

Board of Education Meeting July 15, 2014

The Board of Education encourages the public to attend the meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month. There is an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting for input from the public. After that the Board conducts the School District's business, including the Superintendent's and Principals' Reports, position appointments, and issues to act upon.

Here are some highlights from the meeting held on July 15. The [next meeting](#) will be held Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the Jeffers Media Center.

Public participation

- Laura Zerbst addressed the Board regarding renewing [hockey Coach David Bekkala](#). As a representative for the hockey players, she told the Board how the boys support their coach and are worried that his job could be in jeopardy. They think he does a great job finding good teams for them to play against and in developing them as a team and people. They frequently get compliments from officials and others about their sportsmanship and attitudes. The players want the coach 100% and feel like it should be their opinion, not the adults in the stands. As a representative for parents, she told the Board that they also support him. The team just came off of their best season and have improved from year to year. He does a good job on all of their traveling games and gives a lot of his own time for the boys. He teaches the boys manners, responsibility, sportsmanship, and ethics and really gets to know each player.
- Sue Destrampe, President of the ATEA, spoke on behalf of the teachers who are currently bargaining with the Board. They have met twice and are disappointed with the results. They understand the Board is concerned with the fund equity but with the staff changes for this year, what they are asking for won't be an overall increase. They hope that at their meeting tomorrow, the teachers will feel appreciated.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- There was a thank you card from scholarship recipient Damon Huotari.
- There was a thank you card from retiree Terry Wuorinen.
- SRE Special Education teacher Gretchen Bergan requested a 1 year leave of absence.
- There is a tentative agreement with the support staff. The district will pay 100% of Pak B, instead of 90%. Cooks and paraprofessionals will get 2 paid snow days a year. Everyone in the contract will get a 1.25% raise. All together the cost of the new agreements is slightly under \$10,000. There will be a meeting for negotiating with the teaching staff tomorrow.
- For the [technology plan](#), 5th and 9th graders will get Chromebooks this year, about 60 total. All of the past year's 9th grade Chromebooks were paid for. Each year, it will use less money from the district as they are purchased in 9th grade. Eventually it will get to where there will not be a computer lab on the third floor at JHS.
- The intercom system was worked on, using funds from the Capital Projects fund. Now all classrooms are working.
- Chris Downey will be leaving her post of [Athletic Director](#), he recommended Steve Lishinski.
- He recommended the full slate of [coaching positions](#) to be renewed.
- There will be a need for a long term sub at JHS for probably the first semester. The Board needs to look at the best way to go about this and the Special Ed position at SRE to fulfill the needs of the students.
- The new changes to the food program using the Farm to School Grant is going along. In the first few months as available, there will be local foods used in the lunches. Some strawberries from the Outinen farm have already been delivered and prepped and frozen at the school. There will be much more to it all this year.

- The [Alumni Dinner](#) went very well.

Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- Tomorrow the Wellness Committee will be meeting to do a walking audit for the Safe Routes to School grant.
- The AmeriCorp program was able to be funded so there will be a worker at the school.
- There are currently 28 students enrolled in [summer GE](#) and school

Principal's Report-Mike Benda, Jeffers High School

- Letters will go out soon to seniors and incoming 7th and 9th graders regarding orientation.
- The matrix was sent out to all of the teachers.
- There are 5 students on Odyssey Ware for credit recovery this summer.
- Once the calendar has been set, he will plan the drill dates and inservice dates.

Action Items

The Board approved the 2014-2015 Board Meeting schedule, the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P.M.

The Board approved to join the CCASB.

The Board approved all current coaches for their assignments this upcoming year.

The Board approved the tentative agreement with the support staff.

The Board approved the purchase of Chromebooks for 5th and 9th graders.

The Board approved the renewal of the CD for Capital Improvements.

The Board approved a one year leave of absence for SRE Special Education teacher Gretchen Bergan.

The Board tabled the appointing of Athletic Director.

The Board went into closed session.