

# BOE Meeting Highlights

## Board of Education Meeting August 13, 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 August 13. The [next meeting](#) will be held Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the Jeffers Media Center.

### Public participation

- Cara DeForge, a teacher who has worked at Jeffers in the past but was let go due to budget cuts, recently applied for the open science position at Jeffers. She did not hear back about the position and was wondering why that was.

### Special Education Director's Report-Steve Lishinski

- With Mrs. Bergan taking a year leave absence at SRE, a schedule was made for coverage in the resource room and for students receiving services. Mr. Lishinski and Mr. Aho, who both have the required certification, will both spend time in the room with students to instruct material as outlined in students' IEPs. An AmeriCorps worker will be covering the room for extra assistance such as reading of tests or for students who need extra time for assignments, as has been done in the past. All teaching instruction will be scheduled to be done by either Mr. Lishinski or Mr. Aho.

### Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- The planning for the trades building is coming along. John Opie will be donating a larger sum towards it. It will also contain a cosmetology school along with space for building, welding, electrical, and possibly auto mechanics. Construction will begin in a few weeks.
- There is a large hole in the road but it is unclear who owns responsibility for it. People from the township will be coming to look at it.
- Lunch prices will have to go up by \$.10.
- The District got good **Green** marks on the school report card. This year's focus will be on improvement on the bottom 30%.

### Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- Kindergarten Orientation will be held August 25. This will be for kindergarteners to experience the school.
- Fourth Grade Orientation will be August 27 by Mrs. Normand for 4th graders and their parents.
- Changes to the handbook include a new drop off. During the Safe-Routes-to-School walking audit done by the wellness committee, it was decided it would be better for drop offs and walking and biking students to come in the side entrance in the lower el wing to keep students from having to go through the parking lot. The loop will be used just for buses. Any parents who need to go into the school in the morning will have to park in the lot. Parents dropping off students should come up Second Street, drop student off at the sidewalk by the side entrance, and go down First Street. This will also minimize traffic to a one way direction on First Street, making it safer for walking and biking students.
- The Back-to-School letter will be sent out tomorrow.
- Ann Ruohonen will be the AmeriCorps worker this year.
- Charles Heltunen is her recommendation for the open third grade position.
- Bonnie Sorem will be leaving her food service position. Recommended in her place is Laura Bigger who did some fill in work last year.
- Maintenance is doing a great job getting the school ready!

### **Principal's Report-Mike Benda, Jeffers High School**

- Welcome letters were mailed.
- Seventh Grade Orientation will be held by Mrs. Pera and Mrs. Ruohonen on August 20th. There will be a 9th Grade Orientation at 5:00.
- Picture day is Wednesday, September 3.
- There is a Coaches Meeting Monday, August 15.
- The staff inservice will be Wednesday, August 27.
- There is a school calendar to be approved.
- Some handbook changes include course offerings, and tweaking to the attendance wording and classroom conduct.
- 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.

### **The Board went into Closed Session at 7:18**

### **The Board went into Open Session at 8:07.**

### **Action Items**

- The 2014-15-16 contract with the Teaching Staff was approved.
- The resignation of Bonnie Sorem was accepted.
- Laura Bigger was approved in the food service position.
- Charles Heltunen was approved for the SRE third grade teaching position.
- John Kilpela was approved for the JHS physics position.

- Morgan Raether was approved for the JHS English and German position.
- Chuck Palosaari was approved for the JHS computer position.
- The 2014-15 Student Handbooks were approved for SRE and JHS.
- The \$.10 increase to lunch prices were approved.
- The resignation of Jen Burkman as JH Girls Basketball coach was accepted.

*-Valerie Dobson, SRES*