

The Morning After
The monthly board of education meeting
Held Monday, December 10, 2011

The meeting was called to order, at 6:02 p.m., by Dr. Thomas Dunn at p.m. All members of the school board were in attendance.

Patron Discussion

Although there was no formal discussion on any of the agenda items, it should be noted that the MNEA representative brought Christmas cookies for the board.

New Business

The consent agenda was approved by unanimous vote

A report on the annual audit of the school district was presented to the board by Mr. Mike Catlett of Catlett and Associates, LLC. According to Mr. Catlett the school district is financially sound, and is engaged in financial practices with sufficient checks and balances to ensure accuracy in all financial reporting. The district has an unrestricted fund balance of 21% of annual operating expenses. Copies of the audit are available in the Superintendent's office.

The board reviewed MSBA policy GBH related to staff and student relations. This policy has drawn attention in the media as the "Facebook Law." The policy delineates the nature of staff student interactions, including the use of electronic communication. This was the first read of the policy by the Board of Education.

Mrs. Kell presented the board the most recent version of the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). The new plan has been streamlined to reflect the current focus of the school district in regard to student performance, highly qualified staff, facilities, and parental involvement.

Dr. Dunn spoke with the Board of Education and the administrative team regarding the document entitled, "School Resource Officer Agreement". Administrators voiced concern of wording in the document that might be restrictive to the effectiveness of a School Resource Office in the performance of their duties. The board asked the administrative team to discuss the issue and report back at the January meeting of the Board of Education.

The Board agreed to an extension of the lease on the building in which the Exceptional Child Cooperative is currently based.

The administrative team discussed concerns with classroom size for Special Education classrooms. Based upon the number of students transitioning to the Middle School next year, and specific space requirements of the students, the concern is that our current classroom allocations will not be adequate

to the needs of the program. The administrative team discussed options for relocation of classrooms to accommodate the imminent need.

Program Evaluations

Guidance – The board heard the report from representatives of the district’s guidance counselors.

Principals’ Reports

Building administrators answered questions from the board regarding their monthly, written, reports. The board noted their appreciation for the inclusion of classroom activities in the reports from the building administrators.

Closed Session

Six new substitutes were approved: Julia Pounds, Brett Crewse, Ashli Todaro, Debra Brown, Cheryl Thurman, and Jerica Hayes (cafeteria).

The Board hired Brandon Sigman as a paraprofessional for the second semester of the 2011-2012 school year.

The Board appointed Scott Dill as half time acting Superintendent for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year.