



School District of Altoona

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Dr. Connie Biedron, Superintendent

www.altoona.k12.wi.us

ALTOONA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting
District Board Room
809 7th Street West
April 4, 2016
6:30 p.m.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Altoona Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Helen Drawbert at 6:30 p.m. in the District board room.
2. Roll call was taken and the following were present:
Helen S. Drawbert, President
Robin E. Elvig, Vice President
Michael J. Hilger, Clerk
Bradley D. Poquette, Treasurer
David A. Rowe, Member
Dr. Connie Biedron, Superintendent
Joyce M. Orth, Board Secretary
3. Reading of Public Notice. All posting requirements were met and posting places are noted: Altoona City Hall, Altoona Post Office, school district office, high school office, middle school office, and elementary school office.
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Rules for Meeting
6. Approval of Minutes. a. March 7, 2016 Regular Meeting. Motion by Rowe to approve the Regular Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Hilger. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. b. March 29, 2016 Special Meeting. Motion by Poquette to approve the Special Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Rowe. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Public Participation. a. Non-Agenda items - public comment and concern. (1) Helen Drawbert shared a reminder of tomorrow's Spring Election. School board members Brad Poquette and David Rowe are running unopposed. Helen also noted the March 30 Leader-Telegram article, "Early Retirement Policies Changed for Principals" and clarified that the changes in early retirement saved the district between \$5.5 and \$6 million. High school teacher Jon Lueck, a member of the Master Singers was recognized. (2) Claire Pszeniczny, board representative, presented the Student Update. Recent and upcoming events highlighted include the Poetry Outloud Competition, Forensics, annual blood drive, student council state conference, Prom, Grim Reaper, and Parents Who Host Lose the Most campaign. The student council is sponsoring the April 13 blood drive. Claire also announced the 3rd quarter Railway winners.

(3) Brooke Kaldor, school counselor, parent and resident congratulated Jeff Pepowski and Gary Pszeniczny on their early retirement and recognized them for their leadership. Claire Pszeniczny was also recognized for her work with the school board and student body. Heather Burich Holle, school counselor and Tim Camlek, parent, also thanked and recognized the two principals and their years of service. b. Agenda items - public comment and concern. None.

8. Treasurer's Report. a. Approval of Checks for Payment. Motion by Elvig to approve General Fund checks totaling \$1,241,719.13 and Student Activity Fund checks totaling \$5,385.71 as presented, seconded by Rowe. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
9. Information. **a. School Showcase.** (1) Meet our Foreign Exchange Students. Four foreign exchanged students were introduced and welcomed: Joan Campins Abrines, Hugo Galera Leblanc, Marcelo Garcia Munoz and Carl Richard Zahn. **b. Committee Reports.** None. **c. General Information.** None. **d. President's Report.** (1) WASB Spring Academy. Spring Academy Workshops will be held at various locations in May. **e. Superintendent's Report.** (1) Alternative Education Program Proposal. The program proposal was reviewed and questions answered. With approval, the Altoona Alternative Learning Center would open for the 2016/17 school year, providing an alternative pathway to graduation. (See 10.e.) (2) Achievement Gap Reduction Program and Instructional Coaching Model. The Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) program, created under §118.44 to replace SAGE will provide more flexibility. Participating schools will be required to implement one of three strategies or a combination thereof: (1) small class sizes of 18:1 or 30:2 and professional development related to small group instruction, (2) data-driven instructional coaching for teachers, (3) data-informed one-to-one tutoring for students at risk of difficulty with math or reading. Our district will sign a five-year AGR contract beginning in 2016/17, utilizing a literacy coaching model. (3) Voluntary Retirement for Support Staff. The proposed Voluntary Retirement clause for support staff was reviewed. A provision for employees with 20 years of service will be added, and the proposal will be included on the April 18 agenda for action (see 10.c.). (4) Onsite Mental Health Counseling. Agreements are in the works with Marriage and Family Health Services Ltd and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin to provide onsite services from licensed professionals. (5) On Track for the Future! Building Projects Update. Dr. Biedron reviewed the current status of projects. The Grand Opening of the Altoona Elementary School is scheduled for August 25. (6) Studer Education Update. Leadership team members have completed the initial pilot scorecard process. The Parent Engagement Survey period will open on April 11. (7) Monthly Enrollment Report. Student enrollments as of March 21 were presented: Pedersen, 594; intermediate school, 248; middle school, 316; and high school, 424 for a total of 1582. (8) Other Meetings, News and Events (Items announced in this category are not intended for discussion). Dr. Biedron announced the upcoming interviews scheduled for this week and next.
10. Board Action after Consideration and Discussion. a. Consider Resignation of Girls Basketball Head Coach. Motion by Elvig to accept the resignation of Ryan Wundrow as girls' basketball head coach as presented, seconded by Rowe. Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

b. Consider Recommendation to Fill Extracurricular Positions. Motion by Elvig to employ coaches for the 2015/16 season as recommended, Jess Lehman, middle school girls' soccer; Steve Lippert, high school girls' track assistant; and Chris Anderson, high school boys' golf, seconded by Hilger. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

c. Consider Change in Voluntary Retirement Provision for Support Staff. No action taken.

d. Consider Amendment of Policy 345.6 – Graduation Requirements. Motion by Elvig to amend 345.6 as presented, seconded by Poquette. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

e. Consider Approval of Alternative Education Program Proposal. Motion by Drawbert to approve the alternative education program proposal as presented, seconded by Elvig. Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Adjournment. Motion by Rowe to adjourn at 8:17 p.m., seconded by Elvig. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Regular Meeting of the Altoona Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, April 18, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the District board room.

Joyce M. Orth CAP, Board Secretary

District Clerk

Date

The vision of the Altoona School District, in partnership with our students, their families, and our community, is to build a foundation for life-long learning and the emotional well-being of our students. We are dedicated to offering large school opportunities with a small school approach.