

**North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200**  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Board of Education  
District Office  
6248 North Boone School Road, Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065  
Monday, May 19, 2014  
6:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by President Don Ward.

Present: President Don Ward, Secretary Collin Crull, Mr. Matt Ellingson, Mr. Thomas Moon, Mrs. Amy Morris and Mr. Brian Reininger  
Absent: Vice President Denise Balsley

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mr. Crull and seconded by Mr. Ellingson to approve the Agenda as presented.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Mr. Julio Lopez, parent, asked the Board to help clarify rumblings within the community. He said six or seven weeks ago, he was approached by several people, including teachers, regarding the Administration removing social studies. He said knowing this was probably not the case, he was hoping the Board could communicate this information to the community. He also keeps hearing a new football stadium is going to be built in place of hiring teachers. He hoped the community realizes that the Operations and Maintenance Funds are different than the Education Fund. He also said he hopes the Board will judge people on their merits and goals met, and not on rumblings and manipulation of the truth. He would like to see stability in the Superintendent's position instead of turnover. He also asked to Board to please keep in mind that the reason for the tablet program is to keep our students competitive. He said any district that is productive is using tablets. He stated while the tablets can be fragile at times, he personally likes the program and urged the Board to expand it along with offering additional tablet training to teachers.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report was submitted to the Board. Mrs. Zwart thanked the District Office support staff for their additional assistance due to the absence of a Business Manager. Dr. Baule also extended his appreciation.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Baule said we had five 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Mrs. Boyer's class that received recognition from a contest, and feels the language arts teachers are doing a good job in teaching our students how to write.

He mentioned the NBHS Honors Night will be Wednesday, May 21 beginning at 7:00 p.m. He also noted the staff recognition and retirement reception will be held on June 4 beginning at 3:30 at PGE.

He shared the NBHS and NBMS/UE musical concerts were well received by the audiences, and noted NBMS/UE combined the concert with an art show and an academic open house. Many of the teachers participated in the open house and Mr. Greenfield set up a great display of student artwork. He mentioned Mrs. Wignall was present to provide advice to parents on exploratory options as well.

Dr. Baule stated we had received a grant of approximately \$27,000 for security related facilities upgrades through the State's Illinois School Security Grant. Mr. Ward asked who was involved in this grant award. Dr. Baule said that both he and Mr. Jim Novak worked on this grant.

He mentioned the FCC continues to work to expand e-rate funding, and we have been advised that we will receive \$84,560.41 for the 2014-2015 school year, and will receive \$55,267.86 for this year.

Dr. Baule said Allan Johnson, a former school Board member and long serving volunteer and booster club member, was the final principal for the day on May 14, visiting both Manchester and NBHS. According to Dr. Belcastro, the students really enjoyed hearing from Mr. Johnson about his elementary experiences. Dr. Baule shared how much time and effort Mr. Johnson gives to the District by taking care of our fields.

He stated we received our state special education report card for the 2012-2013 school year, and that we met the requirements by earning a perfect score. He thanked the special education staff on their work with those students with special needs.

Dr. Baule said two issues were brought forth by staff members last month. The first issue relates to some teachers suggesting we eliminate all reading specialists. The survey showed that most teachers generally support retaining the reading specialists. The second issue raised was regarding multi-level or split classes. Many teachers are not in favor of such classes, and it appears that the majority would not wish to teach in a split level environment. The survey was sent to all K-4 teachers.

Dr. Baule said The NBMS and NBUE staff members have worked out a draft of their scope and sequence for social studies next year, and that it will include more overall social studies coverage than this year.

He mentioned the NBHS staff has been trying to figure out a way to better integrate Response to Intervention (RtI) into their schedule. Mr. Hubert provided a proposal and the majority of the high school staff has approved.

He shared that after one of our 5th graders spoke at the last Business Committee meeting regarding the fact neither she nor any of her fellow students wanted tablets, he felt it was worthwhile to have Mr. Klett and Dr. Belcastro survey their students. Dr. Baule included the results in his Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Baule said Mrs. Kelly Holsker and Mr. Jim Novak are continuing to work with our previous architects and the Capital Development Board to finalize the funding we are authorized, and that they are still trying to retrieve old records of bids, etc.

He received a suggestion that the Board should invest in a PA system as the public has difficulty hearing at some meetings. He asked the Board if they'd like him to include this in next year's budget.

