

PRAIRIE CENTRAL COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
OPEN SESSION

February 15, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Prairie Central Community Unit School District No. 8, Ford, Livingston, and McLean Counties, was held on February 15, 2007 and was called to order by President Jay Nussbaum at 7:00 PM at Prairie Central High School.

Board members present: Roger Brown, Dan Froelich, Patricia Haberkorn, Brett Johnson, Joe Koehl, Jay Nussbaum, Tom Schlatter

Board members absent: None

Administrators present: Dr. John Capasso, Superintendent

Employees or PCEA members present: None

Guests present: Al Freehill, Ann Steidinger

Press present: Doris White, *The Blade*

Public Comment

None

Visitors Arranged in Advance

None

Discussion

During the Superintendent's Report, Dr. Capasso updated the board on . . .

◆ BUILDINGS/OPERATIONS.

- Chenoa stage. The work on acoustics, sounds, lighting, and curtains is essentially finished. The project lacks only training for the operators of the sound and lighting equipment. The March jazz concert and Spring musical will be performed there.

◆ ISBE/LEGISLATIVE NEWS.

- ISBE recommended 2008 budget. The ISBE has submitted for consideration a budget for 2008 characterized by a \$355 increase in the GSA (general state aid) foundation, 100% funding for categoricals, and an increase in special education personnel reimbursement from \$8,000 per person to \$13,000. The proposal would create roughly \$950,000 in new revenue for Prairie Central.
- HIV testing. HB 193 would make HIV testing part of the mandatory health exam at selected grades. As currently written, a parent would be able to decline the testing.
- Internet threat. HB 38 would make threats against school personnel by students on internet sites suspend-able and expellable. The condition for discipline is that the site "must be accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or available to students and staff on school grounds." The threat must also be "reasonably interpreted as bearing a relationship to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his/her affiliation with the school."
- Diabetes treatment plan. HB 146 requires a treatment plan for students with diabetes.
- Non-agenda items. If made into law, HB 210 would prohibit a public body from voting on any item not included on the posted agenda.

◆ CURRICULUM COUNCIL.

- o Institute. Planning for the February institute is complete. The Hannel questioning sessions are the anchor for the day.
 - o After-school tutoring. The council subcommittee formed mission statements and objectives for an after school program – mentoring for K-6 students and homework help for 7-12 students. The council is hopeful community leaders (churches, other organizations) will take charge of the program with the district reduced to a support capacity.
 - o Collaborative meetings. Grade level meetings have taken place through the sixth grade. The meetings have been productive. Textbook selection and grade level expectations were key discussion points for the meetings.
 - o Accelerated Reader guidelines. Guidelines will be developed for all buildings to follow relative to the treatment of Accelerated Reader achievement.
- ◆ TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE. Responding to the need for greater bandwidth, the district has opted for a Fiber TLS over a second T1 line. The Fiber TLS will bring 8 mb/sec. One T1 is roughly equivalent to 1.5 mb/sec. For only slightly more money than the second T1 would have cost – roughly \$350 per month - we can create 5 times, instead of twice, the bandwidth.
 - ◆ GRANT OPPORTUNITY. The district has applied for a grant to replace light fixtures in selected facilities. If declared eligible, the district will receive \$126,400 for the project.

Action

To approve minutes	Moved by Brown and seconded by Schlatter that we approve the minutes of the January 18, 2007 regular meeting as presented. Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.
To approve consent agenda	Moved by Koehl and seconded by Haberkorn that we approve the consent agenda (activity fund report, petty cash report, investment report, current bills, interim payments, and cafeteria report) as presented. Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.
To approve specs for demolition, site development	Moved by Johnson and seconded by Froelich that we approve specifications for the demolition of "old" Chenoa Grade School (203 S. Second, Chenoa) and the development of specified sites (see attached). Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.
To change meeting date	Moved by Johnson and seconded by Koehl that we change the date of the May, 2007 board of education meeting to May 14, 2007 for purposes of canvassing the board election, seating new members, and electing new officers. Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.
To enter executive session	Moved by Haberkorn and seconded by Schlatter that we enter into executive session at 8:20 PM for purposes of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel in executive session. Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.
To return to open session	Moved by Johnson and seconded by Haberkorn that we return to open session at 9:15 PM from having discussed the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel in executive session.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.

To accept resignations

Moved by Koehl and seconded by Johnson that we accept the resignation of **Christina Jamison** as a special education teacher at Westview Elementary School, effective at the close of the 2006-2007 school term.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Froelich and seconded by Schlatter that we accept the resignation of **Paula Crane** as sophomore volleyball coach at Prairie Central High School, effective at the close of the 2006-2007 school term.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.

Moved by Haberkorn and seconded by Froelich that we accept the resignation of **Clarice Ward** as a district bus driver, effective at the close of the 2006-2007 school term.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.

To appoint

Moved by Johnson and seconded by Froelich that we appoint **Dan Butler** as head softball coach at Prairie Central High School for the 2007 season, in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.

To approve maternity leave

Moved by Schlatter and seconded by Froelich that we approve a maternity leave for **Tonya Rothert**, a special education teacher at Prairie Central High School, from August 20 to October 26, 2007, in accordance with Article XI of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.

To adjourn

Moved by Froelich and seconded by Schlatter that we adjourn at 9:18 PM.

Voting: Brown, yea; Froelich, yea; Haberkorn, yea; Johnson, yea; Koehl, yea; Nussbaum, yea; Schlatter, yea. Motion carried.

President

Secretary