

Nippersink School District 2
Regular Board of Education Meeting
November 15, 2011

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education, Nippersink School District 2, was called to order by Board President Patty Anderson at 7:00 p.m. in the Nippersink Middle School Library.

Members Present: Anderson, Bianchini, Irslinger, Johnson, Langlois, Maurer (arrived at 7:08), Ross

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Dan Oest, Superintendent; Mrs. Denise Levendoski, Business Manager

Consent Agenda

A bill addendum was added to Board Bills; \$25,012.92 payable to Manusos General Contracting. Clarification was made to the minutes of October 26th with respect to the report from the Buildings and Grounds meeting. The approved minutes will reflect the change.

Items listed on the Consent Agenda for approval include the following:

- ✓ Regular Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2011
- ✓ Board Bills \$702,392.32 Bill Addendum \$25,012.92
- ✓ Treasurer's Report
- ✓ Discard Closed Session Audio Recordings: 4/27/10

Motion by Ross and seconded by Langlois to approve the Consent Agenda as modified.

Roll Call

Ayes: Langlois, Johnson, Bianchini, Irslinger, Ross, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6 – 0

Public Input

None

Reports

Revenue/Expenditure Report, Special Education Revenue/Expenditure Report, Imprest Report, ISDLAF Report, Transportation Report

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent

Dr. Oest shared the following information with the Board:

- Reminder that the December Board meeting will be Tuesday, December 20th
- HB 3793 calling for a cap on the tax extension was soundly defeated.
- SB2437 regarding superintendents of Regional Offices of Education (ROE) was amended and approved for a period of one year. Salaries will come out of the Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax. A commission will be established to look at streamlining services and possibly reducing the overall number of offices.
- SB512 (Pension Reform) made it out of committee on a 5/4 vote, but has not been called out on the floor to date. It is not expected to go away.

- Information has been shared with Board Members, staff, and posted on the website regarding the Performance Evaluation Reform Act. Meetings with administrators will continue.
- Information shared from the School Report Card included:
 - ✓ Yearly operating expense per pupil - \$8,506
 - ✓ If tuition students were accepted, the yearly cost would be \$7,324
 - ✓ Comparison between per pupil operating costs and student scores shows that D2 does very well
 - ✓ The AYP threshold for the next 2 years is 92.5%
 - ✓ The AYP summary was shared. D2 did not make AYP in Math and Reading due to two subgroups failure in meeting AYP
 - ✓ A sample of the new proposed school report card was shared – to be in effect for FY2013.

Business Manager

Mrs. Levendoski had no additional information to share at this time.

Student Board Member Report

Alec Weiland reported on the following school activities:

- ✓ Mr. Z's PTO fundraiser
- ✓ 7th and 8th grade basketball teams successful start to the season
- ✓ 8th Graders field trip to the Holocaust museum.
- ✓ NMS families Veterans Wall of Fame
- ✓ Breast Cancer Awareness Week
- ✓ Upcoming Student Council Dance December 23rd

SGE Principal Report

Mr. Pittman shared the success of the penny drive fundraiser used to fund the honor flight costs for Veterans to fly to Washington DC to visit the memorial. The fundraiser was led by Mrs. Kaczmarek. Students and staff raised \$1,000. The check was presented to Honor Flight Chicago during the Veterans Day program held at the school.

Mr. Pittman addressed the results reported in the Illinois State Report Card for Spring Grove Elementary, as well as the School Improvement Plan. SGE was successful in meeting their AYP goal of 85% with a Meeting/Exceeding score of 86.6 in Reading and 93.1 in Math. Next year will also be the first year that SGE will include a "low income" sub group.

Objectives have been identified with strategies and activities listed in specific categories. Assessment tools will be utilized and data reviewed. The overall objective is to have 92.5% of students in the meet/exceed category. Progress monitoring will occur every two weeks. Professional development will be provided for every staff member. Parent involvement will increase with more communication, updates from teachers and volunteer options.

RGS Principal Report

Mr. Augustyn spoke of the activities taking place in honor of American Education Week. Each grade level takes a part in thanking a segment of "the bigger village". The 4th graders prepared a binder containing thank you notes for the Board of Education. Mr. Augustyn also thanked the administrative team as a whole for their assistance in

preparing the School Improvement plan and his transition to principal of Richmond Grade School.

RGS was successful in meeting the 2011 AYP. The objective for next year will be to have 92.5% of all students meeting AYP. Mr. Augustyn referenced Mr. Pittman's comments, stating that RGS will incorporate many of the same initiatives and will be using ISTEEP and other available sources to provide data driven objectives and interventions to prepare students for the 2012 challenge.