He also said there was concern about the inability for the staff to produce more complete and thorough inventory records and help desk records including computer purchases back through 2007. He said we currently utilize freeware for this, and asked the Board if they would like the staff to investigate a more robust inventory and help desk software program to track such information.

Mrs. Abbeduto and Mr. Klett gave a presentation on the changes to the social studies program.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Policy Committee**

The next Policy Committee meeting is to be determined.

### **Business Services Committee**

The next Business Services Committee meeting is to be determined.

### **Facility/Long Range Planning Committee**

The next Facility/Long Range Planning Committee meeting will likely be in September.

### **Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee**

The next Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee meeting is to be determined.

### **Special Education Committee**

The next Special Education Committee is scheduled for June 9, 2014. The only item remaining is the division of assets.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mr. Ellingson and seconded by Mrs. Morris to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting April 28, 2014

B. Personnel

Site	Person	Position	Salary	Effective/End Date
<b>1. Certified – Hire</b>				
NBHS	Scott Brady	Science Teacher	BA24, Step 1	8/15/14
PGE	Diana Newberry	EC Summer School Teacher 4 days per week	\$25/hr. plus TRS	6/16/14 – 7/31/14
<b>2. Certified – Resignation</b>				
District	Rhonda Boeke	Business Manager	N/A	5/2/14
NBHS	Bart Zadlo	Math Teacher	N/A	6/7/14
<b>3. Non-Certified – Hire</b>				
PGE	Rhonda Anderson	Special Education Teacher Assistant 5.75	TA120, Step 3	5/19/14 – 6/6/14
<b>4. Non-Certified – Resignation</b>				
MES	Michael Britz	Teacher Assistant (5.75 hours)	N/A	4/21/14
NBMS	Maureen Glickenger	Special Education Teacher Assistant	N/A	5/16/14
<b>5. Extra-Curricular - Resignation</b>				
NBHS	Karen Becker	National Honor Society Sponsor	N/A	6/7/14

- C. Overnight Field Trip Request – Senior Class
- D. Overnight Field Trip Request – Cross Country
- E. Approval of Amended Calendars
- F. Appointment of IMRF Authorized Agent
- G. Approval to Open New Bank Account for Boone County School Facilities Tax
- H. Establish Base Bus Aide Salaries

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Approval of 2014-2015 Student Fee Schedule**

Dr. Baule said it was brought to his attention that we have a lot of parents that are registering late, even though we have accommodated families that have contacted us in advance if they could not attend either registration date. Since we will need to hire additional staff to accommodate those families, he is suggesting raising the late fine to \$100.00. Mrs. Morris suggested we add to our registration communication that we do offer payment plans. On behalf of Mrs. Balsley, Mr. Ward asked what would happen to a tablet if a student leaves mid-year. Dr. Baule said we partially refund fees if a student leaves mid-year, but since the technology fee doesn't cover the entire cost of the tablet,

the student must return the tablet if they leave. Dr. Baule said to date, we have not had any students leave and take their tablet. Mr. Ward confirmed we had GPS devices on the tablets and had the ability to track their whereabouts. Mr. Moon suggested a graduated fine, with the structure at \$50.00 for a late registration penalty for those that register between August 1–8, and increase to \$100.00 after August 8.

A motion was made by Mrs. Morris and seconded by Mr. Reininger to approve the 2014-2015 student fee schedule with the changes discussed, with the exception of the technology fees.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

**B. Capital Outlay Budget for 2014-2015**

Dr. Baule discussed the Operations and Maintenance budget, which the Facilities Committee reviewed last week. The original scope was to keep the budget under \$725K. He is anticipating \$400-450K from the sales tax money which can only be used for facilities projects or reduction of bonds. Dr. Baule said we received a \$27K grant for security upgrades. Mr. Moon said that we had delayed a roof, and that we are spending all this money on security, when he has never seen a District security plan. He would like to see Administrators at the entrances to each school at the beginning of each day. Mr. Hubert said at the high school, at least two administrators move throughout the building each morning to monitor the areas. Mr. Moon said we have lost control of our facilities and need to staff the doorways. Dr. Baule said staff is assigned at K-4, and we could assign 5-8 staff if that is recommended by the Board. Mrs. Morris asked who would have key fobs. Dr. Baule said teachers and staff would have fobs, which would control access outside of normal school hours.

