

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
APRIL 25, 2005
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Ristow at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Judie Ristow, Sue Schultz, Joe LeBlanc, John Greidanus, Jack Gutschenritter (arrived at 6:32 p.m.), Bob Rosch, Al Zietlow

Members Elect present: Mike Kusch, Craig Thompson

Administration present: Dave Lodes, Steve Kopecky

Also present: Kristi Haunfelder, Lake Country Reporter

The meeting was properly posted.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by LeBlanc to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2005, Regular Board meeting and the April 6, 2005, Special Board meeting as presented. Motion Carried.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS OATH OF OFFICE – Mike Kusch (At Large Seat), Craig Thompson (Stone Bank Seat), and Joe LeBlanc (Merton Seat) took the Oath of Office.

BOARD REORGANIZATION:

President

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Rosch to nominate Joe LeBlanc for President.

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Rosch to close nominations for President and that a unanimous vote be cast for Joe LeBlanc for President. Motion Carried.

Vice President

Moved by Greidanus, seconded by Schultz to nominate Bob Rosch for Vice President.

There were no other nominations for Vice President.

Moved by Kusch, seconded by Greidanus to close nominations for Vice President. Motion Carried.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Ristow that a unanimous vote be cast for Bob Rosch for Vice President. Motion Carried.

Clerk

Moved by Greidanus, seconded by Rosch to nominate Sue Schultz for Clerk.

There were no other nominations for Clerk.

Moved by Greidanus, seconded by Kusch to close nominations for Clerk. Motion Carried.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Rosch that a unanimous vote be cast for Sue Schultz for Clerk. Motion Carried.

Treasurer

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Gutschenritter to nominate Craig Thompson for Treasurer.

Moved by Rosch, seconded by Schultz to nominate John Greidanus for Treasurer.

There were no other nominations for Treasurer.

Moved by Kusch, seconded by Rosch to close nominations for Treasurer. Motion Carried.

By secret ballot vote, Craig Thompson received 2 votes; John Greidanus received 7 votes.

John Greidanus was elected Treasurer.

Board members were requested to submit their committee appointment preferences to Dr. Lodes as soon as possible. Committee appointments will subsequently be made by the Board President.

Mrs. Schultz left the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Rosch to approve the operating bill list and pay vouchers 102585-102910, 102912-102918, and 102921-102975 in the amount of \$646,026.45. Motion Carried.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS – None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Lodes reported that the fifth 6-week session of school concluded April 22, 2005. Teacher conferences were held on March 17 and 18, 2005, and well over 50% of our students' parents were in attendance. This was also an additional opportunity for parents to register for ParentCONNECT.

Preparations are currently underway for the Advanced Placement exams, which are scheduled for May 2-12, 2005. Students have signed up to take at least 938 exams, compared to 840 last year. Also, 78% of the students received a score of 3 or above last year, compared to 72% two years ago. Dr. Lodes commended Mike Ward for the excellent job he does in coordinating this entire process.

Dr. Lodes stated that staffing for the 2005/2006 school year is nearly completed. Due to the resignation of one teacher, the reassignment of another, as well as other efficiencies, we should be able to keep our existing staff intact. Interviews for the position of band director have also been completed. The four finalists will be videotaped this week as they conduct our bands. The interview committee will then reconvene on May 2, 2005, to select the candidate for this position. Their recommendation will be brought to the Board of Education at their May 11, 2005, meeting for approval.

CURRICULUM – Committee member Ristow reviewed the minutes of the March 24, 2005, meeting. Dr. Laugerman was commended for the PowerPoint presentation, “Improving Student Learning and Achievement at AHS,” that she and several staff members prepared and presented to each department, as well as the Curriculum Committee. It was requested that it be presented to the entire Board of Education and at the Annual Meeting.

Dr. Lodes shared the curriculum writing activities that will be the focus of the May 19, 2005, delayed start and the value of this time spent on our initiatives to improve student learning, to be in alignment with the standards, and to improve our assessments.

The Board of Education expressed their support for the continuation of the Grade 8-9 Transition meetings due to their value to curriculum directors and the quality product that has been produced.

The Board of Education also reviewed the notice from the University of Wisconsin – Madison stating that the new ACT/SAT Writing Test will be a requirement for admission in the fall of 2006.

FINANCE & LEGISLATION – Chairperson LeBlanc reviewed the minutes of the April 6, 2005, meeting.

Mr. Kopecky presented the 2005/2006 Preliminary Budget. The budget reflects the most up-to-date fiscal information received from the State of Wisconsin and the best estimates available to the district at this time. The budget was developed within the state-imposed revenue limit.

