

School District of Gibraltar Area
Fish Creek, Wisconsin
Regular Meeting of Gibraltar Board of Education
Minutes of *March 23, 2015*
Community Room #266
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order

President Anderson called meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Wendy Minten, Suzanne Brennan, Lynnea Hickey, Martha Luber Pelrine, Fred Anderson, Mike Peot, Mark Weborg

Excused: None

Also Present: Tina Van Meer, Superintendent; Brian Annen, K-12 Principal; Shaun Young, Director of Learning; Tim Mulrain, Dean of Students; Arba LeClair, Business Manager; Laura Anschutz, Financial Asst./ Acting School Board Secretary; 24 visitors

Adjourn to Executive Session per §19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., to Discuss Employee Personnel Matters – Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation

Moved Weborg / Brennan to Adjourn to executive session at 6:05 pm. Aye – Minten, Brennan, Hickey, Luber Pelrine, Anderson, Peot, Weborg. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Moved Weborg / Minten to suspend Executive Session at 6:59 pm and reconvene Executive Session at the end of the Open Session. Aye – Minten, Brennan, Hickey, Luber Pelrine, Anderson, Peot, Weborg. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Reconvene to Open Session

Moved Weborg / Minten to reconvene to Open Session at 7:01 pm. Aye – Minten, Brennan, Hickey, Luber Pelrine, Anderson, Peot, Weborg. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes

Moved Hickey / Luber Pelrine to approve minutes of the February 23, 2015 meeting as presented. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Hear Presentation on the Industrial Technology Program

Van Meer introduced Duane Braun from our Tech Ed Program to update the Board on what has been happening this year in his program. Braun teaches classes in Woods, Metals, Welding and Home Maintenance. He shared photos and explained how these classes are working on projects throughout the building, such as the new sign frames in athletic hallway. Also, as part of the initial educator training an idea came out for High School students to help Allison Prescott and her preschool students build shelves for their classroom. This project just wrapped up and was very successful. The meeting then moved to the Shop Area to see what has been done. Some things in the shop area are in need of updating, such as the vehicle hoist for auto mechanics which no longer functions. He is also interested in obtaining a computerized

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machine, such as a plasma cutter, which would fit with the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) curriculum. Weborg mentioned that Voight Automotive is closing and they have 2 above ground hoists, perhaps we could talk to them about getting one of them.

Hear Presentation on the K-1 Multi-Age Program

Van Meer explained that this is a pilot program this year. Emily Spone and Devin Thomas gave a presentation on what their day looks like and their experiences so far. A parent survey was also done and Annen provided the Board with the results. They discussed the Guiding Principles of the program - individual student needs, best practice, multi age opportunities, there are 25 students total. They work together every day for 2.5 hours for reading and writing in the morning, afternoons are used for grade level studies. At the end of every unit they have a celebration, recently they read their writing creations to their classes in the auditorium. They had started the year using the shared time for Math, but it needed to be adjusted because of student needs, they are looking to find a better structure to use going forward. Having "Buddies" works well because teaching the skills helps improve the "teacher's" mastery of knowledge. Discussed pros and cons for the program and hopes for the future of the program. Fielded questions from audience on differences in Kindergarten / First Grade reader skills and how this program will be assessed. Parent Lauren Schar discussed the positive effects that this program has had for her daughter. A concern was raised about communication to parents on what is going to be happening in the elementary next year as far as class sizes and sections. Van Meer suggested that in the future this could be shared easily after the decision is made. Bob Boltman commended the Board and District for giving our students this opportunity. Weborg commended Spone & Thomas on their successful first year, the rest of the Board agreed.

Communications

Received the following

- Thank you for plant from the Mike Carmody Family
- Thank you for plant and support from Troy Zak after his father's passing.
- Thank you for flowers from Nancy Keehan
- Van Meer personally thanked everyone for the support she has received after her husband's passing.

Open Discussion

Anderson reminded the audience that meetings are now recorded and read the statement regarding the meeting process and rules.

- V Chomeau gave the Board information regarding the Link gallery, FOG would like to rename the Link Gallery for Children's Art and devote the space specifically for children's art. Looking for permission to have a mural painted on the ceiling of the Link and update lighting. The Board liked the idea and gave their permission for FOG to move their project forward.

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Administrative Reports were submitted electronically and hard copies were available for audience.

Young – Added that he is working with Mulrain on letters to be sent home for summer school.

