

## BOARD NOTES

December 17, 2007

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Monday, December 17, 2007 with Rich Shail, Bernie Baltus, LuAnn Schwingendorf, Shelly Goethals and Al Williamson present. Mr. Wrightson was also present.

Rich Shail indicated that there were two additions to the Action items on the Agenda:

- “D” - Permission for the Treasurer to pay claims in December
- “E” - Grant the Treasurer permission to transfer funds among major accounts

The board approved the addition of the two agenda items.

The board adopted the agenda with the additions as noted.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION**

- Amy Mullen of Health Services gave a presentation. Amy indicated that we have one corporation nurse and five health assistants for a combined 55 years of service at New Prairie.

Amy distributed information that legislation has approved that affects the health services which include a change in scoliosis screening and the requirement of PMV to 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We are also required to form a health advisory committee. We will use our current Wellness Committee members and include the additional required members.

Amy indicated the new law that requires every teacher be certified in CPR and the Heimlich maneuver. She is also required to maintain and submit a Chronic Disease Log and diabetes treatment requirements.

Amy explained the MRSA which is a staff infection which can be found on the skin and membrane. She said over 50,000 people have this, but some people are resistant to penicillin type antibiotics. She said when you look at diseases, there are over 36,000 people who die from the flu versus MRSA. It is important to take universal precautions such as hand washing. The NPUSC is very conscious of maintaining the universal precautions in making sure we clean our mats, sanitizing floors, surfaces, etc. We have been very proactive in this area.

## **REASONS WE'RE PROUD**

- The board and superintendent recognized the efforts of Cody Williamson and Robert Croumlich for their football accomplishments and Kyle Smiley for his Cross Country accomplishments. All three were presented certificates .
- See attached Reasons We're Proud submitted by each school.
- Bernie Baltes indicated that the Rural Summit requested that a student serve on their committee and Clara Clark recommended Jessica Bealor. Bernie said he commends the committee for having a student serve. It was the group that wanted to give the grant to the schools. Jessica was a good choice.

## **REPORTS**

- Superintendent's Report
  - Mr. Wrightson received a letter from Barb Kipler, a New Prairie Bus Driver. She wanted to thank the corporation for allowing our drivers to take their buses home. She cited the article where a bus driver was killed in the transportation parking lot as the driver was trying to get to her bus. Another driver did not see her and she was killed.
  - Mr. Wrightson advised that our full-day kindergarten distribution from the state was \$792 per student for the year.
  - Mr. Wrightson read a letter of thanks from the Rolling Prairie Methodist Church to the principal and staff, and corporation for their assistance during the fire they experienced last year. The church utilized Rolling Prairie Elementary School until their church opened several weeks ago.
  - Lloyd Wood indicated he did not receive one phone call from anyone regarding the recent article in the Herald Argus regarding the installation of the bus radios. Rich Shail said he went on the web site that the article suggested. He said there were many negative comments, but they all referred to the fact that children had to listen to commercials.

- Mr. Wrightson indicated that the union has expressed many concerns regarding the middle school staffing. Mr. Wrightson reviewed the school budget calendar and the revenue and expenditures projected for 2008. Mr. Wrightson stated that when someone comes to you regarding concerns on the middle school, they should be directed to the middle school principal who will address them.
- Greg Dudeck reviewed the request by the New Prairie Little League for restroom facilities and a storage building in New Carlisle. They would like to place that behind their existing concession stand. Greg indicated that we have a lease with the Town of New Carlisle for that area. They will need to address their request with the Town. The Town would like to have restroom facilities installed near the skate park area. If the Town would decide to locate the restrooms in that area, we would then become involved because that is our property.
- Mr. Wrightson indicated that he forwarded legislative information to Tom Dermody and other legislators for consideration. He also reviewed information on the County Tax Adjustment Review. This plan is to be in effect in 2009.

Mr. Wrightson said Bernie had concerns as to where we stand with the per/pupil expenditures and why they don't start with the same amount for each school. Mr. Wrightson said when they went with the foundation formula, everyone was guaranteed \$4,760. Then it goes from there to those schools with the free/reduced, enrollments, etc. We had our levy frozen in 1972, but when the foundation formula was instituted, it changed. However, we are not getting the maximum amount.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- The board approved the Affidavit for Payment with Wells Fargo.
- The board approved the High School Curriculum Guide for 2008 which included the addition of a second semester of World History, instituting a German class and changes in the Bio-Chemical course.
- The board accepted the retirement/resignation of Mr. Wrightson, Superintendent effective June 30, 2008.

Rich Shail said he had the pleasure of serving on the board when they hired Mr. Wrightson and it has been a pleasure working with him during these past years. He said Mr. Wrightson has provided us with his knowledge and experience. Rich said we will be forever grateful to him.

- The board granted permission for the Treasurer to pay additional claims in December.
- The board granted permission for the Treasurer to transfer funds among major accounts as part of the end of the year procedures.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Dr. Bender reviewed the ISTEP results along with the building principals.
- The following policies were introduced for first reading:
  - #0133, #0144.5, 01, #0165.5, #0167.1, #1130, #3214, #3430,, #4214, #4430, #5320, #5330.02, #5540, #5610, #6320, #6460, #8330, #8400 and #8450A.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Al Williamson said we recognized the student athletes this evening, but we have to remember where they get their coaching from. We have had many state recognitions for our coaches. We have outstanding administrators as well.
- Al said when he came on the board, he knew nothing about being a board member. Duane Wrightson taught me what to do. Without his guidance and leadership, he said he does not know how he could have handled it. He came in at a very turbulent time. Look where we are today. He said we would not be here without you, Mr. Wrightson. We will miss you.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

An organizational meeting will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.