The RGS success in meeting the 2011 AYP was inclusive of a subgroup. RGS also has a significant ELL population. With 22 identified students, six of which will be in the 3rd and 4th grades next year. Special interventions will be made available to these students, including SRA's Language for Learning. Parents will continue to be notified of progress. Curriculum nights will specifically address the implementation of the response to intervention period. A RtI block of time is used by all students with each grade level determining the focus. For example, in third grade one day per week will focus on Second Step which addresses students social/emotional needs, one day is focused on writing and three days are focused on math.

NMS Principal Report

NMS did not meet AYP, though were in the top 5 of the 22 middle schools in the county. The goal for 2012 AYP is 92.5%. General Ed. students basically met the goal both this year and last, but incorporating scores of the two subgroups, dropped the overall percentage. While not enough to make AYP, growth has occurred every year. The goal will be to have all students meet AYP. There is some concern about the slow movement from meet to exceeds, as well as concern for keeping students in the meet/exceeds categories. The size of the subgroups has increased by approximately 20%. Data is being used to further understand how the groups are changing. Delivery of instruction models change yearly to accommodate for the changes.

Reading comprehension continues to be a difficult area for the students. Much of middle school text is informational reading. Initiating the "Culture of Literacy" is hoped to improve comprehension. Several other interventions and assessment tools will be used including ISAT, Star Reader, and Scantron. More professional development in differentiated instruction is needed.

Special Education Director Report

Dr. Miller reported that she and Mrs. Veillon have scheduled and facilitated a series of meetings with District 2 Structured Support Teams and District 157 Applied Learning Teams for the purpose and focus of developing a consistent vision, philosophy, and purpose while aligning the curriculum to Common Core Standards and also being responsive to the students' unique needs. The districts have functioned independently and the thought is to work collaboratively to look at the end goal and then work back from that point to further develop scope and sequence to vertically and horizontally align skills and activities.

Dr. Miller also provided an update on the IPAD Pilot program. Special Ed Teachers and related service staff have been asked to research and experiment with the ways in which this technology might supplement their instruction and then to provide feedback to the

department. The Tech Department was thanked for being very responsive in assisting with the downloading of APPS.

Curriculum Director's Report

Mrs. Veillon provided a review of the cohort groups data analysis related to the school report card and noting that early elementary class sizes are lower than the state average (a specific decision made by past Boards of Education) and the instructional minutes per week are approximately half that of the state average. In conclusion, D2 staff is doing an excellent job in maximizing their instructional time with students.

Other items highlighted included:

- Expenditures are more related to instruction than to administration
- Operational expenditures per pupil reflect fiscal responsibility
- Above average in all state tests
- Science scores are high in 4th and 7th grade and reflect components of thinking skills as reflected on the test. Student and teacher self reflection is incorporated by beginning class with posting objectives for the day.
- Historically, girls are better readers. Boys are better in Science. D2 boys' scores are growing and D2 girls continue to have interest in Math and Science; bucking the trends.

Mrs. Veillon also shared information in the form of bar graphs to show the ISAT longitudinal score analysis in Reading and in Math.

Old Business

None

New Business

Buildings and Grounds Committee Update

The Buildings and Grounds Committee met last Wednesday to continue discussing the prioritization of projects at each of the three buildings. Public input was shared with respect to the SGE 5th grade mobile. Concern was expressed about the air quality, the age of the mobile and health concerns for the children. Response was given by Dr. Oest who shared that recent testing revealed that there were elevated readings of yeast, but no violations. Further review will be made prior to more fully responding to the concern. Another inquiry was made about the District's Meyer Road property. With decreasing enrollments, more classrooms may be returned from the mobiles to the building.

Life Safety issues in the A and B categories have all been addressed. Two of the three items listed under the C (recommended) category have been addressed and the third is included in the prioritization list. District 2 participated in the Lake County Regional Office of Education Life Safety visit. Minor issues have already been addressed. Installation of an alarm is being required for the SGE Boiler room and strobe lights in the NMS washrooms. These projects are near completion.

A larger concern is the NMS piping with regards to the heating system. It has been determined that sending a camera through the pipes would not be cost effective. Interventions have been introduced (pipe replacement, flushing of boilers, addition of filters and use of chemicals) and it is recommended that we wait to see if these interventions will cure some of the problems. Converting the system over to a water

based system like the other buildings as opposed to steam would be a solution, but a very large and costly one.

Other concerns include:

- NMS roof needs attention and professional assessment. It is hoped that the district architect would provide this service free of charge.
- Air Conditioning costs for each building. This is not a plan of action, just investigation of what the cost would be if a decision was made to provide air conditioning to each of the buildings.
- RGS Boiler repair – more specifically, a summer project to re-pipe and replace the control panel.
- NMS summer project to also transfer operations of the boiler to a control panel.

