

School District of Gibraltar Area
Fish Creek, Wisconsin
Regular Meeting of Gibraltar Board of Education
Minutes of February 23, 2015
Community Room #266
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

President Anderson called meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Excused: Martha Lubber Pelrine

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

Approve Minutes

Moved Hickey / Minten to approve minutes of the February 9, 2015 meeting as presented. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Hear Presentations on Projects Supported by District Innovation Grants

Van Meer introduced presenters who received the new innovation grants offered for the current year to explain how these grants have enhanced and enriched student learning. The innovation grants were introduced as a way to allow staff members to fund new / pilot projects in the District.

The Viking Way is a newscast that can be found on the Homepage of the School website. It is put together by a group of elementary students with assistance from teachers Shane Harvey, Leslie Mc Carty, Devin Thomas, Lizz Thomas, Katie Sixel and Kaija Johnson. The “Behind the Scenes” episode was shown for all present to see and some of the older episodes have over 500 views so far. The kids are now in the process of writing their own scripts so will probably slow down production of each episode some. Van Meer and the Board thanked all of the staff members for their cooperation to help this program to succeed.

Kaija Johnson also explained the kindness chain that she started with her 5th Grade class and is now sharing in the elementary hallway for all students to participate in. Links are added to the chain as students perform various acts of kindness.

Jodi Hoyerman, Marissa Norton and Devin Thomas presented a video recap and explained their Smart Start program to help students transition from Kindergarten to first grade expectations and routines. Hoyerman and Norton have wanted to implement something like this for several years. Teachers felt first year was successful, they sent a survey home to parents and included some possible changes in the program for the coming year. They would like to start sending invitations in March to allow for parents to plan.

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The Board members and audience were then invited to move to Shane Harvey's Elementary Spanish classroom where Harvey explained the technology that his grant money purchased and how he uses it with students. There was also an interactive demonstration of some of the software programs used. The meeting then moved back to the Community Room.

Hear Presentation on the Purposeful Instruction Network

Claire Wick and members of the Purposeful Instruction Network (PIN) provided an update on the work their group has been doing this year on instructional design and delivery techniques for our Secondary School students. Members of this group have been invited to make a presentation to the PAC group in May. The teachers involved are looking for ways to continue improving their teaching methods and classrooms. Gradual Release of Responsibility is a main component of the program, it begins with modeling & demonstrating learning techniques by the teacher, then moves to collaboration with the teacher and other students and finally on to working independently. Leslie Mc Carty has been sharing this idea with Kaija Johnson at the 5th grade level for Math and Johnson has seen a tremendous improvement in testing results. Angie Hallett & Leslie Mc Carty shared how this type of teaching practice has helped them in their work. Wick thanked the Board, Van Meer and the teachers for providing this opportunity and making it a success. Van Meer and the Board also thanked teachers for all of their extra work on this.

Communications

Anderson acknowledged receipt of correspondence from John Cox and Kathleen Harris.

Open Discussion

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

- Brennan wished Boys & Girls Basketball Teams good luck in the post season.
- Brennan shared that in the past the Superintendent provided a one page summary of what happened at the School Board meetings to keep staff informed prior to approval of the formal minutes and asked that Van Meer consider doing this and will provide a couple of samples.
- Anschutz mentioned that she doesn't have access to the list of people Keehan previously provided board packets and agendas to. These items are now posted on the website, please contact her if still need to have them emailed.

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

Young – Only addition was to mention that Special Ed has received a grant from CESA 7 for teacher training.

LeClair – Budget workbooks will go out to tomorrow or Wednesday. New state budget proposes to take away per pupil funding, however it may be recaptured elsewhere. Reviewed revenue & expense comparisons.

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Annen – Highlighted that the Class of 2015 Valedictorian is Makenna Ash, Salutatorian is Mikayla Kifer. All of the Honor students in the top 20 percent of the class had a GPA of 4.0 or higher.

Mulrain – coaches came to him asking for assistance with drinking and drug education. Weborg also requested that sexting be included in the education initiative as he has become aware of some instances of this occurring.

Van Meer – Reviewed Legislative updates – state is looking to prohibit use of the BADGER test and use of testing results in the evaluation process of principals and teachers.

Anderson thanked Van Meer and the rest of the Board for taking the time to attend the listening session with Mr. Kitchens and the other school Districts.

