



Racine Unified School District
2220 Northwestern Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin 53404-2597

RACINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Tony Baumgardt, President

Gretchen L. Warner, Clerk

Racine, Wisconsin

April 20, 2009

The Board of Education of the Racine Unified School District of Racine County, Wisconsin, was called to order at 6:32 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2009.

2. ROLL CALL

The following board members were present: Tony Baumgardt, Pamala Handrow, Melvin Hargrove, Susan F. Kutz, Julie L. McKenna, Gretchen L. Warner, William S. Van Atta, and Dennis Wiser. Absent: Don J. Nielsen.

Also present: Jackson V. Parker, Interim Deputy Superintendent; James J. Shaw, Superintendent of Schools; David Hazen, Chief Financial Officer; Steve Hejnal, Executive Director, Human Resources and Labor Relations; Area Superintendents, Bethel Cager and Dona Sens; Kevin Brown, Directing Principal, Gilmore Middle School and Darlene Gallup, Executive Assistant.

3. ADOPT AGENDA

Mrs. Kutz moved, Mr. Van Atta seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. All were in favor.

Mrs. Kutz amended her motion, Mr. Van Atta seconded, to include, "with the exception of Action Item 8(g), Case High School Tennis Courts" deletion. All were in favor.

4. RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Shaw recognized four students from Case High School's Government class who were attending the board meeting as part of their class study.

5. BOARD MEMBER REMARKS

Mr. Baumgardt commented on his time of service on the board. He congratulated Mr. Nielsen, Dr. Warner and Ms. Plache on their April election results. Mr. Baumgardt also thanked board members, administrators, staff, community members, Dr. Jack Parker, Dr. James Shaw and Attorney Gib Berthelsen. He also thanked his wife, family and friends for their support.

A moment of silence was held for two staff members, Matthias Meise and Joel Wellhoefer, who recently passed away.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Russ Carlsen
6350 Wembly Lane
Racine, WI 53406

Thanked Mr. Baumgardt for his service to the board and in support of facility improvements in Racine Unified School District.

7. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Shaw talked about his plans for reporting progress to the board on student achievement using the "station" points of the North Star at each month's board business meetings between May and January.

8. ACTION ITEMS

a. Transportation Services Contract Award

Mrs. Kutz moved, Pastor Hargrove seconded, to approve the Transportation Services Contract as presented pending legal review. Ayes – 7 (Baumgardt, Handrow, Hargrove, Kutz, McKenna, Warner, Van Atta). Noes – 0. Absent – 1 (Nielsen). Abstain – 1 (Wiser).

b. Debt Refinancing

Mrs. Kutz moved, Ms. Handrow seconded, to proceed with the refinancing of the 1999 bonds with the parameter that gross savings be at least \$ 500,000. All were in favor.

c. TEP Space Lease

County Executive, Bill McReynolds and Debbie Jossart, Director, RCHSD, addressed the board regarding the importance of the TEP program and the positive work of the partnership with the district.

Mrs. McKenna moved, Dr. Warner seconded, to approve the TEP Lease as submitted subject to legal review. All were in favor.

d. Janes Elementary School Window and Door Replacement

e. Case High School Window and Door Replacement

f. Mitchell Middle School Switch Replacement

Dr. Warner moved, Mrs. Kutz seconded, to approve the Action Items 8 (d-f) awards of the Janes Elementary School Window and Door Replacement to VJS in an amount not to exceed \$ 352,500; the Case High School Window and Door Replacement to Scherrer Construction Services in an amount not to exceed \$ 673,758 and the Mitchell Middle School Switch Replacement to Great Lakes Electric in an amount not to exceed \$ 49,969. All were in favor.

g. Case High School Tennis Courts

This item was removed from the agenda.

9. MONITORING REPORTS

a. Results (R)

None

b. Operational Expectations (OE)

1. OE-2 (Emergency Superintendent Succession)

Mrs. Kutz moved, Dr. Warner seconded, to approve the OE-2 (Emergency Superintendent Succession) as compliant with exceptions as noted in the superintendent's evidence. As part of the monitoring report's summary statement, Mrs. Kutz recognized Dr. Shaw for embracing the new monitoring process and his honest assessment of the state of the district's succession plan. She also commended Mr. Wiser and Ms. Gallup for development of the Monitoring Report Survey. All were in favor.