LeClair – Gave Board members current report showing year to date comparisons to last year. Budgets packets are out to the staff and are due back next week, on schedule for budget process.

Annen – Reviewing applications for elementary teaching positions and getting ready for the Badger exam. Working with Kinga Jacobson to put together a “New Family” folder to share information with families as they move into the district.

Mulrain – PBIS working on plans for next year. Working with Peggy Tanck to bring in a speaker in for athletics.

Van Meer – Nothing further to add.

Hear Update on Secondary School Principal Hiring Process

Van Meer presented the Board with a revised hiring process timeline due to the application deadline extension. The process itself has not changed only the dates. Interviews would be April 15 & 16, finalist recommendations to the Board for their interview the week of 20th. Van Meer will set the date with the Board members once number of candidates is known.

Payment of Bills

Moved Weborg / Minten to approve the payment of bills totaling \$453,549.96 as presented in the board packet. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Approve Letter of Resignation from Employment for the Purpose of Retirement

Van Meer presented the Board with letters of retirement at the end of the current school year from 4 staff members and noted their years of service to the District. Mary Ostrowski, 35 years; Mary Schultz, 30 years; Karen Plagge, 22 years; Tom Smith, 15 years. She thanks them all for their years of service, they will be missed.

Motion Hickey / Luber Pelrine to approve the letters of resignation for the purposes of retirement at the end of the current school year as presented. Board members expressed their gratitude for the service to our students. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Approve Posting for Special Education Teacher

Van Meer stated that due to the retirement of Mary Ostrowski, she asking for permission to post a vacancy for this position at this time. Moved Hickey / Brennan to approve posting for a Special Education Teacher. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

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Approve Posting for Secondary Art Teacher

Due to the retirement of Tom Smith, Van Meer is asking for permission to post a vacancy for this position at this time. Moved Weborg / Minten to approve posting for a Secondary Art Teacher.

Approve Long-Term Maintenance Plan for Athletic Field

The Extracurricular Activities & Community Relations Committee has had a couple of meetings to discuss safety issues and how to make improvements to the athletic field. They looked at crowning the field, drainage issues, and top dressing the field. Peot explained that the committee looked at all athletic long term needs, including the track and gym floor. The athletic field is the top priority due to safety issues. The best way to correct the issues would be to crown the field at \$75,000 per the current estimate. Need to move forward quickly to allow a long enough growing season for new grass. Checking see if the Baileys Harbor field could be used for part of the fall seasons. Also, need to have drainage taken care of to address the underlying problem. A survey needs to be done to determine an accurate cost of the installation of drainage. Estimate without survey is \$50,000. Would like to have the topographic survey done immediately so can best determine what can be done and the cost. Will work with State to tie in with 2016 - 2017 sewer project if possible. Will also look for Donors, some become available only after we make the commitment to the project. Looking for commitment from the Board to proceed with the Crowning at a minimum and based on survey results look at the drainage piece. Field is used by multiple 6 – 12 grade PE classes, Soccer, Football and Track as well as Youth football. Brennan asked that we pursue an additional bid to meet Board policy.

Brennan / Luber Pelrine to approve the recommendation of the Athletic and Extracurricular committee to implement the long term maintenance plan for the athletic field, subject to approval of the financing once additional information is obtained. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Appoint Board of Canvassers for the April 7th, 2014 School Board Election

Anderson appointed Laura Anschutz, Mike Peot and Tina Van Meer as board of three persons to canvass and verify the results of the school board election that is on the April 7th ballot.

Donations

None

Hear Committee Reports

Extracurricular Activities & Community Relations

Nothing further to add to previous discussion.

Campus Maintenance & Improvement

Met with staff members that have secondary classrooms around the IMC, asked them to come up with their wish lists for improvements. Brought out the plans that were developed a couple of years ago as a starting point for discussion. Will meet with them again to gather ideas and decide next steps.

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**Adjourn to Executive Session per §19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., to Discuss
Employee Personnel Matters – Considering employment, promotion, compensation or
performance evaluation**

Moved Weborg / Peot to reconvene to closed session at 9.07pm . Aye – Minten, Brennan,
Hickey, Luber Pelrine, Anderson, Peot, Weborg. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Reconvene to Open Session

Moved Weborg / Minten to reconvene to Open Session at 10:00 pm. Aye – Minten, Brennan,
Hickey, Luber Pelrine, Anderson, Peot, Weborg. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Moved Weborg / Minten to adjourn at 10:00 p.m. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Anschutz
Financial Assistant / Acting School Board Secretary