

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2010
MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of the Arrowhead Union High School District was called to order by President Joe LeBlanc at 7:51 p.m. in the North Campus Theater.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

President LeBlanc welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting and introduced the Board of Education: Sue Schultz (North Lake seat), Donna Vrakas (Hartland/Lakeside seat), Al Zietlow (Lake Country seat), Craig Thompson (Stone Bank seat), Jack Gutschenritter (At Large seat), Bob Rosch (Swallow seat), Mike Kusch (At Large seat), Kent Rice (Richmond seat), and himself (Merton seat). He also introduced the administrative staff: Craig Jefson (Superintendent) and Steve Kopecky (Business Manager).

Mike Kusch nominated Joe LeBlanc to serve as the Annual Meeting Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by Jack Gutschenritter. There were no other nominations presented. Joe LeBlanc was elected by voice vote to preside as the Annual Meeting Chairperson.

Moved by Bob Rosch, seconded by Sue Schultz to accept the 2009/2010 Treasurer's Report as summarized on pages 16-20 of the Annual Report Document. Motion Carried by Voice Vote. The complete Treasurer's Report will be available at the District Office when the 2009/2010 audit is complete.

REVIEW OF THE 2009/2010 SCHOOL YEAR –

Mr. Jefson's review of the past school year included information regarding measures that have been taken to provide a quality education with fiscal responsibility. Over the past three years, budget reductions/adjustments totaled \$2,241,088. In 2010/2011, projected budget reductions/adjustments total \$708,100. When compared to the ten union high school districts in the state, Arrowhead High School ranks 7th in cost per member and 8th in mill rate.

Mr. Jefson reviewed five areas in which student achievement is assessed: Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE), ACT composite scores, Advanced Placement (AP) testing, our Smart Goal – Curriculum and Instruction, and the District Report Card.

WKCE – This exam was given to all sophomores. In 2009/2010, the number of our students achieving a score of Proficient or Advanced reached an all-time high. In Reading, 95% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 76%; in Language Arts, 95% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 68%; in Math, 93% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 70%; in Science, 95% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 72%; and in Social Studies, 95% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 75%. Arrowhead High School ranked 5th in the state. Of the 4 schools ranked higher, their total combined student population was about 100. Arrowhead High School had over 550 sophomores take the exam. When compared to 11 other peer districts (comparable geographically and demographically), Arrowhead High School had the highest percentage of students scoring in the Advanced category. Among the peer districts, Reading scores from 8th to 10th grade declined between 2.9% to 12.5%. Arrowhead students in the class of 2011 and 2012 have seen Reading scores remain stable.

ACT composite scores –The 2009/2010 composite score for Arrowhead High School was 24.8, which is the highest score we have ever achieved. In comparison, the state composite score dropped to 22.1, and the national composite score remained at 21.1. In 2009/2010, 453 students took the exam.

AP testing – In 2001, 321 students took 554 AP exams, with 76% of the students achieving a score of 3 or higher. By comparison, in 2010, 524 students took 964 AP exams, with 80% of the students achieving a score of 3 or higher. In 2010, the number of students taking AP exams and the percentage of students achieving a score of 3 or higher reached an all-time high. Students who achieve a score of 3 or higher may obtain college credits as well as high school credits. At Arrowhead High School, we currently offer 17 Advanced Placement courses.

Curriculum and Instruction –

Smart Goal – Mr. Jefson reviewed curriculum and instruction initiatives related to our Smart Goal, which include Reading, Standards and Assessments, 2020 Action Plan, Recording and Reporting, Writing, and the Professional Collaboration Plan. Academic achievement goals are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely. Measures of academic achievement include the WKCE, ACT, AP, Explore, Plan, PSAT, and Departmental Goals Assessment.

District Report Card –

- Approximately 93% of our students continue on to post-secondary education, compared to the state average of about 73%.
- The Arrowhead High School graduation rate is 95.2%, compared to the state average of 89.4%; 1.8% of our students receive a high school equivalency diploma (HSED), compared to the state average of 0.9%. The overall graduation rate is 97%.
- Extra/Cocurricular Participation: 56.4% of our students are involved in academic programs outside of the regular school day, compared to the state average of 10.4%; 63.3% of our students are involved in athletic programs, compared to the state average of 12.2%; 29.5% of our students are involved in our music program, compared to the state average of 4.4%.
- The attendance rate at Arrowhead High School is 97.2%, compared to the state average of 94.4%. Our retention rate is .23%, well below the state average of 1.81%. Our dropout rate is 0.76%, also well below the state average of 1.681%.
- Arrowhead High School has 144 full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers; 75% have a masters degree or higher. Our pupil/staff ratio is 15.55, which is above the state average of 12.86.
- Our truancy rate is 0.5%, compared to the state average of 16.6%.

