

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2008
MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of the Arrowhead Union High School District was called to order by President Joe LeBlanc at 7:30 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: Judie Ristow (Hartland/Lakeside seat), Al Zietlow (Lake Country seat), Kent Rice (Richmond seat), Mike Kusch (At Large seat), Jack Gutschenritter (At Large seat), Sue Schultz (North Lake seat), Craig Thompson (Stone Bank seat), Bob Rosch (Swallow seat), and himself (Merton seat). He also introduced the administrative staff: Craig Jefson (Superintendent) and Steve Kopecky (Business Manager).

Bob Rosch nominated Joe LeBlanc to serve as the Annual Meeting Chairperson. The nomination was seconded by Al Zietlow. There were no other nominations presented. Joe LeBlanc was elected by voice vote to preside as the Annual Meeting Chairperson.

Moved by Kent Rice, seconded by Jack Gutschenritter to accept the 2007/2008 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 2007/2008 audit is complete.

REVIEW OF THE 2007/2008 SCHOOL YEAR – Mr. Jefson reviewed the Mission statement of Arrowhead High School and noted that the campus encompasses 117 acres with students divided between two buildings, North Campus and South Campus.

Mr. Jefson noted that student enrollment steadily increased from 1992/1993, peaking in 2005/2006 with 2,379 students, which is about a 50% increase during that time period. However, over the past two years, student enrollment has declined, and in 2008/2009, we are projecting a decrease of 155 students, or a decrease of 3.81% in student enrollment. This presents financial challenges for the school district. Student enrollment is projected to increase beginning in 2009/2010, peaking in 2013/2014, with student enrollment projected to be 2,546 students. Mr. Jefson stated that steps have been taken to address the decreases in enrollment and the subsequent reduction in state equalization aid.

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

AP testing – In 1994, 180 students took 286 AP exams, with 62% of the students achieving a score of 3 or higher. By comparison, in 2008, 514 students took 1,010 exams, with 74% of students achieving a score of 3 or higher; 215 of those students, or 21%, achieved a score of 5, the highest possible score. 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 16 levels of AP courses.

ACT composite scores – The scores for 2007/2008 were released last week. The composite score for Arrowhead High School was 24.2, which was the same as the previous year. Our composite scores of 24.2 over the past two years are the highest scores we have achieved since 1998/1999. In comparison, the state composite score was 22.3, and the national composite score was 21.1. In 2007/2008, we had 526 students, or over 80%, take the exam. Mr. Jefson also noted that of the 67 schools in CESA #1, Arrowhead High School scored the 8th highest on the ACT.

WKCE – This exam is given to all sophomores. In 2007/2008, 88% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced in Reading, which is 14% above the state average. In Language Arts, 91% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, which is 21% above the state average. In Math, 89% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, which is 20% above the state average. In Science, 89% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, which is 17% above the state average. In Social Studies, 92% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, which is 16% above the state average. Among the 67 schools in CESA #1, Arrowhead High School ranked #4. Among the 426 school districts in the state, Arrowhead High School ranked #12, and was #1 of those schools with 400 or more sophomores.

School Performance Report – This is an annual review conducted by DPI in connection with the WKCE. Arrowhead High School meets or exceeds the criteria in all areas for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). In addition to meeting AYP requirements overall, DPI has established several sub-groups, such as students with disabilities, which also must meet AYP, if the number of students in that sub-group is more than 40. In 2007/2008, Arrowhead High School had 51 sophomores

identified as students with disabilities. Of those, 22 have a disability specific to the area of Reading. To meet AYP in this sub-group, 74% of students must be Proficient or Advanced in Reading. Only 52% of the students in this sub-group were Proficient or Advanced in Reading and did not meet AYP. Mr. Jefson reviewed 9 initiatives that the school district has implemented beginning with the 2007/2008 school year to address this issue.