Dr. Baule compiled four options for the tablet program, and described the comparisons. He mentioned he had spoken to several teachers, and most recently, they preferred tablets, as they felt the touch screen was important. Mrs. Morris said she did a little research on her own and spoke with 7<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents. She felt the majority of people liked the tablets, if the glitches could be fixed. She likes the program and would like to see it continue, and feels teachers have done a great job of integrating the tablets. Mrs. Morris said in her review, there is definitely teacher interaction, that students still use their books, still hand write papers, solve math problems on paper, and still do poster board projects. She feels the tablets enhance the learning environment. She suggested we consider Option C, since there have been some issues with the Droid.

Mr. Crull said that at the Business Committee meeting, Mrs. Balsley had some concerns on the infrastructure and staff to support tablets for grades 5-8. Dr. Baule said if we added 300 devices, we would need an additional staff member to support that effort, and there is another aide level person in the budget. Mrs. Abbeduto said if NBMS students need a loaner, they can see Mrs. Alvarez if Mrs. Ellingson is not in the building.

Mr. Ellingson asked what devices other districts are using. Dr. Baule said some use Chromebooks, but this would require home internet. Others use Linux, which may work at the high school level, but we currently don't have anyone on staff with the skill set to support those devices. He said we could also go to Mac, but that is the most expensive

option. We currently have Windows and Droid skill sets on staff. He feels that any tablet that allows teachers to do different things, including the assessment piece, would be best. He said if we go 7-8, he would recommend Windows without touch screens. He met with Microsoft last week and they said the prices of Windows devices will come down in the future. Mrs. Morris asked the causes of the glitches. Dr. Baule said the touch screen is sensitive and there are some issues related to Java and Flash. He said the Droid software is picked up by many websites as being for a mobile device, which means you get the website that was designed for a phone-size device. He shared that the Droid device was very well reviewed, and the operating system is more likely the issue. He did share that Windows tends to work the best because it holds about 80% of the operating system market.

Mr. Ward said he met with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade team and visited three classrooms in early October. He witnessed the teachers and aides assisting the students and observed the learning curve. He revisited classes last week and reviewed the process for obtaining loaner tablets. He visited the classrooms of Mr. Williams, Mr. Ullrich, Mrs. Lerch and Mrs. Townsend. He noted that students were successfully getting to the apps and images they needed. He also witnessed students helping one another. Mr. Ward witnessed quite a bit of difference from his first visit to this last classroom visit. He views the devices as an equalizer and said each student has the same opportunities regardless of income.

Mrs. Abbeduto invited 7<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to share their opinions. She said some of the responses from Mrs. Lerch include: tablets have helped students get organized, she has seen improvement in tech like skills, tech skills are so much more advanced than last year, and teachers can take immediate assessments. Dr. Baule said the immediate assessment piece is clearly the main issue to allow teachers to see how students are doing in real time. Mrs. Morris asked if we were able to get by with Droids, and if so, should we continue with Droids or pilot Windows. Mr. Williams said the Tech Department explained the devices were meant to be for 1:1, and if students had their own device, they would experience fewer glitches. He said a successful 1:1 program isn't device driven, that his lessons do not depend on Windows or Droid. He felt no matter what decision is made, it is important to offer more time or training for teachers. Mr. Williams said Mr. Jerry Rudolph and Mr. Randy Porter from the Tech Department have been fantastic. Mrs. Townsend said she is fine with the Droid if glitches can be fixed, and said that teachers are working together to troubleshoot. She said it's much more difficult using them off carts. Mrs. Kelly Hanaman agreed with Mrs. Townsend, and said teachers are not against the tablets, they just don't want to be in the middle of the issue. Mrs. Morris encouraged feedback and wants to make this program work for everyone.

