



School District of Altoona

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Dr. Connie Biedron, Superintendent

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ALTOONA BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
District Board Room
1903 Bartlett Avenue
December 5, 2016
6:30 p.m.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Altoona Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Robin Elvig at 6:31 p.m. in the District board room.
2. Roll call was taken and the following were present:
Robin E. Elvig, President
Helen S. Drawbert, 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. Report of notice was presented. 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. November 21, 2016 Regular Meeting. Motion by Drawbert to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Hilger. Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Public Participation. a. Non-Agenda items - public comment and concern. (1) Dave Rowe recognized the Altoona Lions for the lights display at 10th Street Park. The Altoona boy scouts and football team were also recognized for their part in the set-up. (2) Helen Drawbert mentioned the pending appointment of Betsy DeVos to education secretary. b. Agenda items - public comment and concern. None.
8. Treasurer's Report. a. Approval of Checks for Payment. Motion by Rowe to approve General Fund checks totaling \$713,935.95 and Student Activity Fund checks totaling \$5,057.49 as presented, seconded by Drawbert. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Information. **a. School Showcase.** (1) Lego Robotics: Team Adalwolfa. The all-girl middle school team, Adalwolfa, explained this year's First Lego League (FLL) challenge (Animal Allies) and shared their performance-pieces (five-minute creative skit and robot challenge) for the board and guests. This year's challenge required teams to identify a problem resulting from the interaction of people and animals. Adalwolfa chose to develop a solution for wolves attacking and killing cattle. Teams are also required to build and program their robot to complete assigned tasks in a two and one-half (2 ½) minute period. In addition, teams earn points at the competition for demonstrating FLL core values. Adalwolfa was one of five teams that qualified at Regionals to go on to Sectionals. Sectionals will be held in Oshkosh on December 10. (2) Student Representative's Update. Emily Studinski, student representative, shared an update noting the following recent or upcoming events: The Academic Decathlon, math club, DECA kick-off, PBIS focus groups, Time to Share and Railway Ties. (3) Partnerships in Comprehensive Literacy (PCL). Tara Betlach, instructional coach/reading specialist, gave an overview of the PCL model. A school-reform project dedicated to increasing student achievement, the model uses literacy as a tool for measuring school change in four interrelated areas of student learning, teacher knowledge, school culture and school processes. Tara's training with the University of Arkansas Little Rock will enable her to train others to be building-level coaches who will support model classrooms. In addition, model classroom teachers mentor other teachers within and across grade levels. Tara, along with Dr. Biedron, Joann Walker, and Andrea Steffen, attended a training session last week in Pembine, Wisconsin. Wisconsin school districts that have implemented the model include Fort Atkinson, Menomonee Falls, Waupun, Kaukauna, Pewaukee, Belleville and Pembine. **b. Committee Reports.** (1) Parks and Rec Committee. Brad Poquette shared an update from the November 28 committee meeting. Topics discussed included the Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan, the digital marquee policy, contracts with the Altoona Youth Softball, and fees for banners, brochure ads and facility rental. **c. Policy Discussion.** The following policies were discussed: 342.7 – Services/Programs for English Language Learners, 346 – Student Assessment, 361.2 – Library Media Center Material Selection and Reconsideration, 362.1 – Interlibrary Loan, 345.4 – Promotion and Retention of Students through 8th Grade, and 363.3 – Technology for Students with Special Needs. **d. President's Report.** (1) State Education Convention Registration. Convention registrations will be made this week to take advantage of the early bird discount. **e. Superintendent's Report.** (1) Enrollment Update Report. Student enrollments as of November 21, 2016 were reviewed: elementary school, 593; intermediate school, 221; middle school, 346; high school, 426 for a district total of 1586. (2) Proposed Calendar for 2016/17. The features of the proposed calendar were reviewed, and board members made suggestions for consideration. The Days and Hours worksheets were included in packets for each school. (3) Studer Education Update. Survey results will be rolled-out to the leadership team this week. Studer consultant, Dr. KK Owen will present a report to the board on January 9. Strategic planning focus groups are scheduled for January 10, 4:00 p.m. for staff and 7:00 p.m. for parents and community members. (4) On Track for the Future! Building Projects Update. Referendum spending is still being finalized. (5) Other Meetings, News and Events (Items announced in this category are not intended for discussion). Topics announced include upcoming meetings with the highway commissioner regarding parking at the elementary school and with representatives from Rettler Corporation concerning the options and planning process for a possible athletic complex.
10. Board Action after Consideration and Discussion. **a. Consider Resignation of Custodian**. Motion by Hilger to accept the resignation of Don Steinke as presented, seconded by Poquette. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. **b. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Custodial Position**. Motion by Rowe to approve the employment of Nicholas Hanson, custodian, as recommended, seconded by Hilger. Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. **c. Consider Recommendation for Increase in Substitute Teacher Pay**. Motion by Drawbert to approve the pay rate increase to \$110 per day for substitute teachers as recommended, seconded by Hilger. Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

d. Consider Final Adoption of Policy 342.11 – Independent Education Evaluation Policy. Motion by Drawbert to approve final adoption of Policy 342. 11 as presented, seconded by Rowe. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. e. Consider Resolution Supporting the WEDC Fab Lab Grant. Motion by Rowe to adopt the Resolution Supporting the WEDC Fab Lab Grant as presented, seconded by Hilger. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Adjournment. Motion by Poquette to adjourn at 8:29 p.m., seconded by Drawbert. Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Regular Meeting of the Altoona Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, December 19, 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.