

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ANNUAL MEETING  
AUGUST 20, 2014  
MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of the Arrowhead Union High School District was called to order by School Board President Joe LeBlanc at 7:30 p.m. in the North Campus Theater. There were 19 qualified electors present.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

President LeBlanc welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting and introduced the Board of Education: Donna Beringer (Hartland-Lakeside seat), Dave Dean (At Large seat), Kent Rice (Richmond seat), Sue Schultz (North Lake seat), Al Zietlow (Lake Country seat), Tim Langer (At Large seat), Bob Rosch (Swallow seat), Craig Thompson (Stone Bank seat), and himself (Merton seat). He also introduced the administrative staff: Craig Jefson (Superintendent) and Steve Kopecky (Business Manager); Diane Hoag is the recording secretary.

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

Chairperson LeBlanc noted that the 2013/2014 Treasurer's Report is summarized on pages 17-21 of the Annual Report Document. The complete Treasurer's Report will be available at the District Office when the 2013/2014 audit is complete.

#### REVIEW OF THE 2013/2014 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 7 years, budget reductions/adjustments totaled \$4,679,010. Over the past 3 years, employee benefit changes have resulted in an annual cost savings of \$1,924,848. Arrowhead High School continues to maintain a Moody's rating that is in the top 90% of school districts in Wisconsin. The 2014/2015 tax levy is projected to increase 3.48%. The district is projecting the use of \$512,100 of Fund Balance. Since 2005/2006, state aid has been reduced by over \$3,400,000, including a reduction of \$521,252 in 2014/2015. The district's ratio of students to FTE (full-time equivalent) staff is 11.1, compared to the state's ratio of 8.7. When compared to the 10 union high school districts in the state, Arrowhead High School ranks lowest in cost per member and 8<sup>th</sup> lowest in mill rate. While maintaining per student costs at slightly higher than the state average, Arrowhead High School continues to be recognized locally, statewide, and nationally for high levels of student academic achievement.

Mr. Jefson reviewed five areas in which student academic achievement is measured and assessed: Advanced Placement (AP) testing; ACT composite scores; Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE); the State Accountability School Report Card; and the School Performance Report. Among the 10 union high school districts in the state, Arrowhead High School ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the WKCE (#10 in the state), ACT, and AP test scores.

AP testing – We currently offer 18 Advanced Placement courses, including a new AP course for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. In 2005, 436 students took 835 AP exams, with 74% of the students achieving a score of 3, 4, or 5. By comparison, in 2014, 714 students took 1,337 AP exams (all-time high), with 87% of the students achieving a score of 3, 4, or 5. The percentage of students achieving a score of 3, 4, or 5 was second highest, after reaching an all-time high of 88% in 2012. Overall, our students scored 17% above the state average and 26% above the national average. Of seniors, 54% achieved a score of 3 or higher on at least 1 AP exam, in comparison to 18% nationally. Arrowhead High School also had 12 National AP Scholars (passed 8 exams with a score of 4 or higher). Students who achieve a score of 3 or higher may obtain college credits as well as high school credits.

ACT composite scores – In 2013/2014, the composite score for Arrowhead High School was 24.8, slightly lower than in 2011/2012, when students achieved an all-time high score of 25.0. The state composite score has consistently been between 22.1 and 22.3. The national composite score was 20.9 in 2012/2013, and was 21.1 for the previous five years. In 2013/2014, 472 students took the exam; 53% of our students met the 4 college readiness benchmark scores, compared to the state average of 34%.

WKCE – This exam is given to sophomores. In 2013/2014, 67.6% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced in Reading, compared to the state average of 44%; in Language Arts, 93% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 70%; in Math, 73% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 48.6%; in Science, 91% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 76.5%; and in Social Studies, 95% of our students achieved a score of Proficient or Advanced, compared to the state average of 83%. When compared to peer districts in the state (comparable geographically

and demographically), Arrowhead High School exceeded peer districts in students who achieved a score of Advanced. Arrowhead High School also maintained a higher percentage of students performing at Advanced or Proficient levels from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> grade compared to neighboring districts. Based on the results of the WKCE, Arrowhead High School was ranked #4 among the 86 schools in CESA #1; was ranked #1 among the 48 schools that have more than 300 10<sup>th</sup> graders; and was ranked #10 out of 456 school districts in Wisconsin.