Dr. Baule mentioned we could use Droid's for 5-8 and Windows for 9-12 to help students prepare for college. Mr. Hubert said high school teachers want a Windows based operating system since they don't have 1:1 devices, and mentioned that Microsoft is used more frequently in colleges. Mr. Ellingson asked if we had year-end data on the pilot program. Dr. Baule said we have data from the beginning of the year through the February MAP tests. Mr. Ellingson said he heard the numbers could be skewed, and he'd like to see the data. Dr. Baule mentioned the data had previously been provided within a

Superintendent's report at a Board meeting. Mr. Moon said the data on the 1:1 implementation has been skewed by the Administration. He said there is no way that absenteeism went from 557 to 302, and that there is something wrong with the numbers. Dr. Baule said the data was provided to the Board in February, March and April. Mr. Moon said he asked for the presentation and was told it was on the website, but it was not. Mrs. Abbeduto replied that she was not asked if it was on the website, but whether he could have access to the presentation. Mrs. Abbeduto had sent the Mr. Moon the presentation last month. Mrs. Morris said this wasn't the only data that she was using to help make a decision on the tablets. Mr. Reininger said he cannot make a decision based on attendance data. He'd like to see two years of data before making a decision. He doesn't feel we have enough data to move forward and wants to know how attendance and discipline data changed so drastically. Mr. Reininger said he'd like to put the tablet money toward smaller classroom sizes. Mrs. Abbeduto feels discontinuing tablets for 8<sup>th</sup> grade would not be best practice for students.

Mr. Ellingson made a motion to continue the tablet pilot for just the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and not expand the program. Mr. Ward asked if teachers can show that the pilot was not successful. There were no responses. Mr. Ward felt it was just another teaching tool and wondered why we would deny teachers and students that opportunity. Mr. Reininger felt with tight budgets, and unknown state funding, it would be difficult to approve expanding the program. Mr. Crull feels that we are not representing the best interest of the students if we delay improvements while waiting to see if we have a decline in state funding. He said if we do experience a decline, then we could look for other ways to cut expenses. Mr. Crull has visited the tablet classrooms and noticed a very engaged learning environment. He also said he has reviewed tablet programs in area school districts and has found their data is similar to ours. Mrs. Morris felt it would be unfair to incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents if we did not approve the tablet program at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level, as they have just spent a year learning with the device and paying toward the cost. She feels the Board will be hearing complaints from 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents if the tablets are not approved for the incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

A motion was made by Mr. Ward to amend the main motion to include Option B as presented. Mr. Crull seconded the motion.

Mr. Moon asked how the 30 used tablets would be distributed if we go with Option B. Dr. Baule said we could prorate the cost for that year of use. The used tablets would be offered first come, first served. Mr. Ward said this was the least expensive way to extend the pilot program for both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Mr. Ward asked what additional data the Board would like to see and how they would like it presented. Mr. Moon said there was a failure at the District Office by not tracking and maintaining repair costs and time by the technicians. Since it was a pilot program, he felt this should have been calculated and presented. He said there was only one reason it wouldn't be presented, which was that we didn't want people to see that information. He said the repair costs and repair time by the technicians should have been part of the pilot program, and the data should have been calculated. Mrs. Morris said in defense of the Administration, the Board approved the indicators and what would be tracked, so she felt the Board should take responsibility. Mr. Moon said we should have naturally known to track maintenance and

repair costs on a pilot program. He said this is affecting our other students who are not involved in this program. He stated we are taking money from their education and feeding it into repair of devices and giving extra to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade class. Mr. Moon said the tablets were a terrible investment since we don't know what the next year or two will bring. Mrs. Morris acknowledged the 7<sup>th</sup> graders did receive this opportunity, but also experienced the tablet learning curve and the parents had the additional expense of the tablets. Mr. Ward asked for further discussion.

Ayes: Mr. Crull, Mrs. Morris and Mr. Ward

Nays: Mr. Ellingson, Mr. Moon and Mr. Reininger

Abstain: *(none)*

Motion failed 3-3.

A motion was made by Mr. Ellingson and seconded to Mr. Reininger to continue the tablet program at the 7<sup>th</sup> grade only.

Mrs. Morris said we need to figure out what we plan to do regarding the parents that have already invested in the tablets, and the students that have adapted their learning style to the tablets. Mr. Crull said we also need to define what makes the program and success or failure.

Ayes: Mr. Ellingson, Mr. Moon and Mr. Reininger

Nays: Mr. Crull, Mrs. Morris and Mr. Ward

Abstain: *(none)*

Motion failed 3-3.

A motion was made by Mr. Moon and seconded by Mr. Ellingson to postpone the approval of the Capital Outlay budget. Dr. Baule said if we postpone the Capital Outlay, we may need a special Board meeting to address the issue.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. May 2014 Bills

A motion was made by Mr. Ellingson and seconded by Mrs. Morris to approve the bills as presented.

