



Schuyler Community Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, April 19, 2010 6:30 PM
Schuyler Central High School Music Room
401 Adam Street
Schuyler, NE 68661-2400

I. Call Meeting to Order

Discussion: The meeting was called to order by president Wennekamp at 6:33 PM. Members present were Wennekamp, Mejstrik, Misek, and Parr; Brabec arrived at 6:35 PM and Semerad arrived at 6:38 PM. Others present were Superintendent Stevens, Principal Baumert, Director of K-8 Education DeBlauw, Assistant Principal Cunningham, Principals' of the SES and SMS, Grammer, Comley and Vrba, Activity Administrator Egr, Director of Facilities, Ron Mundil and Principal of the S.C.S. rural attendance centers and Curriculum Administrator, David Gibbons.

I.A. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion: All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I.B. Declaration of Open Meeting

Discussion: President Wennekamp declared the meeting was preceded by advance notice and declared to be an open session.

II. Approval of Consent Agenda

Discussion: A motion was made by Mejstrik and seconded by Parr to approve the agenda, minutes, acceptance of claims, financial, and other listed reports.

II.A. Agenda

II.B. Minutes

II.C. Acceptance of Claims

Discussion: Superintendent Stevens brought the board's attention to four bills over the \$5000 limit.

II.D. Financial

II.E. Other Listed Reports

III. Public Forum - We ask that all presentation be limited in their length.

III.A. Recognition of visitors and guests

Discussion: Teachers from SCHS, Jim Kasik, Larry McGowan and Brandon Thoene and an SEA representative, Laurie Schlautman were also present.

III.B. Automotive class

Discussion: Jim Kasik and Brandon Thoene presented their proposal for an Automotive and Logistics Class for the 2010-2011 school year. The class would be open to juniors and seniors. The approximate cost to set up the class with necessary equipment could be adjusted with a

negotiated lease for class work area, liability insurance, and cost of utilities. It was pointed out by Principal Gibbons that this class would help to achieve the Nebraska Governor's P-16 Initiative; giving students the ability to go right to work after graduation if college will not be attended. Nebraska Workforce Development statistics point out that from 2010-2016 19% more truck drivers will be needed.

III.C. Block scheduling study review

Discussion: Larry McGowan and Jim Kasik, representing the block scheduling study committee, which included staff, students, and parents, gave the board recommendations for updating block scheduling. They saw no need to return to the traditional seven-period day.

III.D. Other topics (limited to 5 minutes - subject to guidelines of the Board Participation Policy)

III.E. Student Representative's Report

IV. Board Requests/Reports

IV.A. Americanism

IV.B. Budget

IV.C. Building and Grounds

Discussion: Americom submitted a bid to update the phone system at Schuyler Middle School. The current phone system is outdated and needs to be repaired or replaced. The updated equipment provided in the bid would run on the same system at SCHS.

IV.C.1. Phone system at SMS

IV.D. Curriculum

IV.D.1. 1:1 - WON to WON

Discussion: Apple, Inc. provided information and a price quote to SCS for the "One to One" Initiative, which would provide a computer for every student in grades 9-12. This would require a four-year monetary commitment and increased staff. The program promotes increased student engagement in class-work. This issue will be referred to the curriculum committee.

IV.E. Negotiations

IV.E.1. BCBS presentation April 26th - Monday

Discussion: Blue Cross-Blue Shield will be at SCHS on April 26 to present new information to the SEA and negotiations committee.

IV.E.2. Recognition of the SEA

IV.F. Planning

IV.F.1. Study session comment

IV.F.2. Calendar update

Discussion: The calendar for 2010-2011 has been finalized.

IV.F.3. K-4 bond election thoughts and timelines

Discussion: A schedule of potential election dates was shared if it would be the intent of the

district to pursue a bond election. Public input would be sought at meetings before any bond election would be pursued.

IV.F.4. Added personnel

Discussion: Applications are being sought for open teaching positions at SCHS for a science and social studies teacher and a literacy coach at SMS.

IV.F.5. SCHS entryway update

Discussion: A preliminary architectural drawing for a new entryway, renovated reception area, offices, and classrooms at SCHS were presented. The main focus of this construction would provide a secure entry where all visitors would have to check in at the principals' office before proceeding through safety doors into the main school building.