State Accountability School Report Card – For 2012/2013, Arrowhead High School received an Overall Accountability Score and Rating of 81.1 from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI); for 2011/2012, the score was 80.2. Based on these scores, Arrowhead High School achieved an overall rating of “Exceeds Expectations.” By comparison, in 2012/2013, Arrowhead High School ranked #22 out of 514 public high schools in the state, had the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest overall state achievement score, the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest Math state achievement score, the 5<sup>th</sup> highest Reading state achievement score, the 7<sup>th</sup> highest College and Career Readiness score, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest ACT participation rating. Closing Gaps will continue to be an area of focus, growth, and improvement for the district.

School Performance Report –

- 83.5% of our graduates continue on to attend a 4-year college/university, compared to the state average of 52.5%; 8.4% of our graduates continue on to attend a 2-year vocational/technical school, compared to the state average of 21.6%.
- The Arrowhead High School graduation rate is 98% (regular diploma), compared to the state average of 88%; 1.3% of our students receive a high school equivalency diploma (HSED), compared to the state average of 0.5%.
- Extra/Cocurricular Participation: 60.2% of our students are involved in academic programs outside of the regular school day, compared to the state average of 37%; 63.2% of our students are involved in athletic programs, compared to the state average of 45%; 26.6% of our students are involved in our music program, compared to the state average of 19.5%.
- The attendance rate at Arrowhead High School is 97.5%, compared to the state average of 94.9%. Our retention rate is .71%, well below the state average of 1.14%. Our dropout rate is 0.31%, also well below the state average of 1.35%.
- Arrowhead High School has 129.3 full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers; 80% have a masters degree or higher. Our student/licensed staff ratio is 17.5, which is above the state average of 13.2.
- Our truancy rate is 0.9%, compared to the state average of 9.0%.
- Our suspension rate is 3.43%, compared to the state average of 4.48%.

The “Arrowhead Experience” – Mr. Jefson shared many examples of indicators of success in the areas of academic recognitions and programming, academic events and highlights, special programming and events, learning environments meeting student needs, co/extra-curricular activities, student and staff recognitions, and a generous and supportive community. He also reviewed the 2014/2015 school year ahead, including Educator Effectiveness, State Assessment System, Common Core, Technology-rich Learning Environments, Manufacturing Business Partnerships, and Reading Literacy.

Mr. Jefson thanked everyone for coming this evening, for their interest in our school, 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, fiscally responsible Board of Education, 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 to the success of our students 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 Sue Schultz, seconded by Bob Rosch to authorize the Board of Education to set the date and time of the Annual Meeting between May 15 and October 31, 2015. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

OLD BUSINESS – In response to a question from Mr. Eckels regarding staff hiring and retention, Mr. Jefson stated that Arrowhead High School has a high-performing staff that work together collaboratively and want to be here. In regard to turnover, it was noted that only 1.5 FTE new teachers were hired for the 2014/2015 school year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Moved by Dave Dean, seconded by Tim Langer to approve the book rental fee of \$55.00 for the 2014/2015 school year. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

Moved by Steve Eckels, seconded by Bob Rosch to set school board member annual salaries for the 2014/2015 school year at \$3,100.00 per board member. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

Moved by Al Zietlow, seconded by Kent Rice to approve the recommended tax levy for the Capital Expansion Fund in the amount of \$400,000 for the 2014/2015 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 \$400,000 be levied for the 2014/2015 school year to be deposited in the Capital Expansion Fund created above to be used only for the purposes specified above.

Moved by Sue Schultz, seconded by Kent Rice to approve the recommended tax levy for Operations, Long-Term Debt Service, and Community Service in the amount of \$18,044,830 for the 2014/2015 school year. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

The total 2014/2015 tax levy is \$18,444,830 with the inclusion of the Capital Expansion Fund levy.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS – In response to a question from Mr. Eckels regarding a future referendum, the Board of Education has no current plans for a referendum. The district has addressed some of the issues identified by the Facilities Community Task Force within the operating budget, while also taking into consideration the district's Master Plan for future development.

There was no other new business.

Moved by Al Zietlow, seconded by Bob Rosch to adjourn. Motion Carried by Voice Vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hoag  
Recording Secretary

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Susan M. Schultz, Clerk