

ARROWHEAD UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
DECEMBER 8, 2004
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Goodnow at 7:00 p.m. in the South Campus Library.

Everyone rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Jack Goodnow, John Greidanus, Jack Gutschenritter, Randy Howell, Joe LeBlanc, Judie Ristow, Bob Rosch, Sue Schultz, Al Zietlow

Administration present: Dave Lodes, Steve Kopecky, Bonnie Laugerman, Gregg Wiczorek
Also present: Kristi Haunfelder, Lake Country Reporter

The meeting was properly posted.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Greidanus to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2004, Regular Board meeting and the November 22, 2004, Special Board meeting as presented. Motion Carried. The list of individuals who addressed the Board of Education on November 10, 2004, during Citizen Communications and Comments will be attached to the minutes.

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Rosch to approve the operating bill list and pay vouchers 100893, 101006-101106, 101108-101319, and 101321-101358 in the amount of \$837,170.64. Motion Carried.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS – Kurt Krueger, parent of an Arrowhead High School student, addressed the Board of Education regarding his proposal to remove the book, “The Perks of Being a Wallflower,” by Stephen Chbosky. et al from the curriculum. He also commented about the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Reconsideration Committee, which met on November 16, 2004, in regard to this book.

A group of individuals present this evening (speaker list attached) also addressed the Board of Education in regard to “The Perks of Being a Wallflower,” et al and the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Reconsideration Committee. President Goodnow thanked them all for coming and stated that their comments are very much appreciated.

POLICY – President Goodnow reviewed the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Reconsideration Committee, which met on November 16, 2004, in regard to the book, “The Perks of Being a Wallflower.” This book is currently used in the Modern Literature curriculum, which is an elective course. He noted that per Board policy, the committee had three options available to them: 1) ban the book entirely; 2) keep the book without restrictions on its use; or 3) keep the book with restrictions on its use. On the motion to ban the book entirely, the committee voted “no.” On the motion to keep the book without restrictions on its use, the committee also voted “no.” The committee did vote to keep the book in the curriculum with the following usage restrictions: 1) the course description must be changed to clarify the issues covered in the course; 2) additional information must be provided on each book taught; 3) further emphasis on the fact that each student may request an alternate book; and 4) each student taking the course must return a signed parent permission form by the end of the first week of the course.

Moved by Ristow, seconded by Howell to approve the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Reconsideration Committee in regard to the book, “The Perks of Being a Wallflower,” by Stephen Chbosky, dated November 22, 2004.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Schultz to amend the motion to state that the Superintendent shall develop an analysis process that will across the curriculum review student instructional materials (i.e., textbooks, periodicals, handouts, video/electronic teaching materials) that utilize obscene language, slang, profanity, sexually-centered slurs, homosexuality, and specific verb-adjective descriptors that describe sexual aggressiveness, with the exception of terminology that is traditionally acceptable in course curricula, such as health education, HIV training, family planning, and specific biology curricula. When the analysis is completed, department chairpersons and/or department representatives shall develop a plan to modify curricular content within departments to provide a course plan with minimal use of any of the above-mentioned items that will be implemented in the 2005/2006 school year. Summary of changes will be provided to the Superintendent prior to July 1, 2005, which will be reviewed by the Board of Education at its July meeting. Parental notification of all modifications should be included in the August newsletter or at the time of registration. Terms used in a minimal number of places in a publication do not eliminate it from use, as many of these same terms may be used in most acceptable Bible printings. Principals will be responsible for adequate teacher supervision that will verify that the classroom materials being utilized are in agreement with whatever the Board’s action may be after the completed process. This shall be a sincere attempt to develop community unity and curricular integrity.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Schultz to revise the amended motion to change the July references to May, and to change the reference to an August newsletter to a June newsletter.

Dr. Lodes stated that our goal is to make the Modern Literature course the best possible. Our challenge is to provide the best literature available from literally thousands of books that will ensure a quality education for our students and relieve the concerns of the community. He also noted that this book would continue to be available from our library for those students who wish to read it.

Following further discussion of the revised amended motion, Al Zietlow called for the question. Revised Amended Motion Failed.

The Board of Education then voted on the original motion to approve the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Reconsideration Committee in regard to the book, "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," by Stephen Chbosky, dated November 22, 2004. Yes – 5, No – 3, Abstain – 1. Motion Carried.

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2004, at 7:00 a.m. Agenda items include the review of Policy/Procedure 332. Selection of Materials.

CURRICULUM – Chairperson Goodnow reviewed the minutes of the November 22, 2004, meeting.

Moved by LeBlanc, seconded by Rosch to approve course proposals/changes for the 2005/2006 school year as presented. Motion Carried.

Moved by Howell, seconded by Zietlow to approve the 2005/2006 Curriculum Guide with noted revisions. Motion Carried.

The next Curriculum Committee meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2005.

FINANCE & LEGISLATION – Chairperson LeBlanc reviewed the minutes of the November 30, 2004, meeting.

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by Ristow to accept the 2003/2004 Financial Audit Report and Management Letter as presented. Motion Carried. The Board of Education commended Mr. Kopecky for his excellent work.

Mr. Kopecky explained the 2004/2005 budget adjustment as it pertains to the Wisconsin Uniform Financial Accounting Requirements (WUFAR) and how the WRS Prior Service refinancing payment is accounted for.

