



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
September 8, 2015
6:30 p.m.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Altoona Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Helen Drawbert at 6:31 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 M. Biedron, Superintendent
Joyce M. Orth, Board Secretary
3. Reading of Public Notice. Report of notice was given. 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. August 17, 2015 Regular Meeting. Motion by Elvig to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Rowe. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Public Participation. a. Non-Agenda items - public comment and concern. (1) Helen Drawbert welcomed Karen Owen from Studer Education. (See 9.e. (3).) (2) Dave Rowe mentioned that the soccer club had their first game last week. (3) Brad Poquette noted the article, "An Empty Desk" published in the September Queen of the Castle magazine. The article was written by Jeana Mickelson. (4) Helen Drawbert read excerpts from the article "UW Study Finds Poverty Affects Children's Brain Development" that was included in the current issue of the Wisconsin School News. 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 \$1,057,211.05 (Student Activity Fund checks totaling \$-0-) as presented, seconded by Hilger. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Information. **a. School Showcase.** (1) Summer Programs Update. Bonita Norberg, summer programs coordinator presented the update focusing for the most part on the RAIL program. This summer, the program served 335 students in grades K-6. She hopes to add an online registration process for next year. (2) Back to School Updates. Principals, Jeff Pepowski, Altoona High School; Gary Pszeniczny, Altoona Intermediate and Middle Schools; and Joann Walker, Pedersen Elementary, shared their back to school updates. **b. Committee Reports.** (1) Parks and Recreation Committee. The Parks and Recreation Committee met on August 24. The Parks and Recreation department office will be relocated to the Hobbs Sports Center. (2) Negotiation Committee. The Negotiation Committee met for a follow-up discussion regarding base wage increases on August 26. They will update the board in closed session. **c. General Information.** None. **d. President's Report.** (1) Board Development Session. October 6 and 13 were selected as possible dates for the session. Dr. Biedron will contact the presenter regarding his availability on those dates. Helen distributed copies of "The Key Work of School Boards" guidebook. (2) WASB Fall Regional Meeting. All board members will attend the Fall Regional Meeting scheduled for October 14 in Eau Claire. The program includes the election of a Region 4 Director. **e. Superintendent's Report.** (1) Monthly Enrollment Report. Preliminary enrollments as of August 31 were reviewed: Pedersen, 597; intermediate school, 249; middle school, 324; and high school 435 for a district total of 1,605. (2) School Year Calendar and Start and End Time Committees. Two advisory committees will begin meeting in September to discuss the 2016/17 calendar and potential start- and end-times for the school day. The first meeting for the School Day committee is scheduled for September 9. The Calendar committee will meet on September 15. Feedback will also be sought from the Parent Advisory Committee. (3) Proposal from Studer Education. Dr. Karen Owen, Studer Education shared background information about Studer Group and Studer Education. Over a three-year period, their results-driven approach to leadership development would include onsite visits to facilitate leadership development and coaching, access to Studer Education surveys and their online Scorecard tool, as well as complimentary registration for three seats at a Studer conference in each of the three-year period. The group is currently working with 12 Wisconsin school districts including Chippewa Falls. The board will take action on the proposal at the September 21 board meeting. (4) Recommendation for Administrative Restructuring. Dr. Biedron presented her recommendation and rationale for the assignment of Andrea Steffen to the intermediate school principal position effective in the 2016/17 school year. If approved, Andrea will serve both as the Director of Instruction and the intermediate school principal. See 10.e. (5) On Track for the Future! Building Projects Update. The Market & Johnson progress flyer for the elementary school was distributed, and current status noted. ADG will meet with a staff team from the intermediate and middle schools later this week. (6) Other Meetings, News and Events (Items announced in this category are not intended for discussion). Dr. Biedron will attend the State Superintendent's Fall Conference, September 16-18 in Madison.
10. Board Action after Consideration and Discussion. **a. Consider Retirement of Maintenance/Custodian Employee.** Motion by Rowe to accept the retirement of Ron Rieder effective December 31, 2015 as presented, seconded by Poquette. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. **b. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Middle School Playground Supervisor Position.** Motion by Elvig to employ Thaddeus Brown as playground/recess supervisor as recommended, seconded by Rowe. Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. **c. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Extracurricular Positions.** Motion by Rowe to approve the employment of coaches/advisors for the 2015/16 season as presented on the revised recommendation: Elissa Upward, head high school volleyball; Connie Oas, high school flags; Caitlyn Berlin, head middle school cross country; Courtney Bresina, head high school dance team; Lori Watt, middle school yearbook; and Michelle Mitch, high school graduation; seconded by Hilger. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. **d. Consider Adoption of Job Description for Maintenance.** Motion by Elvig to adopt the job description for Maintenance as presented, seconded by Rowe. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

- e. Consider Assignment of Intermediate School Principal Starting in 2016/17. Motion by Elvig to approve the recommendation for the assignment of Andrea Steffen to the intermediate school principal position as of July 1, 2016 (Director of Instruction and Intermediate School Principal), seconded by Drawbert. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, no; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 4-1. (See 9.e. (4).)
11. Anticipated Closed Session as Per Section 19.95(1) (c), (1) (e) Wisc. Statutes. Motion by Elvig to adjourn into closed session at 8:56 p.m., seconded by Hilger. Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. a. Consider Closed Session Minutes for August 17, 2015; b. Considering compensation of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility - Update from Negotiations Committee regarding compensation for staff 19.85(1)(c), (1)(e); c. Considering employment of a public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility 19.85(1) (c).
12. Reconvene into Open Session and Take Necessary Action. Motion by Rowe to reconvene into open session at 9:38 p.m., and take necessary action, seconded by Poquette. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. a. Consider Base Wage Increase for Custodial/Maintenance Employees. Motion by Elvig to approve the base wage increase of 2.12% for custodial/maintenance employees as recommended, seconded by Rowe. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. b. Consider Base Wage Increase for Teachers. Motion by Elvig to approve the base wage increase of 2.12% for teachers as recommend, seconded by Hilger. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. c. Reconsider Percentage Increase for Other Employees Previously Raised by 1.62%. Motion by Elvig to approve the base wage increase to 2.12% for employees that were previously raised by 1.62%, seconded by Poquette. Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0. d. Consider Approval of Step Schedule for Clerical/Aides, Custodial/Maintenance and Food Service Employee Groups. Motion by Elvig to approve the step schedule for clerical/aides, custodial/maintenance and food service employee groups as presented, seconded by Rowe. Elvig, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
13. Adjournment. Motion by Poquette to adjourn at 9:40 p.m., seconded by Hilger. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes; Drawbert, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

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.