District Report Card –

- Approximately 94% of our students continue on to post-secondary education; 84.9% of our graduates attend a 4-year college/university, compared to the state average of 52.2%; 9.2% of our graduates attend a 2-year vocational/technical school, compared to the state average of 21.9%.
- The Arrowhead High School graduation rate is 94.2%, compared to the state average of 90.4%; 4% of our students receive a high school equivalency diploma (HSED), compared to the state average of 1.1%. The overall graduation rate is 98%.
- Extra/Cocurricular Participation: 1,559 (60.8%) of our students are involved in 34 academic programs outside of the regular school day, compared to the state average of 33.4%; 1,428 (60.9%) of our students are involved in 41 athletic programs, compared to the state average of 43.7%; 26.3% of our students are involved in our Music program, compared to the state average of 18.9%.
- The attendance rate at Arrowhead High School is 97%. Our retention rate is .52%, well below the state average of 3.9%. Our dropout rate is 0.43%, also well below the state average of 2.02%.
- Arrowhead High School has 151 full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers; 74% have a masters degree or higher. Our pupil/staff ratio is 15.38, which is above the state average of 12.7.
- Our truancy rate is 0.5%, compared to the state average of 9.3%.

Smart Goal – Mr. Jefson reviewed the curriculum and instruction initiatives to achieve our Smart Goal, which is: “Within three years, the class of 2010, low functioning, underachieving, and students with disabilities will improve their academic performance.”

Mr. Jefson also reviewed the various initiatives and highlights of the 2007/2008 school year. He noted that Arrowhead High School received over \$1.2 million in grants in 2007/2008, which included the PEP Grant (Physical Education Department) of \$354,306.

In regard to the “Arrowhead Experience,” Mr. Jefson noted that *Newsweek* recognized Arrowhead High School as one of the top 5% of public high schools in the nation for the 5th year in a row. In 2008, Arrowhead High School was ranked 678 out of 1,300 high schools. *Sports Illustrated* ranked Arrowhead High School #1 in Wisconsin for their athletic programs. Arrowhead High School has won 13 state titles over the past 10 years. We offer 33 varsity sports, 90 levels. In 2007/2008, 7 of our athletic teams were recognized by the Classic 8 Conference for sportsmanship awards. The Broadway Company’s production of *Cats* was nationally recognized as one of the best high school musicals in America, as it was recently selected as the *USA WEEKEND* magazine’s 2008 HSM (High School Musical) Showstopper.

Mr. Jefson concluded by summarizing the initiatives for the 2008/2009 school year, including the 2020 Vision of the Arrowhead Area School Districts Consortium, which is: “To meet the needs of the 21st Century learner, the Arrowhead Area School Districts will adapt to create relevant, engaging, and self-directed learning opportunities for all of our students.” This initiative is a collaborative/cooperative effort among the Arrowhead school districts. Other initiatives for the 2008/2009 school year include: District Financial Plan, Land and Facility Use Planning, Connector Road Agreement, implementation of Student Random Drug Testing, Crisis Plan Revision, Web Grader online grading program, Intensive Assessment Teams, and Curriculum development, innovations, and implementation.

Mr. Jefson thanked everyone for coming this evening and expressed his appreciation to them for taking time to attend the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting.

Chairperson LeBlanc thanked Mr. Jefson for his presentation and 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 country.

Moved by Kent Rice, seconded by Mike Kusch to authorize the Board of Education to set the date and time of the Annual Meeting between May 15 and October 31, 2009. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS:

Moved by Mike Kusch, seconded by Jack Gutschenritter to approve the book rental fee of \$70.00 for the 2008/2009 school year. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

Moved by Richard Nowacki, seconded by Bob Rosch to set school board member annual salaries for the 2008/2009 school year at \$3,000.00 per board member. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

Moved by Jack Gutschenritter, seconded by Mike Kusch to approve the recommended tax levy for the Capital Expansion Fund in the amount of \$315,000 for the 2008/2009 school year, as per the Capital Expansion Fund Resolution below. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

RESOLUTION CREATING A CAPITAL EXPANSION FUND
AND LEVYING A TAX IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

BE IT RESOLVED by the electors of the Arrowhead Union High School District that a Capital Expansion Fund is hereby created pursuant to Section 120.10(10m) of the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of financing remodeling, maintenance, repair, and improvement projects at various district buildings and sites; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a tax in the amount of \$315,000 be levied for the 2008/2009 school year to be deposited in the Capital Expansion Fund created above to be used only for the purposes specified above.

Moved by Kent Rice, seconded by Bob Rosch to approve the recommended tax levy for Operations, Long-Term Debt Service, and Community Service in the amount of \$17,889,324 for the 2008/2009 school year. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

The total 2008/2009 tax levy is proposed to be \$18,204,324 with the inclusion of the Capital Expansion Fund levy.

There was no other new business.

Moved by Al Zietlow, seconded by Jack Gutschenritter to adjourn. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hoag
Recording Secretary

Susan M. Schultz, Clerk