Some of the items on the prioritization list are actually projects that can be handled in-house. Mr. Cesario will move forward with obtaining estimates on the larger projects. Mrs. Anderson thanked the committee for their efforts.

FOIA Requests

None at this time.

2011 Resolutions of Intent to Levy

Mrs. Levendoski shared the estimated EAV for District 2 from the McHenry County Clerk's Office; approximately \$373 million which is approximately what the EAV was 6 or 7 years ago. The projected tax extension increase over last year is \$281,547 and 2.3400% is the projected percent of increase over the previous year.

The 2011 Levy request is for \$12,426,000 reflecting a 3.2997% increase over the prior year extension which is our computed limiting rate computed by the county. Changes to the 2011 Levy include a reduction in fund 50, a \$15,000 increase in fund 90 and an increase in Transportation. Review will continue between now and the December Board meeting.

Motion by Irslinger and seconded by Maurer to approve the Resolution Regarding Estimated Levy Amounts for 2011.

Roll Call

Ayes: Maurer, Irslinger, Langlois, Johnson, Bianchini, Ross, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried 7 - 0

Illinois School Report Card

The Illinois School Report Card was previously discussed in detail. The School Report Card has been posted on the district websites and made available to staff.

Board Goals Implementation

Dr. Oest provided an update on progress made towards the Board Goals. Progress is on target with the established timeline. Mrs. Anderson offered to prepare the first quarterly highlights to be posted to the websites in January.

District Vision and Mission Statement

As requested, Dr. Oest contacted IASB to obtain costs for providing assistance with creating a new District Vision and Mission Statement. The cost for an IASB consultant is \$600 for 4 hours and \$1000 for a full day. The district would determine the structure and

the time frame and then the consultant would facilitate the process. Following discussion of possible options and given the generous time frame allotted for accomplishing the goal, general consensus was to establish a committee to further investigate the options. Dr. Oest will share with the committee, all of the information that he has gathered on the subject. Mrs. Anderson requested that the committee be comprised of Mr. Johnson and Mr. Irslinger, who in turn, accepted.

Annual Title I Parental Involvement Policy

Motion by Langlois and seconded by Bianchini to approve the district-wide parental involvement policy, local school parental involvement policy, and the school-parent compact as submitted.

Roll Call

Ayes: Bianchini, Maurer, Ross, Irslinger, Langlois, Johnson, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried 7 – 0

Donation of Surplus/Obsolete Equipment

Interest has been expressed in the NMS bleachers to be used at Thelen Park in Spring Grove. The bleachers are not currently being used.

Motion by Irslinger and seconded by Johnson to approve the donation of the NMS outdoor bleacher equipment to Thelen Park, due to the obsolete nature of the bleachers to D2.

Roll Call

Ayes: Maurer, Ross, Irslinger, Bianchini, Langlois, Johnson, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried 7 – 0

Joint Committee on Honorable Dismissals

Dr. Oest shared a piece of literature regarding the changes to Teacher Reductions in Force and the new requirements. A joint committee must be established and will include two teachers, Dr. Oest and Mrs. Anderson. The committee must hold their first meeting by December 1st. The meeting has been set for November 29th at 4:00 P.M. One of two important upcoming deadlines is February 1st; the date by which the committee must reach agreement on any modifications to the definitions of groupings of teachers based on performance evaluations. The 2nd deadline relates to the sending of reduction in force notices. The deadline for sending RIF notices has been changed from 60 days to 45 days prior to the last day of school.

Public Input

Mrs. Ruzbasan wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and thanked the Board for allowing the installation of blinds in her classroom.

A brief discussion ensued about the changes in holiday programs.

Closed Session

Motion by Maurer and seconded by Ross to move into Closed Session at 9:05 P.M. to consider information pertaining to the appointment, employment, dismissal, performance, discipline and compensation of employees of the district, and Imminent Litigation.

Roll Call

Ayes: Ross, Maurer, Langlois, Irslinger, Johnson, Bianchini, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried 7 – 0

Return to Open Session at 10:30 P.M.

Action after Closed Session

Dr. Oest reminded the Board that teacher Eva Weber was retiring at the end of the first semester. Amanda Burrows is being recommended as her replacement.

Motion by Langlois and seconded by Irslinger to employ Amanda Burrows as a full-time teacher effective January 3, 2011.

Roll Call

Ayes: Maurer, Ross, Bianchini, Johnson, Langlois, Irslinger, Anderson

Nays: None

Motion Carried 7 - 0

Mindy Ross left the meeting during Closed Session.

Adjournment

Motion by Maurer and seconded by Langlois to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:31 P.M.

Voice Vote

Ayes: 6

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6 - 0

Next Regular Meeting December 20, 2011

Board of Education of Nippersink

School District 2

ATTEST:

Board Secretary

Board President

December 20, 2011