The 2005/2006 Preliminary Budget projects an increase in total general fund and capital expansion fund expenditures of \$864,925, or 4.05%. Student enrollment is projected to increase 7 students, bringing the total projected enrollment to 2,353. Arrowhead’s net portion of the ADSEC (Arrowhead District Special Education Cooperative) budget is projected to increase 10.41%. The proposed capital expansion fund budget for 2005/2006 is \$695,500. The funds in this budget will be used for future buildings and grounds maintenance or repair expenditures that have been identified, as we continue to plan for future projected decreases in student enrollment and potential budget deficits.

The state legislature has yet to take action on the governor’s 2005-07 biennium budget proposal. Due to uncertainties as to what our state equalization aid and revenue limit formula will be, the 2005/2006 Preliminary Budget was developed with two different scenarios. Scenario #1 projects additional state equalization aid, as per Governor Doyle’s preliminary state budget. Scenario #2 projects a decrease in state equalization aid.

In Scenario #1, total non-property tax revenues are projected to increase \$256,028, or 2.80%. The state equalization aid is projected to increase \$138,460, or 1.80%. The property tax levy is projected to be \$14,754,325, an increase of \$740,388, or 5.28%. Based on an 8% increase in the district’s equalized value, the mill rate is projected to decrease from \$3.35 in 2004/2005 to \$3.27, a decrease of 2.52%.

In Scenario #2, total non-property tax revenues are projected to decrease \$623,609, or -6.83%. The state equalization aid is projected to decrease \$742,540, or -9.65%. The property tax levy is projected to be \$15,633,962, an increase of \$1,620,025, or 11.56%. Based on an 8% increase in the district’s equalized value, the mill rate is projected to increase from \$3.35 in 2004/2005 to \$3.46, an increase of 3.30%.

Actual enrollment will be certified on the third Friday in September 2005. The Department of Public Instruction will provide final certification of the tax levy in October 2005. Due to current budget uncertainties, adjustments to the 2005/2006 Preliminary Budget will be made as necessary. The recommended tax levy for the 2005/2006 school year will be presented to the electorate for approval at the Annual Meeting scheduled for August 17, 2005.

The Finance Committee recommends approval of the 2005/2006 Preliminary Budget as presented.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Gutschenritter to approve the 2005/2006 Preliminary Budget within the range of Scenario #1 and Scenario #2 Tax Levy Calculations as presented. Motion Carried.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2005.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Chairperson Zietlow reviewed the minutes of the March 23, 2005, meeting. Discussion of the swimming pool, generator project, and track will continue at the next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting scheduled for May 4, 2005.

PERSONNEL – No report.

POLICY – Chairperson Ristow reviewed the minutes of the March 17 and April 21, 2005, meetings.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Kusch to approve Policy 132. Board Committees** as recommended by the Policy Committee. Motion Carried.

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Zietlow to approve Policy 151.1 Notification of Board Meetings** as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Zietlow to approve Policy 121. Policy Development** as presented. The motion was amended to approve Policy 121. Policy Development** with the noted revision. Amended Motion Carried.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Rosch to approve the 2005 Policy Manual and Addenda in its entirety. Motion Carried.

WASB – Mrs. Ristow shared information regarding the WASB 2005 Spring Academy for School Officials scheduled for May 7, 2005, in Lake Geneva, and the Post-Employment Benefits Seminar scheduled for May 6, 2005, in Madison. Board members are encouraged to attend.

Mrs. Ristow also reviewed the WASB Legislative Update, dated April 15, 2005. The Board of Education directed Dr. Lodes to contact state legislators on their behalf in support of AB 268, which allows municipal employers, including school districts, to contract for services without negotiation.

CESA – Moved by Ristow, seconded by Rosch to appoint John Greidanus as the Convention Delegate to the CESA #1 Annual Convention, which is scheduled for May 17, 2005. Motion Carried.

ADSEC – Mr. LeBlanc reported that the Coordinating Council approved the 2005/2006 ADSEC Budget at their March 22, 2005, meeting. They also discussed options to reduce the projected \$69,000 deficit in the 2004/2005 budget, which has resulted due to the withdrawal of some of the elementary schools from the Cooperative, a decrease in tuition of out of district students, tuition changes in Open Enrollment, and a decrease in Medicaid billing.

ENDOWMENT FUND – No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Ristow to approve the contract for James Ziech (Asst. Girls Track Coach). Motion Carried.

Mr. Kopecky presented the proposed WASB Insurance Plan 2005 Return-to-Work Grant Program. The district would receive a 1.5% reduction in our workers compensation premium by participating in this program and hopefully reduce the number of potential claims.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Kusch to approve the WASB Insurance Plan 2005 Return-to-Work Grant Program Resolution as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Greidanus to approve the trip to Costa Rica in June 2005 as presented. After further discussion of the trip, Al Zietlow called for the question. Motion Carried.

Moved by Gutschenritter, seconded by Greidanus to select Board members Bob Rosch, Sue Schultz, and Al Zietlow to participate in the Commencement Ceremony on June 5, 2005. Motion Carried.

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Zietlow to adjourn. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hoag
Recording Secretary

Susan M. Schultz, Clerk