

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
APRIL 9, 2008
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President LeBlanc at 7:05 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Joe LeBlanc, Bob Rosch, Sue Schultz, Craig Thompson, Jack Gutschenritter, Mike Kusch, Judie Ristow, Al Zietlow, Kent Rice (participated via conference call later in the meeting)

Administration present: Craig Jefson, Steve Kopecky, Bonnie Laugerman, Gregg Wieczorek, Kevin Lipscomb

Staff present: Dave Olenchek, Deb Viegut, Tom Fechter

The meeting was properly posted.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Kusch to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2008, Regular Board meeting as presented.
Motion Carried.

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

Board members were requested to submit their committee appointment preferences for 2008/2009 to Diane Hoag as soon as possible. Committee appointments will be made by the Board President subsequent to the election of Board officers in May.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Rosch to approve the operating bill list and pay vouchers 117082, 117154-117481, and 117483-117502 in the amount of \$1,017,465.62. Motion Carried.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS – Craig Thompson introduced his wife, Amy, who was in attendance this evening.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Mr. Jefson reported that the Project Lead the Way information meeting and open house for community businesses involved in technology and engineering industries is scheduled for April 23, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. Board members are welcome to attend.

The solo ensemble festival was held on April 5, 2008. There were 51 ensembles and 14 soloists, with many individuals going on to the state solo ensemble scheduled for May 3, 2008.

The boys swim team received the winter sportsmanship award from the Classic 8 Conference. This is the fourth sportsmanship award received this year.

Mr. Jefson reviewed information that had been distributed to Board members. He noted that further discussion of Campus Drive, including correspondence from a resident, would take place later this evening in closed session.

The Course/Program Change Checklist was distributed to Board members for their review. The checklist has been reviewed by the Curriculum Committee, management team, and leadership team. Staff will follow this checklist to submit proposed course changes to the Curriculum Committee and Board of Education for approval.

Mr. Jefson reported that budget modifications have been made to the Perkins grant, which had been approved by the Board of Education in December.

Dr. Laugerman and Mr. Wieczorek reported on the building level meetings held this afternoon. Discussion focused on a new grading program, Web Grader, which is currently being used in some of the elementary schools. Staff also discussed department grading scales and the possibility of having a common grading scale for the school.

Mr. Jefson reported that we are in the process of completing our staffing for the 2008/2009 school year. We currently have two math positions available, with interviews scheduled for April 24, 2008. Interviews for school psychologist are scheduled for early May. Pending acceptance of the resignations/retirements to be presented to the Board of Education this evening, Mr. Jefson will review potential interview schedules to fill these positions.

Dr. Laugerman reported on our Standards and Assessments and gave a presentation, “Improving Student Learning and Achievement at Arrowhead High School, A Continuous Journey,” which summarized our progress since 1992/1993. She also distributed two handouts. Math teachers, Deb Viegut and Tom Fechter, shared examples on how they are implementing the standards and assessments in the classroom, including a checklist that students use to evaluate their own progress in achieving the specific objectives of each unit. Department chair Dave Olenchek reviewed the development of the math department’s standards and assessments and the process of data analysis.

CURRICULUM – Chairperson Schultz reported on the March 19, 2008, meeting. The curriculum proposal process and standards and assessments report were discussed during the Superintendent’s Report.

The next Curriculum Committee meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2008, at 7:00 a.m.

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Schultz to change the order of the agenda and move the Buildings and Grounds Committee Report ahead of the Finance and Legislation Committee Report. Motion Carried.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Chairperson Zietlow reported on the April 2, 2008, meeting. The committee reviewed the 2008/2009 Buildings and Grounds Supplemental/Capital Projects Plan. The 2008/2009 Preliminary Budget, which was presented to the Finance Committee on April 3, 2008, includes reductions to Priority I items and does not include Priority II or III items.

Mr. Zietlow stated that the committee is recommending that no action be taken on the AT&T easement request at this time, as it may require approval of the electorate at a Special District meeting. The matter is currently under review by legal counsel.

The committee also continued their discussion of district land and facility usage planning, and reviewed demographic information provided by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC).

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2008, at 7:00 a.m.

FINANCE & LEGISLATION – Mr. Kopecky reviewed the minutes of the April 2, 2008, meeting. He presented the 2008/2009 Preliminary Budget, which was developed within the guidelines of the statutorily set revenue limit. The 2008/2009 fiscal year will mark the second year of the State of Wisconsin’s 2007-09 biennium budget. The Department of Public Instruction will not provide a 2008/2009 state equalization estimate until June 2008. Therefore, the budget presented reflects the most up-to-date fiscal information received from the State of Wisconsin and the best state equalization aid estimates prepared by the district.