IV.G. Policy

IV.G.1. Facility usage

Discussion: The policy committee reviewed the policy for public use of school facilities, particularly the SCHS kitchen. Only school organizations or organizations that have a direct benefit to the students of SCS will be allowed to use the high school kitchen. The kitchens at SES and SMS are not rentable facilities.

IV.G.2. Proof of residency

Discussion: Discussion on a proposed policy to prove residency in the district brought up various viewpoints. The proposal would target kindergarten, 4th, and 9th graders whose families would have to provide three pieces of proof of residency. The school's legal counsel will be consulted before any action is taken.

IV.G.3. Seclusion and Restraint

Discussion: Information was shared regarding the "Restraint and Seclusion Policy" and the "Dating Violence Policy." Both policies were adapted from NASB policy.

IV.G.4. Dating violence

IV.H. Public Relations

IV.I. Foundation

IV.I.1. Fundraiser - Anytime Fitness program update

Discussion: The fundraiser, sponsored by "Anytime Fitness," raised \$500 toward the purchase of new lunch tables at SES.

V. Action Items

V.A. Discuss, Consider and Take Action on bills of \$5,000 or more

Discussion: • Motion, Mejstrik, second, Parr – Motion to approve all bills over the amount of \$5000. Motion carried.

V.B. Discuss, Consider and Take Action on the 2010-2011 school calendar

Discussion: • Motion, Brabec, second, Mejstrik – Motion to approve the 2010-2011 school calendar. Voting aye were Mejstrik, Brabec, Wennekamp, Semerad, and Misek, voting no was Parr. Motion carried.

V.C. Discuss, Consider and Take Action on an Americom phone system for SMS

Discussion: • Motion, Parr second, Brabec – Motion to approve the purchase of an Americom phone system at Schuyler Middle School. Motion carried.

V.D. Discuss, Consider and Take Action on changes to the facilities use policy

Discussion: • Motion, Mejstrik, second, Wennekamp – Motion to approve changes to the facilities-use policy. Motion carried.

V.E. Discuss, Consider and Take Action on a Restraint and Seclusion policy

Discussion: • Motion, Mejstrik, second, Misek – Motion to approve the students’ “Restraint and Seizure Policy.” Motion carried.

VI. Administrative and Other Reports

VI.A. Operating Council Report(s)

VI.B. PreK-8 Director of Education Report

Discussion: Director of K-8 Education DeBlauw urged the board to seriously consider a solution to the present over-crowding at SES and future over-crowding at SMS. Public preschool registration and Headstart registration will be held on April 22nd and 23rd.

VI.C. High School Principal Report

Discussion: Principal Baumert requested the policy committee meet with SCHS administrators to look at potential changes in the student-parent handbook.

VI.D. Grades 9-12 Assistant Principal's Report

Discussion: Assistant principal Cunningham attended a Student-Hearing Officer training offering information on conducting the hearing and decision process for students.

VI.E. Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment and Pk-8 Rural School Report

VI.F. Activities Administrator Report

Discussion: Activity Administrator Egr reported raising the admission fee for athletic events for adults has recouped some of the financial loss that was seen in the fall of 2009.

VI.F.1. Three NSAA referendums

VI.G. Director of Facilities/Transportation Report

VI.H. Grades k-3 Principal's Report

VI.I. Grades k-3 Principal's Report

VI.J. Grades 4-8 Principal's Report

VI.K. Superintendent's Report

Discussion: Superintendent Stevens reported that he received many favorable comments about the board study session held March 25. Members of the school board will be featured in the SCHS newspaper, “The Warrior Beat.”

VI.K.1. Verification of successive employment

VI.K.2. ERIP update

VI.K.3. Warrior Beat questionnaire

VI.K.4. Next regular board meeting - Monday - May 17th, 2010 - @ 6:30 p.m.

Discussion: The next board meeting will be May 17, 2010 at 6:30 PM.

VII. Correspondence Items

Discussion: Correspondence was received from the families of Elmer Aguirre and Ken Brezina.

VII.A. Aguire family

VII.B. Ken Brezina

VIII. Executive Session

VIII.A. Personnel

Discussion: A motion was made at 9:52 PM by Parr and seconded by Semerad to enter into executive session to discuss personnel. Motion carried. At 10:35 PM Mejstrik made a motion to exit executive session and seconded by Semerad, motion carried.

IX. Adjournment

Discussion: A motion was made at 10:36 PM by Brabec and seconded by Mejstrik to adjourn. Motion carried.

Prepared by: Sally Jakub, Secretary to the Board