

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting
De Soto Middle/High School LMC 7:00 P.M.
Monday, January 19, 2015

MEMBERS

Present

Rick Pedretti, President

Jess Boardman, Vice President

Dan Fladhammer

Geri Fox

Jeff Long

Dean Penkalski

Kevin Walleser

Tarasa Lown, Clerk

James Kuchta, Superintendent

Absent

Kirk Holliday

The Regular meeting of the De Soto Area School District Board of Education was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, January 19, 2015, by Board President Rick Pedretti. All Board members were present except Kirk Holliday.

The meeting was publicized by posting on the school doors, banks and post offices in De Soto, Ferryville, Genoa and Stoddard, Pedretti's in Genoa, Pronto in De Soto, and Red Mound Store on 1/15/2015, printed in the Broadcaster on 1/15/15 and broadcast over WVRQ Radio.

Motion was made by Dan Fladhammer and seconded by Dean Penkalski to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Public comment time:

None.

Committee and other reports:

The Personnel and Finance Committee met on January 7th to discuss teacher compensation. The Policy Committee also met on January 7th to review the policies included on tonight's agenda for First Reading. On January 12th, the Curriculum Committee met to discuss new course offerings and program and curriculum modifications.

New Course Offerings: New course offerings and curriculum modifications were presented for Board consideration. Motion was made by Jess Boardman and seconded by Geri Fox to approve the following new course offerings: Introduction to Automotive, Cabinetry, Introduction to Manufacturing, Computer Programming 1, Computer Programming 2, Lifetime Activities and Introduction to Aviation Ground School. Motion carried.

Early Graduation Request:

No action taken.

Motion was made by Dean Penkalski and seconded by Jeff Long that the receipts and expenditures, vouchers #40173 - #40322 in the amount of \$485,165.27 be approved. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Geri Fox and seconded by Jess Boardman to approve the final construction expenditures from Fowler and Hammer and Vantage Architects for \$36,290.50 and \$14,000.00 respectively. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dean Penkalski and seconded by Dan Fladhammer that the minutes of the December 15, 2014 board meeting be approved. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dean Penkalski and seconded by Jess Boardman to approve the addition of two paid assistant coaches for the Boys & Girls Track program bringing the total paid coaches to one Head Coach and three assistant coaches for the 2015 season. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jeff Long and seconded by Tarasa Lown to approve the continuation of long term substitutes for the Guidance Counselor K-12 position. The offer would be to Stephanie Colsch 5 days/week and Kay Silvis 2 days/week for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year. Motion carried.

School Board Election: The Village of De Soto Board seat has three candidates so it will require a Primary. The School Board election is the only race in all but one municipality, so there is an option to close polling places based on the Government Accountability Board regulations and move those voters to a neighboring municipality for the February 17th Primary election. The decision was made to close the four polling locations that were allowed due to the cost incurred by the municipality to have a polling locations open and the estimated low turnout.

The following Board members have volunteered to canvass the votes on February 18th: Rick Pedretti, Jess Boardman, and one person to be determined.

Open Enrollment spaces for the 2015-16 school year were discussed. Motion was made by Dan Fladhammer and seconded by Dean Penkalski to not limit regular education open enrollment spaces into the De Soto Area School District. Motion carried. Motion was made by Dean Penkalski and seconded by Geri Fox to limit special education spaces based on space per grade level as indicated in the attachment for the 2015-16 school year. Motion carried.

WASB Resolutions were reviewed in preparation for the WASB delegation session which will be attended by Dean Penkalski.

Information was reviewed regarding the busing contract.

A first draft of the school calendar was reviewed. Motion was made by Dan Fladhammer and seconded by Geri Fox to approve the 2014-16 School Calendar. Motion carried.

Policies – First Reading:

531.3 Advisor/Coach Job Description – remove this as a school board policy and add this information to the Job Description Binder in the District Office in accordance with district policy.

652 Revenues from Investments – new policy

662.1 Student Activity Funds – new policy

723 Emergency Response Plans – reviewed

732.1 Food and Beverages in the Gymnasium – updated

821.1 District Newsletter – updated

830 Facility Usage – updated

Motion was made by Tarasa Lown and seconded by Dan Fladhammer to pass the first reading of the above policies. Motion carried.

Technical Education Scholarship: Motion was made by Geri Fox and seconded by Jeff Long to follow HEAB Guidelines for the Technical Education Scholarship for the 2014-15 school year. Motion carried.

Each board member received a web address and survey code to complete a school perception survey.

Donation:

Motion was made by Jeff Long and seconded by Geri Fox to accept the donation of approximately \$300 for a clock for the new gym from Shirley Alton in memory of her husband Dale Alton. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Geri Fox and seconded by Jess Boardman to approve the Youth Options request for Ben King for the Fall of 2015. Motion carried.

Reports

Principals' Reports:

Michael Chapes, Stoddard Elementary Principal, shared that Stoddard students took part in a spelling bee and a popcorn reading challenge over winter break. Both events went very well and were a great catalyst for literacy. Stoddard students also participated in a Math Challenge in Sparta. Teachers from all 3 buildings were recognized by the Stoddard Legion and the De Soto VFW.

Kelly Olson, Prairie View Elementary, reported that Prairie View students also participated in the spelling bee in conjunction with Stoddard. Mr. Olson reflected on the positive impact the elementary guidance services have provided.

Linzi Gronning, Principal De Soto Middle/High School, shared information about the teacher recognition event and also that 2 middle school students will be moving on to the next level of the spelling bee. Ms. Gronning also explained that the grading period will be adjusted slightly to accommodate the recent crisis at the Middle/High School.

Directors' Reports:

Caron Malin, Special Education Director, explained how her team is working on transitions for senior students. Ms. Malin also reported on Educator Effectiveness training and provided a DAC update.

District Administrators' Reports:

Jim Kuchta, District Administrator, reported on the following items:

Title 1 Services Adjustment – Added services to Stoddard and Prairie View Elementary for Math Intervention.

Correspondence – Rep. Thiesfeldt, Assembly Education Committee Chair

Baird Forecast Model

WASB 2015 Day at the Capitol – March 18

Items for the February 2015 board meeting:

Overview of the WASB convention.

Motion was made by Geri Fox and seconded by Tarasa Lown to adjourn. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Tarasa Lown, Clerk