Payment of Bills

Moved Hickey / Brennan to approve the payment of bills totaling \$25,443.37 as presented in the board packet. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Approve Letter of Resignation from Employment for the Purpose of Retirement

Motion Minten / Brennan to table this item until the next meeting so that appropriate details can be worked out. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Approve Additional Section of Fifth Grade for the 2015-2016 School Year

Van Meer stated that based on enrollment numbers for next year the administration is recommending that a third section of fifth grade be added. Moved Hickey / Minten to approve an additional section of 5th grade for the 2015 -2016 school year. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Approve Posting for Elementary Teachers

Due to addition of a 5th grade section Van Meer recommends that we post this position now to obtain the best candidate. Moved Minten / Peot to approve the posting for an elementary teacher for the 2015 – 2016 school year. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried. There was a follow up question regarding possible movement of an existing staff member who might be interested in this position rather than go through the whole interview process as was done in the past. Van Meer and Board members stated that the current process is working well at this time.

Approve Posting for Bilingual Teacher

This will be the second posting for a bilingual teacher. The Board approved the original posting of this position at the July 14th, 2014 meeting. The district was unable to secure a qualified candidate for the position at that time. The administration is recommending the position be posted now to obtain the best available candidates. As a previously stated, if the number of limited-English proficient pupils served in a Wisconsin district reaches the required numbers, the school board is required to establish a bilingual-bicultural education program that is taught by a

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bilingual teacher. Moved Weborg / Hickey to approve posting for Bilingual Teacher for the 2015 - 2016 school year. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Approve the Issuance of Continuing Certified Employee Contracts

Van Meer shared a listing of certified employees for contract renewal. These would be initial contracts to assure employees of continued employment with the District with salaries and benefits to be determined at a later date and will not be sent out until after spring break. Moved Brennan / Minten to approve the issuing of Continued Certified Employee contracts as listed with salaries and benefits to be determined at a later date. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Approve Employee Contracts for the Administrative Assistant, Business Manager, Food Service Supervisor, Maintenance Supervisor, Information and Technology Services Director, School Psychologist, Director of Technology and Transportation Supervisor

Minten recused herself from discussion and vote on this item. Van Meer stated that as with the Certified Employee contracts these would be initial contracts to assure employees of continued employment with the District with salaries and benefits to be determined at a later date. Moved Hickey / Peot to approve employee contracts for Administrative Assistant, Business Manager, Food Service Supervisor, Maintenance Supervisor, Information and Technology Services Director, School Psychologist, Director of Technology and Transportation Supervisor with salaries and benefits to be determined at a later date. Aye – Brennan, Hickey, Anderson, Peot, Weborg. Opposed – None. Abstained - Minten. Motion Carried.

Approve Administrative Contracts

Van Meer and S Young's contracts are up for renewal this year; again these are initial contracts to assure employees of continued employment with the District with salaries and benefits to be determined at a later date. Motion by Brennan / Peot to approve the Administrative contracts of Van Meer and S Young with salaries and benefits to be determined at a later date. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

Approve 2015 Summer School Program

Mulrain presented a secondary summer school program outline. Would like to incorporate more individualized learning strategies to get students back on track and also offer a course for 7th and 8th grade to be co-taught for reading and math. Brennan would like it pointed out to parents that this schedule is 4 days per week instead of 5 for planning purposes.

Van Meer and Annen presented the elementary summer school program plan. This would move summer school to July – Aug to help “jump start” student learning for the school year.

Teachers have also suggested expanding summer school to include other enrichment courses that could be offered to all students. They will be coming back at a future board meeting with their idea.

Motion Minten / Hickey to approve the 2015 summer school programs as presented. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

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Cancel Regularly Scheduled March 9th Board Meeting

Due to the timing of the meeting during Spring Break Van Meer asked that this meeting be canceled as in the past. Motion Minten / Hickey to cancel the regularly scheduled Board meeting for March 9th. Aye – all. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Donations

The District received the following donations:

Shopko - \$2000.00, Van Meer would like this money to go to funding future Innovation grants

Dentistry By Design – each Kindergarten teacher and the Preschool teacher received \$147.77 to use for their rooms.

Sister Bay Lions - \$500.00 to the Music boosters

Target "Take Charge of Education" – Elementary \$383.70, Secondary \$271.63

Door County Land Trust to the Ecology club - \$250.00

Moved Weborg / Peot to approve the donations as presented and thanked these organizations for their support of our District. Aye – All. Opposed- None. Motion Carried.

Hear Committee Reports

None

Adjourn

Moved Weborg / Peot to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Anschutz

Financial Assistant / Acting School Board Secretary