Ayes: Mr. Crull, Mr. Ellingson, Mr. Moon, Mrs. Morris and Mr. Reininger

Nays: *(none)*

Abstain: Mr. Ward

Motion passed 5-0, with one abstention.

### B. Bilingual Education Staffing

A motion was made by Mrs. Morris and seconded by Mr. Reininger to approve the Bilingual Education Staffing as presented.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

### C. Security Bids

Mrs. Morris asked for the recommendation from the Facilities Committee. Mr. Moon said he'd like to see a budget, and that he still has a lot of concerns about not seeing



anything from the District regarding safety and concerns about students. He said he like the security idea, but feels like we can make improvements for less money. Mrs. Morris asked Mr. Hubert how the security cameras were currently used. Mr. Hubert said the cameras help resolve disciplinary issues, and are also used for visitors and deliveries. He mentioned the high school cameras don't pan and the recording system overwrites itself. Mr. Reininger said he likes the idea of the key fobs. Mrs. Morris said the security improvements sound great, but since it is so costly, and the Board had heard issues from spending money on a phone system, a potential stadium, etc., she feels like we should look for less costly options. Mr. Moon said re-keying schools is much less expensive than installing a key fob system. Mr. Reininger would like to scale the project back by re-keying and adding film on the entrances. Mr. Moon said he still thinks we need a security plan from Administration before we spend \$700K.

A motion was made by Mr. Reininger and seconded by Mr. Moon to reject all security bids.

Ayes: Mr. Ellingson, Mr. Moon, Mrs. Morris and Mr. Reininger

Nays: Mr. Crull and Mr. Ward

Abstain: *(none)*

Motion passed 4-2

A motion was made by Mr. Reininger to have the architect prepare bids with details by breaking down the base bid by intrusion detection, card access control, intercom and door access. Mr. Scott Nemanich said this cannot be done, as we wouldn't be following bid rules, and we would have to start over with the bid process.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Mr. Reininger and seconded by Mr. Ellingson to send the base bid out to re-bid, broken down by District for intrusion detection, card access control, intercom and door access, and open the original three alternatives to any bidders.

The motion carried by unanimous roll call.

Mr. Ward suggested we also put the alternates out to re-bid, and asked the Facility Committee for their input. Mr. Ellingson said he was in agreement. Mr. Moon agreed as well, but said he'd really like to see our Administrators come up with some type of security policy for the buildings and also a weather policy for transportation. He'd like to see all the Administrators go through their buildings and look for weaknesses. The Board was in agreement to put the alternatives out to re-bid.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made at 10:35 p.m. by Mr. Reininger and seconded by Mr. Ellingson to recess to Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; the placement of

individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

The following members were present: President Don Ward, Secretary Collin Crull, Mr. Matt Ellingson, Mr. Thomas Moon, Mrs. Amy Morris and Mr. Brian Reininger.

Also present: Mr. Scott Nemanich

Absent: Vice President Denise Balsley

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Dr. Baule left Executive Session at 10:50 p.m.

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A motion was made by Mr. Ellingson and seconded by Mr. Reininger to return to Open Session of the Board of Education, and was called to order at 12:01 a.m. by President Don Ward.

The following members were present: President Don Ward, Secretary Collin Crull, Mr. Matt Ellingson, Mr. Thomas Moon, Mrs. Amy Morris and Mr. Brian Reininger.

Absent: Vice President Denise Balsley

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Crull and seconded by Mr. Reininger to waive the fees for student 2014-02 as requested.

The motion failed by unanimous roll call.

A motion was made by Mr. Crull and seconded by Mrs. Morris to allow student 2014-03 to return to North Boone High School as a tuition student.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

A motion was made by Mr. Crull and seconded by Mr. Reininger to approve the Business Manager Contract for Mr. Jeff Carr as presented.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Ellingson and seconded by Mr. Crull to adjourn the meeting at 12:06 a.m.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

**PRESIDENT** \_\_\_\_\_ *Don Ward / S /*  
**Don Ward**

**SECRETARY** \_\_\_\_\_ *Collin Crull / S /*  
**Collin Crull**

**APPROVED: 6/9/14**