2. OE-10 (Instruction)

3. OE-13.3 (Assure That Facilities are Clean and Safe)

Mrs. Kutz moved, Ms. Handrow seconded, to move the monitoring of OE-10 (Instruction) and remonitoring of OE-13.3 (Assure that Facilities are Clean and Safe) to the May 18, 2009, board meeting. All were in favor.

Mrs. Kutz moved, Ms. Handrow seconded, to keep the monitoring report calendar clear for April meetings to allow the Governance Committee and administration to review the calendar and allow time for the board member transition. All were in favor.

c. **Governance Culture (GC)**

None

d. **Board/Superintendent Relationship (B/SR)**

None

10. Board Development

None

11. REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES

a. **Audit**

Mr. Wiser said the budget detail being provided by Mr. Hazen have been extremely helpful.

b. **Legislative**

Dr. Warner talked about the recent April 13, 2009, meeting with state representatives and said it was very informative and successful. The plan is to do this a couple times a year in the future.

c. **Coherent Governance**

Pastor Hargrove said the committee has not met since the last board meeting. The Governance calendar is being reviewed and meetings continue with the superintendent's cabinet for their input in relation to the North Star and monitoring reports.

d. **Communication**

Mr. Van Atta talked about the Listening and Linking session held on March 31, 2009, with Caledonia residents. Full minutes of that session will be provided after the next committee meeting which will take place prior to the next board meeting.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

a. **North Star**

Area Superintendents, Dr. Cager and Mrs. Sens, and Directing Principal, Kevin Brown, Gilmore Middle School, provided a brief update on the North Star efforts including summer school, closing the achievement gap, and culturally responsive teaching initiatives.

b. **District-Wide School Improvement Council (DWSIC)**

Mr. Hazen talked about the April 1, 2009, DWSIC meeting. He noted the council has developed into a good sounding board. The two items reviewed at that meeting were the Student Code and Response to Intervention. He said some of the members of the group are now coaches for people submitting proposals to the council.

c. **Redistricting Update**

Mr. Hazen talked about the Redistricting Commission reconvening to discuss new information and new skills learned by the district. Dr. Parker said ways to technically get data and analyzing the data have been part of a confusing picture but efforts to apply this information to the North Star package are getting better. Small parts of the commission's plan are very viable for next year. The Redistricting Commission is reconvening this week for continued work toward the larger picture and meshing with North Star. Dr. Shaw said the plan will be in a work in progress draft form and will change as input is received.

d. **Postponement of OE-3 (Treatment of Stakeholders) Until June Board Meeting**

Dr. Shaw said postponement of OE-3 until June is occurring so that additional community input can be received and assessed.

13. BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

a. **Board Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2009**

b. **Special Board Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2009**

c. **Board Work Session Minutes of March 17, 2009 (Attachment A)**

d. Audit Committee minutes of March 9, 2009 (Attachment B)

e. Canvass Committee Report of April 8, 2009 (Attachment C)

Mrs. Kutz moved, Dr. Warner seconded, to approve the Board Consent Agenda Items 13(a-e). All were in favor.

14. RECEIVE AND FILE

a. Incidents by Students to Staff for March 2009

Without objection, the Incidents by Students to Staff for March 2009 report was received and filed.

15. SUPERINTENDENT CONSENT AGENDA

a. Personnel Changes

b. Monthly Financial Statement for March 2009

c. Overnight Field Trips

d. Youth Options

Dr. Warner moved, Mr. Van Atta seconded, to approve the Superintendent Consent Items 13(a-d). All were in favor.

16. REFERRALS

None

17. BOARD DEBRIEFING OF THIS EVENING'S MEETING

Comments included:

Mrs. McKenna recommended that changes to board procedure discussed at work sessions be brought to the board for approval.

Mrs. Kutz commended Dr. Shaw and administration for the academic focus of tonight's meeting. She said she thought Dr. Cager and Mr. Brown should have made their presentations during the Student Achievement section of the agenda.

Mrs. McKenna suggested that the agenda show more specifics so the public and media are aware of what will be discussed ahead of time. She also suggested North Star and Student Achievement be combined. In addition she recommended that presentation materials be provided ahead of time.