Mr. Jefson also reviewed several significant initiatives and major areas of focus during the 2009/2010 school year. In regard to the 'Arrowhead Experience' indicators of success, Mr. Jefson noted that based on the results of the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE), Arrowhead High School was ranked #1 among the 67 schools in CESA #1, was ranked #5 in the state out of 437 school districts in Wisconsin, and was ranked #1 among schools that have more than 300 10th graders. Based on our Advanced Placement (AP) scores, *Newsweek* recognized Arrowhead High School as one of the top 5% of public high schools in the nation for the past 5 years. In 2010, Arrowhead High School was ranked 942 out of 1,300 high schools. In 2009/2010, we had 1,261 students participating in 40 cocurricular academic programs, with a total of 2,353 academic participants.

Sports Illustrated ranked the top high school athletic programs in America and ranked Arrowhead High School #1 in Wisconsin. In 2009/2010, 5 of our athletic teams won state titles. We offer 33 varsity sports, 90 levels. In 2009/2010, we had 1,421 students participating in 40 athletic programs, with a total of 2,521 athletic participants. In 2009/2010, 4 of our athletic teams were recognized by the Classic 8 Conference for sportsmanship awards, with a total of 12 teams in the past 3 years.

Mr. Jefson noted that every academic and athletic program at Arrowhead High School is required to participate in a Citizenship Initiative. He highlighted several of them, including the Key Club, which was established at Arrowhead High School in 2009/2010 and has 625 members, which is the largest in the world.

There are many scholar athletes at Arrowhead High School. In 2008/2009, there were 72 male seniors with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher; 44, or 61.1%, were varsity athletes. There were also 97 female seniors with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher; 53, or 54.6%, were varsity athletes.

Mr. Jefson noted numerous staff recognitions in 2009/2010 and the new staff members in 2010/2011. In 2009/2010, eight staff members retired with a combined 239.5 years of teaching experience.

Mr. Jefson concluded by summarizing the initiatives for the 2010/2011 school year. He thanked everyone for coming this evening, for their support in educating our young people, and for taking the time to attend and participate in the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting. Arrowhead High School has a strong tradition of academic, extra and cocurricular excellence, outstanding students, highly qualified and dedicated staff members, and a supportive and generous community.

Chairperson LeBlanc thanked Mr. Jefson for his presentation, and on behalf of the school board and residents of the Arrowhead school district, he thanked Mr. Jefson for his continued commitment and efforts to maintain Arrowhead High School as one of the top high schools in the State of Wisconsin, as well as in the entire country.

Moved by Steve Eckels, seconded by Tim Steffen to authorize the Board of Education to set the date and time of the Annual Meeting during the month of August 2011. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

OLD BUSINESS – Steve Eckels stated that he objected to the book rental fee, as this is something taxpayers should provide. It was noted that the book rental fee allows the district to continue to provide students with textbooks that are up-to-date and that the class fees cover consumable items that will be used by the students in that class.

NEW BUSINESS:

Moved by Mike Kusch, seconded by Kathy Nelson to approve the book rental fee of \$74.00 for the 2010/2011 school year. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

Moved by Mike Kusch, seconded by Bob Rosch to set school board member annual salaries for the 2010/2011 school year at \$3,000.00 per board member. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

Moved by Steve Eckels, seconded by Jeff Radakovich to approve the tax levy for Operations, Long-Term Debt Service, and Community Service in the amount of \$18,000,000 for the 2010/2011 school year.

Chairperson LeBlanc called for a standing vote. Voting: 25 votes cast; 9 Yes and 16 No. Motion Defeated.

Moved by Jack Gutschenritter, seconded by Bob Rosch to approve the recommended tax levy for Operations, Long-Term Debt Service, and Community Service in the amount of \$19,659,502 for the 2010/2011 school year. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

There was no other new business.

Moved by Al Zietlow, seconded by Mike Kusch to adjourn. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hoag
Recording Secretary

Susan M. Schultz, Clerk