

**DeForest Area School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes,
Monday, September 12, 2011 – 6:00 pm.**

1. Convene

President Jan Berg called the September 12, 2011 meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:05 pm.

Board members present: Jan Berg, Mike Hirsch, Dave Miller, Kate Lund, Marty Palus, and Sue Paulson. Trisha Rodekamp participated via conference call. Absent was Steve Tenpas. Also present were administrators Jon Bales, Vickie Adkins, Diane Pertzborn and Ann Higgins.

Jon Bales verified that the meeting was properly noticed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

On a motion by Paulson, seconded by Palus, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the agenda was approved.

Mike Hirsch recited the DeForest Area School District's Mission and Vision Statements.

2. Appearances Before the Board of Education

Public Input: None.

Student Representatives: Newly appointed student representative, Rileigh Hawk, was introduced. She provided the Board with a report on homecoming events planned for Homecoming Week, Oct. 2 –Oct. 8. Highlights include a community pep rally on Oct. 3, parade and football game on Oct. 7 and homecoming dance on Oct. 8. She also reported on the availability and use of wireless internet at the high school and on an article about college level preparedness in the area of reading.

3. Board Business

A. Ends Discussion

- 1.) Review of 2011-2012 School Staffing and Enrollment – Ann Higgins (EL 2: Communication and Support to the Board)

Discussion: Director of Administrative Services, Ann Higgins reported a smooth start to the school year. There were increased opportunities for orientation this year including; Sneak-A-Peek day for 4K students, backpack nights at the elementary schools, a new student and family breakfast at the middle school and freshman orientation day in August with Norski mentors assisting the freshman. The high school also held a breakfast for new students and parents.

Enrollment numbers at elementary, middle and high school levels continue to remain flat. The addition of the 4K program increases overall enrollment by approximately 235 students. These students provide a .6 FTE (full time equivalent) for revenue purposes. Currently there are 58 elementary classrooms with 95% of all classes at 22 students or less. At the middle and high school levels, class sizes range from 20-29, with an average of 25 students per class. To accommodate increased student need, an additional educational assistant was added at the High School and one at the elementary level.

Higgins also reported on changing student demographics. In the past couple of years, the district has experienced an increase in the number of homeless families, as well as those eligible for free and reduced breakfast and lunch. Transportation arrangements have been made for those who qualify for homeless support.

2.) Discussion of Board Annual Calendar, Linkages and BOE Goals for 2011-2012 (GP 1: Role of the Board; GP 3: Approach to Governance; GP 11: Annual Calendar)

Discussion: Board members considered scheduling linkage opportunities with stakeholder groups, municipal officials, 4K staff and multi-age teachers, and Framework 2.0 participants. Updates and observations from multi-age teachers and 4K staff should be scheduled after first semester. Discussion will continue at a future meeting as to structure, frequency and desired outcomes for linkages with stakeholder groups, municipal officials and Framework participants. The Board also reviewed the proposed annual calendar and noted their policy review assignments.

3.) High School Facilities Improvement Update (EL 10: Facilities; Ends 4.0: Building Community/Adding Value)

Discussion: Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, Diane Pertzborn reported on progress with the high school facilities improvement and bleacher replacement project. The conceptual designs have been presented to Rotary, Grid Iron club, Youth football groups and coaches. In addition, designs have been shared at the high school during the last two home football games. Feedback from groups has been very positive and supportive. After a recent meeting with representatives from the Village of DeForest, meetings have been scheduled with zoning, public works and the village board. An application will be submitted for review. The Village board meeting is September 21st, the Public Works meeting is September 26 and the Planning and Zoning meeting is September 27. In addition, a fundraising plan is being developed and opportunities for Board members to become involved in presentations about the project will be discussed at future board meetings.

B. Consideration for Board of Education Action

1.) Consideration of rescheduling October 10, 2011 regular Board meeting (GP 3: Approach to Governance)

Discussion: Miller explained a presentation at the PAC on the evening of October 10 that could conflict with Board member attendance at the regular Board meeting; therefore he suggested rescheduling the Board meeting to avoid a potential lack of a quorum.

On a motion by Hirsch, seconded by Lund, the DeForest Area Board of Education rescheduled the October 10, 2011 regular Board meeting to October 11, 2011 beginning at 5:40 pm due to a scheduling conflict. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

4. Agenda Planning

- A. Refer to Annual Calendar
- B. Policy review

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Accept Minutes – August 22, 2011 regular meeting.
- B. Required Approvals

Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report

Void: None.

Paid: 178517 – 178591, 178598 – 178781.

Budget Transfer: None

Personnel Recommendations:

I. Separations:

Katherine Ashley – resigning as Mock Trial Head Coach - DAHS

II. Leaves:

None

III. Transfers:

None

IV. Appointments:

Brittany Hassinger – ELL Teacher 40% 2011-12 School Year Only – DAMS – replacing Elizabeth Marcott

Jeff Stern – 5th & 6th Grade Student Council Advisor - DAMS

Jennifer Bohler – 6th Grade Job Share – DAMS – replacing Erin Sipe

Chrissy Ault – Educational Assistant – EPES – new position

V. Reassignments:

None

VI. Other:

None

C. Accept Monitoring Reports

1. Administrative Monitoring Status Reports

On a motion by Miller, seconded by Hirsch, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the Consent Agenda was approved.

6. Linkages

Board Members: Paulson, Berg and Bales attended the New Teacher Orientation day on August 25 and participated in the bus tour of the District and luncheon. Tenpas, Paulson and Berg attended the welcome back convocation on August 30. Berg, Rodekamp and Bales spoke about the District at a recent Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Sept. 6. Paulson announced that the District is the recipient of two DeForest Area Foundation grants. A grant for \$2,000 will be used for signage at the Big Hill. A grant for \$3,252 will be used for a podium and microphone at the Performing Arts Center in the High School. Miller will again participate in the Adopt-A-Class program with Morrisonville Elementary School, representing Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc. Hirsch commented on the benefits of longevity and years of experience on the DeForest Area School Board, noting that other area boards are not as fortunate.

Administration: Bales reminded the Board about upcoming opportunities for Board development. The WASB /WSAA School Law Seminar is on Oct. 14. The WASB Fall Regional Meeting is Oct. 18. The WASB Personnel and Employment Law Seminar is Sept. 29 – 30. The NSBA Annual Conference is April 21-23, 2012.

7. Press Verification

The press was given the opportunity to clarify any proceedings or notes.

8. Adjourn

The Board of Education adjourned at 8:06 pm on a motion by Miller, seconded by Lund, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

DASD BOE President

Date