

REGULAR MEETING
November 17, 2014

The Board of Education of the Independent School District of West Burlington met for a regular meeting at 7:00 PM on Monday, November 17, 2014 in the board room at 607 Ramsey Street in West Burlington. Presiding over the meeting was Vice-President Randall with members Day and Conner answering roll call. President Sanders was absent and Member Young arrived at 7:01 PM.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Day and seconded by Conner to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-1.

Visitors/Open Forum: 1 visitor was present

Miscellaneous Communications:

Approval of Consent Agenda – the following items were under the consent agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)
- B. Approval of Financial Statements
- C. Approval of Payment of Bills – the bills were audited by Jay Day: activity - \$6521.51; nutrition - \$17705.72 and gen/other - \$84234.63
- D. Open Enrollment – the following should be approved for open enrollment to West Burlington:

Alyvia Burton grade 4

The following should be approved for open enrollment to West Burlington under just cause:

Hope Loving grade 10

- E. Selected Personnel Issues
Resignation:
Football Cheerleading – Cindee Reed has submitted her resignation from this position.

Junior High Language Arts – It's recommended that Vivian Newman be hired for this position. She previously taught freshman English/writing at Iowa Wesleyan College.

Motion by Day and seconded by Young to approve the consent agenda with the addition of the hiring of Vivian Newman. Motion carried 4-0.

BUSINESS

Grade Level Cap Regulations: Mr. Schmitt went over the proposed class size cap regulation which would place a cap of 66 students per grade K-12. West Burlington resident students would always be allowed to attend. The enrollment numbers per grade would be closely monitored by the principals and the district office. Iowa Code would continue to be explicitly followed in regard to the open enrollment law. Once a grade cap is met, a waiting list would be developed by chronological order. All open enrollment applications must be completed and delivered to the superintendent's office. Siblings of currently enrolled student will not be a consideration.

The board held a lengthy discussion regarding whether there should be a cap; if there is no cap, what would those numbers be to the athletic classifications – moving from 2A to 3A; if there is a cap, what would be the best number and depending on the sections per grade, how many would that put per classroom. They also went through various scenarios of how to figure out the number of sections. Right now the average number of students per grade level is 67.8.

Mr. Hinrichs stated in grades K-3, 18 is the ideal number of students in order to receive the best education, although, he would be comfortable at 20 students per class.

Mr. Schmitt recommended the following: K-3 – 60; 4-5 – 66; 6-8 – 72 and 9-12 – 80. Steve Young made a motion to approve that recommendation but the motion failed due to lack of a second.

The board decided to bring the proposal back to the board table at the December 15th meeting.

Long Range Planning Process: The list of items for the long range planning is part of the board materials. The principals, along with Nate Prickett gave brief overview of what they will be developing. Mr. Snodgrass has the following; HS academics – how to expand the course offerings to include higher level classes and how to get students to take some of the higher math, etc. He also talked about the vocational programs and expanding the foreign language offerings. Mr. Hinrichs talked about the early child education and the transitional kindergarten put into place this year. Mr. Prickett explained facilities and grounds and Mr. Jones areas are JH achievement scores/improvement and professional development. Dave Roed and Jeff Housel will be at the December meeting to give their overview of technology and athletics/extra-curricular areas.

There should a draft for each of the plans ready for the January board packet.

SBRC Application: The district is requesting \$67,331 in spending authority. There were 11 students who open enrolled out in 2014 but were not open enrolled out in 2013. The purpose of the SBRC application is to preserve our spending authority for the outgoing \$67,331. The application deadline is December 1, 2014.

Motion by Day and seconded by Young to approve the SBRC application in the amount of \$67,331. Motion carried 4-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Principals' Reports: The PBIS team has been meeting every other week to work on discipline issues in order to help those students change their behavior. Conferences were held last week at the junior/senior high and Mr. Snodgrass stated that parent attendance was down. The district is part of the Jump Start program at SCC, along with 5 other districts, with the possible addition of New London and Ft. Madison. If they join, there will be a new partnership agreement in December. The program includes construction – there are no West Burlington students enrolled/computer graphics – 4 WB students enrolled/automotive – 3 students enrolled, including 1 female.

The elementary has started handing out Buddy Bags on Fridays. This is a program that supplies food for those students who may not have enough over the week-end. One hundred nine bags were handed out last Friday. The Lego League will have their first competition on Dec. 6.

Superintendent Report: The Reeds will be taking some students to Monmouth College on Dec. 6 and would like to use school vans if the board doesn't object. Mr. Schmitt will be talking to the Greater Burlington Partnership on Tuesday and will also be on the radio.

Items for Future Agendas: Mr. Day feels new football helmets are needed and would like to see a medical person at all games

Adjournment: Motion by Day and seconded by Young to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 PM. Motion carried 4-0.

Date Approved

Secretary

President