

BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting May 10, 2017

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 May 10. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 6:30 P.M. in the Jeffers Media Center.

Public Participation

- George Stockero and Shawn Kolbus gave a presentation on the proposed area wide ISD Millage for CTE programs. CTE is Career Technical Education and includes classes such as CNA, construction trade, health occupations, precision machining, health careers, and automotive technology. The ISD is proposing 1 mill for 10 years. It would bring in about \$1.2 million, costing the taxpayer \$1 for every \$1000 of taxable value. Most would pay \$50 or less a year. As is, the CTE programs that the ISD provided are funded by schools paying a tuition for students and the remainder from the ISD general fund, which would only be sustainable for 3-5 more years. This millage would allow the programs to continue and expand and the schools would not have to pay the tuition. It wouldn't replace the current Jeffers CTE programs but be an extension of them for students wanting to further explore a certain area. The ISD worked with local business leaders who strongly support CTE classes. CTE allows students to get right into the workforce with certification in high wage, high skill, and high demand jobs. A lot of the other ISDs in the U.P. already have a millage for CTE classes. It will be on the August 8th ballot and they are asking all local school boards to pass a resolution to support it.
- John Paul Pieitla of Traverse Engineering presented plans for the culinary arts center in the current Post Office building. It will have 3 work stations to support 12 students. They will begin looking for bids by the end of the month. They will look both work to be completed by the beginning of the school year and work to be completed in the fall to be ready by the 2nd semester of the 2017-18 school year, to see which would be best. Mr. Keteri acknowledged the luxury the school has for a generous foundation that is footing the bill for this program.

Curriculum Committee Report-Eric Mattila

- The sixth graders will not be going to Jeffers next year because of logistics. The recent parent meeting held was still productive. Around 25 parents attended and had many questions and concerns addressed. A separate junior high experience for 7th and 8th graders is still being worked on.

Infrastructure Committee Report-George Eakin

- The committee recently looked into all infrastructure needs of the district. A new plow truck is a possibility. The gym floors need resurfacing and will probably have JHS this year and SRE the next. Every other year they do a mild strip for JHS and every year at SRE due to its more constant and various uses. Lockers need replacing and the plan is to do one floor at a year at a cost of about \$8,000 a year. The pillars at SRE need to be repaired and refaced. Outside cameras are needed at both buildings. The HVAC project at JHS is something that needs to be done. New floor scrubbers are needed.
- The June Budget will have all the planned infrastructure needs. Some things will have to be put off.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- The HVAC system at the elementary is still being worked on. There is an issue with the controls with the heating.
- There are bonds that can be refinanced to save taxpayers money.
- The principals' evaluations are done and he recommends them to keep on with their contract.

Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- It's been a busy May. Ted Holmstrom, Football Coach, did a free football clinic with 4th-6th graders. MSTEP testing has been going on with 5th and 6th graders, with 4th being next week. Upcoming events include Muffins with Mom, the Spring Concert, and Camp Nesbitt which Ms. Lehto has been doing a great job organizing.
- A big thank you to Mr. Palosaari, JHS teacher, for coming to SRE to teach human growth and development to the boys.
- Mrs. Larson, JHS English teacher, had her 19th grade speech students come to SRE to read to students.
- Mrs. Lishinski, third grade teacher, recently attended a focus group hosted by the Department of Education about teacher evaluations.
- Ms. Ruohonen, junior high teacher, had her 8th graders come to the school to clean up the lawn which really helps out Ron Outinen and is much appreciated.
- The elementary schedule matrix was presented. They will need to hire a full time social studies teacher.

Principal's and Athletic Report-Steve Lishinski, Jeffers High School

- Ms. Pera and Ms. Ruohonen, junior high teachers, recently took the middle schoolers on a few field trips.
- Mr. Palosaari, science teacher, took students to the Lake Superior Youth Symposium and others to Lake Perrault.
- Mrs. Raffaelli, music director, and Mrs. Dobson, SRE parapro, took senior band students on their senior band trip.
- Ms. Raether, German teacher, Mrs. Babcock, art teacher, and Mrs. Sherman, guidance counselor, took art and German students on a trip to Chicago.
- The State Testing is done at Jeffers.

- The sixth graders will not be moving to Jeffers at this time due to coverage issues. They will work on separating the junior high students more.
- The Spring Band Concert and Art show is coming up.
- May 24th will be the Academic Awards.
- Class Day and Graduation are May 26th.
- As for athletics, this spring has really shuffled things around. The ADs are doing their best to get as many cancelled events in.

Action Items

- The Board discussed several action items.
- The next meeting will have a work bee at 5:15 before the meeting.

Submitted by Valerie Dobson, South Range Elementary