Moved by LeBlanc, seconded by Ristow to approve the 2004/2005 Operating Transfer In and Non-Program Budget Adjustment as presented. Motion Carried.

The Board of Education established an ad hoc committee to explore opportunities for open enrollment publicity for the 2005/2006 school year. The ad hoc committee will present their recommendations to the Board of Education at their January 12, 2005, meeting. Ad hoc committee members are Al Zietlow, Jack Gutschenritter, Bob Rosch, and Judie Ristow.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Chairperson Zietlow reviewed the minutes of the December 1, 2004, meeting. The committee reviewed the construction plans and schedule for renovating the District Office area.

PERSONNEL – Dr. Lodes reported that the AUTO proposal for 2003-2005, dated November 18, 2004, which was approved by the Board of Education on November 22, 2004, with one modification, was accepted by the teachers on December 6, 2004, and approved by AUTO on December 7, 2004. The Board of Education expressed their appreciation to Dr. Lodes, Mr. Kopecky, and Mr. Bob Butler, legal counsel, for their efforts in negotiating this agreement. This is the first contract that includes a health insurance premium contribution by the employee, which had been a goal of the Board of Education during this bargaining session.

A Special Board of Education meeting was scheduled for December 16, 2004, to extend the timeline stipulated at their November 22, 2004, meeting for ratification of the agreement by AUTO.

Chairperson Rosch distributed the 2004 Superintendent Evaluation forms to the Board of Education and requested that the forms be completed and returned to him by December 22, 2004. The Personnel Committee will meet to review and discuss the results of the Superintendent Evaluation and recommend Goals for 2005. This will be an item for closed session discussion at the January 12, 2005, regular Board of Education meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Lodes reported that the second six weeks of school concluded on December 3, 2004, and students are doing very well. Various community service events are underway, such as food and clothing drives, etc. The new grading system is working well. It is anticipated that the Parent Connect pilot program will begin in January 2005, with all parents having online access to the program in early February. Parents will need to physically present themselves to staff with proper identification to obtain a secure access code to be able to view their child's grades, assignments, and attendance online. Parents will need to do this only once. In the future, this process will be completed during registration.

Dr. Lodes also noted that the delayed start on November 30, 2004, produced positive results in regard to curriculum development, alignment with the standards, and assessments in alignment with the standards. Progress reports are being prepared by the departments and will be shared with the Curriculum Committee when completed.

Mr. Kopecky met with the Management Team on December 6, 2004, to begin the 2005/2006 budget cycle. Staffing needs for 2005/2006 will be determined after students have made their course selections in January and early February 2005. The incoming freshmen class is about 85 fewer students than our current freshmen class; however, this class is about the same size as our current senior class. Dr. Lodes also indicated that the curriculum will be reviewed to determine which courses may be better offered through Youth Options, as well as the minimum number of students required for a course to be offered. These and other options will be presented to the Curriculum Committee and the Board of Education for consideration to address an anticipated future budget reduction of \$1 million.

WASB – As the WASB Delegate, Mr. Zietlow requested that Board members review the information distributed this evening in regard to the proposed resolutions that will be voted on by the WASB Delegate Assembly on January 19, 2005. Board members should be prepared to share their comments or recommendations at the regular Board of Education meeting scheduled for January 12, 2005.

Mrs. Ristow reminded Board members that the State Education Convention is scheduled for January 19-21, 2005, at the Midwest Airlines Center in Milwaukee and encouraged them to attend.

CESA – No report.

ADSEC – Mr. Howell reported on the December 2, 2004, Coordinating Council meeting. He stated that Mary Ann Beckman, Director of Special Education, reviewed her goals and job responsibilities. They also discussed the need to develop a costing formula for special education open enrollment students. Currently, the cost of educating a special education open enrollment student that exceeds the cost of a regular education open enrollment student is charged to the resident school district. However, recent case law states that schools must now show a reason why the cost of educating a special education open enrollment student is greater than the cost of a regular education open enrollment student.

Mr. Howell also indicated that a committee was formed to develop a marketing plan to identify the benefits and cost efficiencies gained through participation in ADSEC. This information would be shared with the elementary districts that have withdrawn from ADSEC to encourage them to reconsider their participation in ADSEC.

Mrs. Ristow left the meeting at 10:33 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Moved by Zietlow, seconded by LeBlanc to approve contracts for Kristi Kirk (School Nurse), Shanna Hechimovich (Asst. Softball Coach), Jeff Staus (Head Girls Soccer Coach), Brian Staus (Asst. Girls Soccer Coach), Joe Paul (Asst. Girls Soccer Coach), Chris Oechsner (Asst. Girls Soccer Coach), Angela Brown (Asst. Cheerleading Advisor), Bryn VanBeek (3-Act Play Set Construction), and Nick Murel (3-Act Play Stage Manager). Motion Carried.

It was the consensus of the Board of Education to appoint John Greidanus as a non-voting member of the Arrowhead High School Endowment Fund, Inc.

The Board of Education discussed the concept of the Arrowhead District School Boards Association Roundtable (ADSBAR). The consensus of the Board of Education was to have an annual ADSBAR meeting that would be attended by a representative from the Board, along with the district administrator and other appropriate staff, to share ideas and discuss common issues. The Board of Education also requested that they be provided with an agenda prior to the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hoag
Recording Secretary

Susan M. Schultz, Clerk