

REGULAR MEETING
February 16, 2015

The Board of Education of the Independent School District of West Burlington met at 5:00 PM on Monday, February 16, 2015 in the board room at 607 Ramsey Street in West Burlington. Presiding over the meeting was President Randall with all members answering roll call.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Day and seconded by Boughton to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Visitors/Open Forum: 6 visitors were present. Susan Vandenberg – feels the grade cap should stay at 63 per grade and have the 4th and 5th grades at 4 sections since they are already large. She feels that with the number of special ed students, a smaller class size is better so more 1-to-1 attention can be given. She also wants to know if there is a policy that proof of residence is needed for people moving into West Burlington. Will Godar – he is a 7th grade student and is a competitive swimmer. He would like the district to look into the possibility of sharing swimming with Burlington.

Miscellaneous Communications: Larisa stated that there will 2 Japanese students for next year.

Approval of Consent Agenda – the following were listed 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 Larisa: nutrition - \$19622.34; activity - \$9917.73 and gen/other - \$100505.76
- D. Open Enrollment – the following should be approved for open enrollment to West Burlington under “just cause”

Brody Neitzel grade 8
Cyrus Warner grade 8

- E. Selected Personnel Issues

Resignations

High School Student Council – Leah Eilderts has submitted her resignation from this position.

Recommendations

JH/HS Library Associate – It’s recommended that Elizabeth Carr be hired for this position and will be paid \$10.82 per hour.

Motion by Conner and seconded by Day to approve all items under the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

BUSINESS

Supplemental Aid Resolution: Great Prairie AEA is asking all local board to pass a resolution in support of the 4% SSA monies (formerly called allowable growth). The 4% “new money” still places the district in budget guarantee but is better than 1.25%.

Motion by Day and seconded by Conner to pass the supplemental aid resolution. After a roll call vote with all members voting “aye”, motion carried 5-0.

Football Program: Coach Breuer has talked with kids and at this point in time, there could be as many as 85-90 out for football. This means that more helmets, uniforms and pads, plus an additional coach would be needed. We currently have 4 paid coaches for football. Coach Breuer would like to get all new helmets and pass the old ones down to the junior high team. The purchase of 80 helmets would cost \$18,000 and 27 sets of pads would be \$7830 for a total of \$27,500. This could come from the sales tax fund as a one-time expenditure. Additional uniforms would cost \$5800 which could come from the activity fund. Depending on experience, an additional coach could cost approximately \$3600-\$3750.

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Jay felt that 2 additional coaches were needed but after discussion and input from Coach Breuer and others, it was decided that only 1 additional coach was needed right now. Later this spring/summer, the issue will be revisited to see exactly how many players there will be and see if it warrants another coach.

Motion by Ross and seconded by Day to add 1 additional football coach. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Day and seconded by Boughton to approve the purchase of 27 sets of shoulder pads and 80 football helmets. Motion carried 5-0.

Sharing Agreements: West Burlington hosts the following sports: wrestling (Notre Dame and Danville), softball, boys/girls track, and football.

Notre Dame hosts the following: boys/girls cross country, boys/girls golf, boys/girls tennis and boys/girls soccer (with New London).

Motion by Boughton and seconded by Day to approve the sports sharing agreements with Notre Dame. Motion carried 5-0.

Grade Cap Policy: The grade cap policy recommendation is a part of the board materials. After lengthy discussion, the board still needed more information before setting a number for class size. They would like to hear from the special ed teachers and the 4th and 5th grade teachers, plus have some public input. So it will be discussed again at the March 2nd work session.

Early Start Waiver and 2016 School Calendar: There are 2 versions of the FY16 calendar as part of the board materials – one starts on August 13th with the other one starting on Aug. 31st, which is current state law. There is a law being proposed which would move the earliest start date to the week of Aug. 23rd and allow no waivers. The deadline to apply for a waiver is March 16th.

Motion by Day and seconded by Boughton to apply for the early start waiver by March 15th. Motion carried 4-1.

Physical Plant and Equipment Levy Vote: It's recommended that the board approve the resolution calling for an April 7th special election asking voters to approve the \$1.34 per \$1000 taxable valuation. This would raise \$202,000 with \$100,000 being used for technology and \$100,000 for facilities upgrades and equipment purchases. There would also be an election for the open board seat.

Motion by Day and seconded by Ross to approve the resolution calling for an April 7th special election for the \$1.34 PPEL/board election. After a roll call vote with all members answering "aye", the motion carried 5-0.

Baseball/Softball Bleacher Proposal: This is the last step in completing the athletic facilities upgrades. For the baseball field, the bleachers would seat 138 and at the softball field, the bleachers would seat 246. The cost for all materials, delivered and installed would be \$37,826. It will cost approximately another \$10,000 for some concrete paving which brings the total cost to \$47,826.

The athletic boosters will commit \$15,000 to this project and the softball boosters have \$1,500 to put towards the bleachers. The remaining balance of \$31,326 will be paid from the sales tax balance.

Motion by Day and seconded by Ross to approve the baseball/softball bleacher project. Motion carried 5-0.

Iowa Public School Insurance Program: Our current property/casualty insurance carrier is EMC. Mr. Schmitt is asking the board to consider getting a quote from Iowa Public School Insurance Program to see if they would be any cheaper. Brian Carter is our EMC representative and provides excellent, prompt service. This insurance is paid from the management fund.

Motion by Day and seconded by Conner to get a quote from IPSIP. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds Report: Nate is going to start working on the baseball field this spring such as clean up base paths and infield, new dirt and new sod and get all edges cleaned up. Paint circles around pitcher's mound and home plate and infield irrigation system tested and repaired if necessary. After the season, remove sod or till up any low/high spots in outfield, fill any low spots with black dirt, spread starter fertilizer and seed. The full report is a part of the board materials.

Principals' Report: Mr. Jones stated the Iowa Assessments have started with the incentive the same as last year – depending on improvement, could qualify for open campus for lunch for 4th quarter. There was a decent turnout for conferences last week. On Feb. 24, there will be freshman orientation.

Mr. Hinrichs reported the elementary will have a speaker at 3:30 on Feb 17th regarding “The Leader in Me”. They have also started the Iowa Assessments and are looking at a new math series for next year.

Superintendent Report: Work session on March 2 will start at 6:00 as there will be a number of things being discussed.

Items for Future Agendas: possible sharing a swimming program with Burlington, graduation information, look at more lighting in NE corner of baseball field

Adjournment: Motion by Day and seconded by Ross to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 PM. Motion carried 5-0.

Date Approved

Secretary

President