The 2008/2009 Preliminary Budget projects an increase of \$451,768, or 2.05%, in the revenue limit. The total general fund and capital expansion fund expenditures are projected to increase \$307,376, or 1.25%. The proposed capital expansion fund budget for 2008/2009 is \$315,000, a decrease of 18.29%. Arrowhead’s net portion of the ADSEC (Arrowhead Special Education Cooperative) budget is projected to increase 4.53%. Total non-property tax revenues are projected to decrease \$1,131,738, or -11.99%. Student enrollment is projected to decrease 88 students, from 2,312 students in 2007/2008 to 2,224 students in 2008/2009. While the district’s equalization value within the 2008/2009 state equalization aid calculation is increasing 4.47%, the aid membership count is decreasing 1.15%. The increase in the district’s equalization value per member causes the district to lose state equalization aid. State equalization aid is projected to decrease \$990,647, or -14.01%. The maximum aid loss possible under the current state statutes is 15%. The property tax levy is projected to be \$18,487,906, an increase of \$1,453,760, or 8.53%, (of which 1.80% is associated with the expenditure increase and 6.64% is associated with the loss of state equalization aid). Based on a 5% increase in the district’s equalized value, the mill rate is projected to increase from \$3.01 in 2007/2008 to \$3.11, an increase of 3.37%.

Actual enrollment will be certified on the third Friday in September 2008. The Department of Public Instruction will provide final state equalization aid certification in October 2008. The actual apportionment of equalized values will also be certified in October 2008. Due to these current budget uncertainties, adjustments to the 2008/2009 Preliminary Budget will be made as necessary. The recommended tax levy for the 2008/2009 school year will be presented to the electorate for approval at the Annual Meeting scheduled for August 20, 2008.

The Finance Committee recommends approval of the 2008/2009 Preliminary Budget as presented.

Moved by Kusch, seconded by Thompson to approve the 2008/2009 Preliminary Budget (per the Preliminary Tax Levy Calculation dated March 20, 2008). Aye – 7 and No – 1 (Ristow). Motion Carried.

Moved by Thompson, seconded by Ristow to approve the purchase of a Steinway “B” concert grand piano contingent upon the district being in receipt of the pledged donor contribution of \$6,257, which will be returned to the donor if fundraising activities generate sufficient funds prior to January 15, 2009, with special thanks to all the donors who made the purchase of the grand piano possible. After further discussion, Al Zietlow called for the question. Motion Carried.

PERSONNEL – No report.

POLICY – The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2008, at 7:00 a.m.

WASB – The WASB Delegate and Alternate to the 2009 WASB Delegate Assembly will be appointed at the May 14, 2008, regular Board of Education meeting.

CESA – The CESA Delegate for 2008/2009 will be appointed at the May 14, 2008, regular Board of Education meeting.

ADSEC – Mr. Thompson reported on the March 14, 2008, Budget/Personnel Committee meeting and the March 18, 2008, Coordinating Council meeting. The Coordinating Council approved the proposed 2008/2009 ADSEC budget, which is projected to increase 6.09%, primarily due to increases in personnel in the following areas: 1) .88 FTE Lake Country instructional assistant starting during the 2007/2008 school year; 2) .33 FTE increase in the Emotional Behavioral Disability (EBD) area consisting of increasing two Arrowhead High School special education teachers to full-time; 3) .88 FTE Arrowhead High School instructional assistant in the EBD area due to a new incoming student; and 4) .88 Arrowhead High School instructional assistant in the Cognitive Disabilities (CD) area due to a new incoming student. The budget also projected a 27.5% categorical aid amount, which may possibly be raised to 28.5-29%, adding additional revenue.

ENDOWMENT FUND – No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Rosch to approve the preliminary layoff notices for Carolyn Ovans (ADSEC Adaptive Phy. Ed.-reduction of .08 FTE), Jennifer Kligora (Business Education/Social Studies-reduction of 12/12 FTE), Lindsay Becker (Art-reduction of 2/12 FTE), and Rebecca McDermid (Science-reduction of 2/12 FTE). Motion Carried.

Moved by Rosch, seconded by Kusch to accept the resignations of Cindy Frohmader and Josh Byrd, effective at the conclusion of the 2007/2008 school year. Motion Carried.

Moved by Rosch, seconded by Zietlow to accept the retirements of Diane Judd, effective at the conclusion of the 2007/2008 school year, and Geoff Steinbach, effective June 30, 2008. Motion Carried.

Moved by Kusch, seconded by Rosch to approve the 2008/2009 Ice Center rates as presented. Motion Carried.

Mr. Rice was contacted via conference call at this time.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Gutschenritter to select Board members Bob Rosch, Mike Kusch, and Kent Rice to participate in the Commencement Ceremony on June 8, 2008. Motion Carried.

Moved by Rosch, seconded by Kusch that pursuant to State Statute 19.85(1)(c)(e), the Board will move into closed session and reconvene to address public business matters:

- Personnel Negotiations
- Connector Road Negotiations

Roll Call Vote: Rice – aye, Kusch – aye, Schultz – aye, Rosch – aye, LeBlanc – aye, Ristow – aye, Zietlow – aye, Thompson – aye, Gutschenritter – aye. Motion Carried.

Mr. Gutschenritter left the meeting at 11:28 p.m., at the conclusion of closed session. Mr. Rice also ended his conference call at this time.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Kusch to move into open session.

Roll Call Vote: Gutschenritter – absent, Kusch – aye, LeBlanc – aye, Rice – absent, Ristow – aye, Rosch – aye, Schultz – aye, Thompson – aye, Zietlow – aye. Motion Carried.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Rosch to approve the 2007/2008 confidential support staff, Ice Center staff, and administration compensation as presented. Motion Carried.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – None presented.

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 midnight.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hoag
Recording Secretary

Susan M. Schultz, Clerk