

**School District of Green Lake
Minutes of the Board of Education
Special Meeting**

April 26, 2010

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education was held Monday, April 26, 2010 in the Library Media Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President, Pipho.

Notice of this meeting was given to the Oshkosh Northwestern, the Fond du Lac Reporter, the Ripon Commonwealth Press, the Green Lake Reporter and Radio WRPN. In addition, notices of the meeting were posted in the display case of the school, at the Green Lake State Bank, the Green Lake Post Office, The First National Bank and on Laker Vision Channel 98.

Roll Call:

Present – Amy Pipho, Gordon Farrell, Wendy Schultz, Harley Reabe, Dennis Deyo, Meade Grim, Sydney Rouse

Absent – None

Also present –Shelley Eilbes, Board Secretary; Ken Bates, District Administrator, Mona Aumann, District Finance Consultant, Mary Allen, School Principal, staff members, members of the press and residents of the district.

President Pipho stated that Board Member Reabe will be leaving early as he has another commitment at 7:00 pm. Also the Elementary Concert begins at 7:00 pm and she and Meade Grim may also be leaving to attend that event.

President Pipho led all those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Meeting Agenda

Motion by Wendy Schultz, seconded by Reabe to approve the Board meeting agenda. All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion

BUDGET OPTIONS FOR OPERATIONAL EXPENSES FOR FISCAL 2010, 2011, AND 2012 INCLUDING REDUCTIONS OF PROGRAMS, STAFF, AND OTHER EXPENSES.

Meade Grim gave a short background on the FY10 to FY11 Budget – the short fall rounded is \$660,000. Ken Bates then reviewed the options for reducing the budget to meet the \$660,000 short fall. The first option reduces staffing by \$113,531 and other areas by \$168,658 for a total reduction of \$282,189 for FY11 with the remaining balance of \$377,312 to be covered by a non-recurring referendum of \$375,000. For FY12 additional staffing reductions total \$146,095 and other areas by \$128,095 with the remaining balance of \$503,426 to be covered by a non-recurring referendum of \$500,000. Discussion ensued regarding the multi-age classrooms. Currently the multi-age classes are in the 2nd year of the Cycle. Option one reduces the multi-age classes in FY12. Under the Option #1 – the Board could decide to use Fund Balance or go to 2 year non-recurring Referendum. Option #1 also includes the addition of Student Fee Revenue which needs to be approved by Board Action.

Option #2 details how to reduce the entire \$660,000 short fall in the FY11 year. Board member Sydney Rouse asked why we have 2 music instructors. Discussion ensued regarding the Music Program including the differences in licensing of the instructors. Sydney then asked if she could pass out her suggestions which were developed by members of the community. As the Board reviewed the information given them by Sydney, she then asked about teachers' raises, insurance plans and who is on the negotiation committee. She is also concerned why other insurance plans aren't being looked at as well as if the teachers are looking at pay freezes to help out the budget. There was much discussion to the items brought up by Sydney. Mr. Bates addressed some of the items that Sydney proposed for reduction and indicated that some of the items listed are covered in the Options that were reviewed. Harley Reabe left the meeting at 6:40 pm.

Mary Allen gave an overview of the projected class sizes for the FY11 School Year: 4K – 16, K – 18, 1st – 21, 2nd – 24, 3rd – 16, 4th – 17, 5th – 16, 6th – 23. Dennis Deyo commented that the public does not understand the small class sizes. Meade Grim asked Dennis his opinion on the multi-age class sizes. Dennis commented that multi-age would be good for the 1st and 2nd grades.

Sydney Rouse asked about sharing teachers with other districts along with more comments about changing Health Plans and the need to look at sharing with other Districts.

Dennis Deyo asked Meade about the substitute budget numbers that he shared with him. Mona Aumann commented on how the Substitute budget is compiled by using past history year to date payments along with knowing if long term substitutes are needed. Dennis questioned the number of professional development days that are approved for the teachers and Field Trips allowed. Meade Grim expressed his concern for the Charter School Field Trip days and the substitutes needed to fill in for those days. Dennis Deyo then requested a report on the number of substitutes that have been paid to date.

Amy Pipho then requested to have Mona Aumann review the Long Range Budget Projections – Revenue Cap Limitations prior to her having to leave for the concert.

LONG RANGE BUDGET PROJECTIONS-REVENUE CAP LIMITATIONS

Mona Aumann reviewed her handouts with the Board. Option #1 with the non-recurring referendum would show a reduction in the tax levy for FY11 of .38 per thousand of valuation and for FY12 of .20 per thousand of valuation. If Option #2 is used to cover the short fall for FY11, the tax levy reduction would be .73 per thousand of valuation. Short falls

for FY12 and beyond would still occur and more cuts would need to be made if there would be no referendum option. Mona also discussed that the Revenue Limit Formula is the problem for all Districts in the State. The Funding Formula by the State is something that the public does not understand. Sydney Rouse is not in agreement with that statement. Dennis Deyo stated that he believes that some cuts are needed. Meade Grim asked if the Board would decide on some options, if there could be an electorate meeting held on those options. Mona explained what the Powers of an Annual Meeting are. Mona also explained the lay off notice deadline.

There was discussion among the Board about taking parts of Option #1 and Option #2 and reducing the multi-age classes. The question that needs to be answered is how far does the Board want to cut?

Community Connection

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGANDA ITEMS

Joanne LaMire addressed the Board on her concerns regarding cuts to the Charter School, IB, Band, and Physical Education. She also expressed concerns why Administrative cuts were not included and why the Administrator was not requesting a pay freeze? This would show leadership to the teachers union and maybe they would follow. Dennis Deyo explained the reduction of Elementary Physical Education equates to less than one class period per day. Discussion then ensued regarding band reductions and shifting of responsibilities. Amy Pipho left the meeting at 7:25 pm. Meade Grim commented on the Band hours and what class time is used for lessons along with actual band practices.

Dick Marasik commented on Item #17 of the Options in regards to Unemployment. Mona Aumann indicated that School Districts to not pay in quarterly amounts like the private sector, they report the wage data, but payment is not made until staff actually applies for unemployment benefits.

Mary Jo Johnson commented on the considering not to make the reduction of the multi-age classes, the elimination of the elementary band position and to not cut technology as much, but to look at other areas of the budget to make some cuts.

Barb Eddy commented that the people should not be questioning the figures presented by Mona Aumann as she is very knowledgeable in the development of budgets. Other concerns are that the Board members should visit the classrooms and the school to see what is being taught. The emphasis should be on attracting people to the School not deterring them to other Districts. She also expressed her concerns that deep cuts will be detrimental to the District.

Wendy Schultz indicated the need to meet with the members who oppose the referendum to understand their side as well as them understanding the Districts side. The informational meetings were provided for people to come and ask questions.

Gordy Farrell also expressed the need that the C.A.R.E. group needs to meet with the Board to discuss issues and what that group would like to see for cuts remembering to kept the children first. Dennis Deyo left the meeting at 7:38 pm.

Further discussion ensued regarding the options.

Consider Adjournment

Motion by Gordy Farrell, seconded by Wendy Schultz to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. All ayes, motion carried 4-0.

The next regular board meeting will be held on April 28, 2010 in the Library Media Center. Notices of any special meetings will be posted in the display case of the school at 612 Mill Street, the Green Lake Bank, the Green Lake Post Office, The First National Bank and on Laker Vision Channel 98.

Michele (Shelley) Eilbes
Board Secretary

Amy Pipho, President

Wendy Schultz, Clerk

Date