

School District of Gibraltar Area
Fish Creek, Wisconsin
Regular Meeting of Gibraltar Board of Education
Minutes of January 26, 2015
Community Room #266
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

President Anderson called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Suzanne Brennan, Martha Luber Pelrine, Fred Anderson, Mike Peot

Excused: Wendy Minten, Lynnea Hickey, Mark Weborg

Also Present: Tina Van Meer, Superintendent; Brian Annen, K-12 Principal; Shaun Young, Director of Learning; Tim Mulrain, Dean of Students; Arba Le Clair, Business Manager; Laura Anschutz, Financial Asst./ Acting School Board Secretary; 23 visitors

Approve Minutes

Moved Luber Pelrine / Peot to approve minutes of the January 12, 2015 meeting with following corrections. Remove last sentence under open discussion as it relates to personel. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Communication

None

Open Discussion

Anderson explained that cameras are now recording the Board meetings and read a statement reminding the audience of the meeting process and rules.

- Pelrine –at the Wisconsin Assoc School Boards convention mentioned a bill sponsored by senator Ferral is being heard tomorrow re regarding testing at schools.
- Anderson – also at WASB Convention, spent time with an attorney there regarding what a true progressive discipline policy would look like and how it should work. Will be working with the handbook committee on this and other changes that have come up during the course of the year. Intending to ask a staff member and a community member to participate in the committee. Interested people should email him.
- Brennan met with Annen and staff members last Friday, and parents today regarding moving forward with the 4 th grade classroom changes.
- A Kifer – Math team came in 4th today! Ian Hoffman and Conor Moore medaled, way to go. Thank you to the School Board for the continued support.
- Kathleen Harris – Thank you to Anderson for following through on researching a Progressive discipline policy. Handed out an issue brief regarding progressive discipline. Also presented a letter to the school board with additional questions that came out of her last meeting with Anderson and Van Meer.

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Hear Presentation on the Secondary School Library

Kinga Jacobson attended the meeting to provide an update on the secondary school library. She presented information regarding the current role of school libraries, where are we now as a school and where do we need to be going forward. Just won a grant to work with others in the State to share knowledge and keep us on the leading edge.

Carol Ash asked if the library might be able to be open later hours to allow kids to work together on projects. Anderson stated has been tried several times in the past, starts out with high attendance and tends to dwindle, but the idea could be researched again.

Van Meer stated that any IMC facilities improvements will be included in the campus maintenance committee work.

Helen Anderson, commented that there were no books in the pictures of what an updated library might look like but feels that books are still important.

Anderson stated the previous plans for IMC renovations by the District have been shelved.

Roberta Champeau former library specialist feels that the IMC staff need to be in the classrooms working with the students and teachers.

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

Mulrain – Working with Big Brothers / Big Sisters to implement the program here. 4 students have sent in applications to be mentors so far. Looking to expand the Viking Way to secondary school. Has been evaluating PEP program usage and during January the usage numbers were higher than expected.

Annen – Ground Hog breakfast Feb 2nd! Middle School assembly to recognize students is also coming up. ACT testing – ELL testing are also coming up.

LeClair – We've received all of our tax payments for January, cash flow is good, shouldn't need to do any borrowing. Food Service sales are up \$2,000.00 over last year to date. Snack milk sales are down. Salad sales are way up, possibly due to the new Grab & Go salads available each day. New ideas seem to have us heading in the right direction.

Young – Early Childhood screening for 3 year olds will be in April. Faculty are working on the details.

Van Meer – Highlighted items that can be found in her written report. Has invited Claire Wick and staff members to Feb 23rd meeting to make a presentation. She will be here tomorrow afternoon presenting to the Student Learning Committee.

Payment of Bills

Moved Brennan / Luber Pelrine to approve payment of bills totaling \$73,440.82 as presented in board packet. No discussion. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion carried.

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Approve Employment of Fourth Grade Teacher

Annen reviewed hiring committee process and their recommendation is Courtney Renard, a recent graduate of UW Oshkosh and a Southern Door High School Alum.

Moved Brennan / Luber Pelrine to approve the employment of Courtney Renard as the 4th grade teacher for the remainder of the current school year. No Discussion. Aye – all. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Annen stated that Mrs. Renard will start tomorrow and spend time in the current classrooms to learn the schedules and become acclimated to the students and staff.

Approve 2016 7th & 8th Grade Trip to Washington, DC

Mike Scoville provided a handout to the School Board showing last year's itinerary and cost history. He is asking the Board for permission to begin planning the trip and about the possibility of budgeting some District money in the future to assist with cost. Motion by Anderson / Peot to approve a student trip to Washington, DC. For seventh and eighth grade students, with anticipated dates of April 3-8, 2016. No Discussion. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Board members thanked him for his hard work to provide this opportunity.

Approve Resolution to Adopt the Wisconsin Deferred Compensation 457 Plan

Motion Brennan / Luber Pelrine to approve the resolution to Adopt the Wisconsin Deferred Compensation 457 Plan as read by Peot. No Discussion. Aye – All. Opposed – None. Motion Carried.

Discuss and Take Possible Action on the 2015-2016 School Calendar

The administration presented a draft of the 2015-2016 calendar at the January 12th meeting for the Board to review and discuss. Has received input from Board members and staff and made some changes. Teachers requested Nov 25 & Dec 23 off to allow for travel prior to the holidays. Professional Development was changed to May 20th to get away from the required AP testing window. Moved April Professional Development to a Monday to balance missed instructional days of the week for scheduling. Also had a request to eliminate spring break for more consistency for AP classes. Asked to have half days of inservice changed to full days, this would mean adding a paid day to teacher contracts. Current schedule we have 3 snow days built in. Also asked to move spring break one more week ahead to coincide with Sturgeon Bay's break.

Pelrine mentioned that Spring Break elimination conversation is happening all over the state because of AP testing. Board member conversation followed regarding our need for spring break due to a majority of families not being able to take vacations during summer vacation.

Parents asked if Professional Development could make a long weekend for families to get away? Friday or Monday. Asked about the possibility of remote learning for snow days. We need the spring break.

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A Kifer – Spring Break rarely affects her AP classes, would like spring break to remain as is due to vacation issues for families.

Charlie Eckhardt – would like to see a whole day for grading in the calendar. Knows several students who do not have internet. Spring Break timing also affects Solo Ensemble, sports, etc.

Evelyn Eckhardt – would also like to see whole day at semester to allow for quality assessment.

Scoville – if we move spring break it will affect DC Trip dates. Is it possible to have testing calendar for parents so they would not pull students out during this time.

Sue Olson – Teachers need spring break too.

Anderson asked Board members to consider comments.

Donations

None.

Adjourn

Moved Peot / Luber Pelrine to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Anschutz

Financial Assistant / Acting School Board Secretary