ADJOURN

Dr. Warner moved, Mrs. Kutz seconded, to adjourn. With no objections heard, the meeting was concluded at 8:42 p.m.

Signed: 

Gretchen L. Warner, Clerk

Signed: 

James J. Shaw, Secretary



Racine Unified School District

2220 Northwestern Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin 53404-2597

ATTACHMENT A

Board of Education

RACINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

WORK SESSION

March 17, 2009

MACTE

524 Monument Square, Room 204

MINUTES

A work session of the Board of Education of the Racine Unified School District of Racine County, Wisconsin was called to order 1:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2009.

Work with Aspen Group

Board members worked with the Aspen Group debriefing and receiving feedback from observation of the March 16, 2009, Board meeting and on questions or matters related to Board Coherent Governance policies. The board meeting procedures and processes were reviewed for effectiveness, efficiency and appropriate alignment with policy.

Review Annual Agenda

The Coherent Governance calendar and future work sessions with Aspen were discussed.

Adjourn

The session was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Also present:

James J. Shaw, Superintendent of Schools
Linda Dawson, Aspen Group
Randy Quinn, Aspen Group
Darlene Gallup, Executive Assistant

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Baumgardt (Absent)
Pamala Handrow
Melvin Hargrove
Susan F. Kutz
Julie L. McKenna
Don J. Nielsen
William S. Van Atta (Absent)
Gretchen L. Warner
Dennis Wisner



ATTACHMENT B

Board of Education

Racine Unified School District

2220 Northwestern Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin 53404-2597

BOARD OF EDUCATION AUDIT COMMITTEE

Monday, March 9, 2009

The Chair of the Audit Committee, Don J. Nielsen, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Committee members present were: Don J. Nielsen, Pamala Handrow and Dennis Wisner. Also present: Julie L. McKenna, Board Member (arrived at 6:10 p.m.).

Approval of Audit Committee Minutes of February 9, 2009

Ms. Handrow moved, Mr. Wisner seconded, to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2009, Audit Committee meeting. All were in favor.

Monthly Financial Update and Budget Review

Mr. Hazen provided information regarding the monthly financial update for February. He shared and the committee discussed handouts including

- General Fund and All Governmental Funds Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes Fund Balance Revenues by Source, Expenditures by Function Monthly Budgets
- Monthly Energy & Cost Consumption; PPO Budget Comparison Reports
- Dental Budget Comparison Reports
- Employee Benefit Trust Fund Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes Fund Balance Revenues by Source, Expenditures by Object Monthly Budget

Mr. Hazen reviewed items that are "uncontrollables" to budget balances including utilities costs and discussed an upcoming textbook adoption. Mr. Hazen provided a brief review of negotiations on the 5-year contract with the energy savings company, Energy Education, Inc.

Mr. Hazen also provided a review of a beginning "Fiscal Year 2009-10 Budget Timeline document.

(Julie McKenna arrived at 6:10 p.m.)

Review Fund 73

Mr. Hazen provided information on Fund 73. He said this fund has to do with DPI rules for benefits charges being applied to grants.

Adjourn

Mr. Wisner moved, Ms. Handrow seconded, and with no objection heard, the meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Staff Present:

Dave Hazen, Chief Financial Officer
Jim Shaw, Superintendent of Schools
Darlene Gallup, Executive Assistant

Respectfully submitted,

Don J. Nielsen (Chair)
Pamala Handrow
Dennis Wisner
Tony Baumgardt, Ex Officio

CANVASS COMMITTEE REPORT

April 8, 2009

The Board of Canvassers has canvassed the returns from the General Election for the Board of Education held on April 7, 2009, and certifies that the following candidates received the number of votes indicated:

Stella A. Young	7041
Gretchen L. Warner	8440
John Leiber	6176
Kimberly M. Plache	7747
Don J. Nielsen	9550
Other	85

The total number of votes cast was 39039.

Your Committee therefore determines and certifies that the following persons, having received the greatest number of votes, are declared to be elected to the Board of Education and will take office on April 27, 2009, for a term of three years:

Don J. Nielsen
Gretchen L. Warner
Kimberly M. Plache

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Meyer
Deputy Clerk for School Board Elections

Patricia Kinzer

Marsha Poulsen

CANVASS COMMITTEE