copies of the WASB Policy and Resolutions Committee report on the 2016 resolutions were available. Suzanne Brennan asked if people had specific questions about the resolutions instead of reading through each one. No resolutions put up a red flag. Many of the resolutions were already discussed during the question and answer session with Rep. Joel Kitchens. Weborg does not support Resolution 16-07: Restore Two-Thirds State Funding and Increase Primary Guarantee Value per Member.

Verify Declarations of Candidacy for April School Board Election

As the school district clerk, Suzanne Brennan verified Declarations of Candidacy submitted to the district for the April 2016 school board election for Mike Peot, Britt Maltby, and Stephen Seyfer. Papers all looked complete and accurate.

Determine Need for Primary Election for April School Board Election and Draw Lots for Ballot Order

There is no need for Gibraltar School District to hold a primary election for school board members. Fred Anderson drew lots for ballot order for April 2016 School Board Election: #1 Mike Peot, #2 Stephen Seyfer, #3 Britt Maltby.

Meeting of Gibraltar Board of Education
Minutes of January 11, 2016
Page 4

Certify Names of Candidates for April School Board Election

Suzanne Brennan certified the names of candidates for ballot for April 2016 School Board Election for Mike Peot, Stephen Seyfer, and Britt Maltby.

Approve Letter of Resignation from Employment

Moved Anderson/Minten to table approving letter of resignation from employment. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried

Approve Job Posting for Varsity Golf Coach

Moved Anderson/Peot to table approving job posting for varsity golf coach. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Approve the 2016-17 Secondary Course Handbook

Moved Hickey/Brennan to approve the 2016-17 Secondary Course Handbook. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Approve Amendment to Policy 9.24(4) – Elementary Student Grading

Moved Brennan/Minten to approve amendment to Policy 9.24(4)- Elementary Student Grading. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Approve Amendment to Policy 10.02(4) – Student Attendance

Moved Hickey/Herman to approve amendment to Policy 10.02(4) Student Attendance. Aye- All Opposed – None Motion Carried.

Approve Payment of Bills

Moved Hickey/Brennan to approve the payment of bills totaling \$109,341.63 as presented in the board packet. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried

Accept Donations

Moved Anderson/Peot to approve \$100 donation from Robin Hartel, Sturgeon Bay Breakfast Rotary, for Gibraltar Fine Arts. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Hear Committee Reports

None.

Adjourn to Executive Session per §19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., to Discuss Employee Personnel Matters – Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation and review educational services specific to students pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(f), 118.125 and 115 Sub. Chap V. Moved Anderson/Peot to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:36 p.m. per §19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., to Discuss Employee Personnel Matters – Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation and review educational services specific to students pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(f), 118.125 and 115 Sub. Chap V. Aye – Herman, Minten, Brennan, Peot, Weborg, Anderson, Hickey. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Meeting of Gibraltar Board of Education
Minutes of January 11, 2016
Page 5

Return to Open Session

Moved Herman/Peot to return to open session at 10:00 p.m. Aye – Herman, Minten, Brennan, Peot, Weborg, Anderson, Hickey. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Adjourn

Moved Herman/Peot to adjourn at 10:00p.m. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Eckhardt
District Administrative Assistant
School Board Secretary