

MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
February 8, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Akron School District R-1 began with a work session at 6:02 p.m. Board members present were: Jessica Filla, president; Nathan Quick, vice president; Andy Molt, secretary; and Megan Bower, treasurer.

1. Administrator/Director Reports

Athletic Director (Mr. Pickens) – Tyler Pickens reported the winter sports seasons are beginning to wrap up, regional wrestling will be held this weekend at NJC, district basketball will begin in two weeks, and the junior high girls' basketball tournament is this weekend. At the recent Athletic Director's meeting, the district tournament times were cleaned up between 1A and 2A, an injured officials' policy is being discussed, an amendment has been proposed to get Rural Alliance on the Legislative Council and CHSAA board, and the league schedules for next year are being worked on.

Technology (Mr. Clarkson) – Greg Clarkson installed a different TV in the cafetorium from the former WAVES room, he has been working on replacing printers throughout the building, he will be working on the marquee this weekend, and the additional security cameras he ordered in the fall are supposed to be here March 2nd. Greg then discussed the technology equipment and expenses for E-Sports. He is researching the machines, bandwidth, and security features for this program, but has found it could be rather expensive for the district. Greg received a quote for purchasing 200 additional Chromebooks, and he and Business Manager Kelli McCaffrey will be discussing when to purchase these items. In closing, Greg noted he is looking into e-rate allowable purchases through NE BOCES as well as potential replacements for the mimeo boards used in the classrooms.

Elementary Principal (Mrs. Anderson) – Kendra Anderson noted January was a tough month with minor illnesses and students/staff absent. She expressed her appreciation to Mr. Randel on being a great teammate and noted how well they work together. Highlights from January include Sharon Daxton-Vorce completed a second coaching day with the elementary teachers on writing, the committee is currently reviewing materials for the elementary literacy adoption, RtI meetings have been going very well and are being managed by Mrs. Shae Smith, the district enrolled 10 new elementary students since the beginning of January, a DAC meeting was held and she commended the students that are a part of the committee for their work, and CMAS testing is coming up.

Junior High/High School Principal (Mr. Randel) – Shawn Randel echoed the sentiments of working with Kendra and their teamwork. He highlighted the high school construction math class as they have been under the direction of Mr. Glosson and Larry Johnson and have built a 12x20 shed. Shawn reported what a valuable learning experience this has been for our students, and they have been asked to build another building. Shawn contacted Careers in Construction Colorado, a company based out of Colorado Springs, and they are interested in our district being a satellite program. The company would provide a stipend for the instructor and curriculum for the first two years, and they will be visiting our school in March. The school culture committee has met, elected officers, and have scheduled a site visit to Merino to observe their student-led wellness team. He commended Mrs. Smith on her help with this committee, as well as working to provide different credit recovery options for both junior high and high school students. In closing, Shawn discussed the recommendations to hire Hannah Krening and the movement within the special education department noting the district is truly blessed to have these staffing changes seamlessly take place.

Bill Dorrenbacher led prayer. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Superintendent (Mr. Christensen) – Brian Christensen noted in the director's reports: Maintenance: there have been numerous home events to set up/clean up, the elevator was repaired, fire inspections are complete, and emergency light testing is done. Transportation: mileage and fuel report is included in the board packet, there are some tough stretches of road down south which has affected one of the routes, and February is "Love the Bus" month. Counselors: testing continues, RtI meetings have been

held, AOL is now being held during school instead of after school, and meetings with students happen daily. In his report, Brian noted he recently applied for a BEST Cash Grant for the HVAC fix and we will find out in May if we receive it. He has also applied for an air purification grant, which will allow the district to purchase air purification units for each classroom. He recently attended the CASE Conference and felt it was worthwhile and he continues to serve on the BEST Health insurance board, which is being rebranded to Colorado Public Education Health Plan.

2. Questions About Board Meeting Agenda Items – None

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:28 p.m. in the Akron School library by president Jessica Filla. Members present were Jessica Filla, president; Nathan Quick, vice president; Andy Molt, secretary; and Megan Bower, treasurer. FRED RAISH WAS ABSENT.

2. Approval of Agenda – A motion was made by Nathan Quick to approve the agenda. Andy Molt seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Bower, aye; Filla, aye; Molt, aye; Quick, aye. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

- a. Minutes from January 11, 2022 Work Session and Regular Board Meeting
- b. January Bills
- c. Financial Reports
- d. Approve: Amanda Parmenter, Substitute Teacher
- e. Approve: Peggy Dreher, Part-time Special Education; Sidney Kizer, Full-time Special Education Generalist; and Hannah Krening, Middle School Social Studies Teacher
- f. Approve: Chance Friedly, Assistant Baseball Coach; Andy Bowin, Volunteer Baseball Coach; and Byron Guy, Volunteer Baseball Coach

A motion was made by Nathan Quick to approve the consent agenda items. Andy Molt seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Bower, aye; Filla, aye; Molt, aye; Quick, aye. Motion passed.

4. Public Participation

- a. Luke Bethel spoke to the board about concerns he had with a divide amongst the middle school girls both during and outside of basketball. He shared that he is not sure what the solution is and that the divide is not something the coaches promote. He would like to see a focus on unity and a sense of teamwork amongst the girls as Akron Rams.

5. Board Reports

- a. BOCES: January Board Meeting – Brian Christensen referenced the all-board retreat held in January. At the regular meeting, a two-year contract for the director was approved, the budget was reviewed, and they approved the 2022-23 calendar.
- b. CASB: Winter Legislative Conference February 24-25, 2022 – Nathan Quick noted the upcoming conference, and reported over 40 bills have been introduced to the legislature that pertain to education.

6. Discussion Items

- a. School Illness Mitigation Plan Update – Brian Christensen reported our county has seen a surge in COVID numbers due to Omicron but it is starting to decline. Washington County remains very low in identified students and staff that have tested positive. The school remains in the green, but the districts still encourages students to stay home when sick and not return to school until 24 hours symptom free.
- b. 2022-23 School Calendar – Brian Christensen reviewed the process for developing the school calendar. Based on feedback received from staff and the District Accountability Committee, the committee has created two separate calendars. After discussion, the consensus of the board is they favor having spring break and the consistency of Fridays off. This information will be taken back to the committee and a calendar will be presented at the March meeting for approval.
- c. Board Retreat on February 23rd – Brian Christensen noted the date for the retreat beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Gemma's Crossing. Jessica Filla discussed a tentative agenda for the evening and said it will be finalized by February 16th.

7. Action Items

- a. Approve Principal Contracts for 2022-23 - A motion was made by Nathan Quick to approve the principal contracts for Shawn Randel and Kendra Anderson for the 2022-23 school year. Andy Molt seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Bower, aye; Filla, aye; Molt, aye; Quick, aye. Motion passed.

8. Policy Approval

- a. None

9. Executive Session

- a. None

10. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a. Approve Program Directors
- b. Approve Secretaries
- c. Approve School Calendar for 2022-23
- d. Approve Intent to Participate: Carl Perkins Grant

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Jessica Filla, President

Andy Molt, Secretary