

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF
FOX RIVER GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008 – 7:00 P.M.
FOX RIVER GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Board President Pat Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, and Pat Hughes. Also present were Superintendent Jackie Krause and Principals Karen Machroli and Tim Mahaffy. Absent were board members Tom Mollet and Gerry Blohm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

WELCOME GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Mahaffy introduced 5th grade teacher Jane Szybowicz and special guest Mr. Eric Runck from Huntley.

Ms. Machroli introduced ARS teachers – Mary Ellen Bebber, Lora LeGrand, Beth Diller and district librarian Laura Richards.

Various audience members were also introduced.

No one signed in to address the board.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Lisa Anderson to approve the consent agenda, approve and open to the public the regular minutes of the regular board meeting of December 17, 2007, approve the December 2007 Treasurer's Report, approve the January 2008 Bills and Payroll and approve the December 2007 Activity Accounts Report. Kris Germain seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Mahaffy provided an update on the volunteer coaches (08-01-01). Mrs. Sharon Hughes will now be the coach and Mr. Terry Holtz will be the assistant coach for girls' soccer.

Dr. Krause informed the board that the federal government now requires school districts that receive Title I grant funds to develop a Title I Plan that shows how the district will meet certain requirements and how the funds will be spent. She then reviewed the Title I District Plan (08-01-02).

A motion to approve the Fox River Grove School District 3 Title I District Plan was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Susan McGarrigle. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle and Kris Germain. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Krause reviewed the current class sizes with the board as previously requested. Currently there are 56 students in Kindergarten, 61 in first grade, 57 in second grade, 61 in third grade, 66 in fourth grade, 69 in fifth grade, 59 in sixth grade and 66 in seventh grade (these number include a few students beginning next week). The difficulty with determining how many sections will be held at each grade level gets more difficult when class sizes fall below 60 students. Kindergarten registration and preschool screenings are scheduled for February 6th and 7th, and after that time we will have a better count as to how many students we can expect for Kindergarten next year. To date we have only 37 students signed up for the screening. If this continues to be a smaller group than in previous years, we may want to consider having only two sections for next year. This topic will be revisited in a few months after the screening. An article asking families of incoming Kindergarten students to register them will be in the Village Newsletter, which will be sent to the whole community in early March.

Board member Steve Knar stated that he does not want to waiver from the fact that we may no longer have the luxury of having the smallest class sizes in McHenry County. If Kindergarten is going to be at 50 students, Mr. Knar does not feel it is unreasonable to have to classes of 25 as opposed to 17. Mr. Knar asked kindergarten teachers Beth Diller and Lora LeGrand their opinion and Beth Diller responded that smaller class sizes are always more advantageous with the variety of skills students have when they enter Kindergarten. The administration and the board are seeking as much information as possible to determine class sizes.

POLICY

A motion to approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies – Policy 2:260 – Uniform Grievance Procedure, Policy 4:10 – Fiscal and Business Management, Policy 4:60 – Purchases and Contracts, Policy 5:10 – Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment, Policy 5:100 – Staff Development Program, Policy 5:250 – Leaves of Absence, Policy 5:290 – Employment Termination and Suspensions, Policy 5:330 – Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves, Policy 6:20 – School Year Calendar and Day, Policy 6:60 – Curriculum Content, Policy 7:20 – Harassment of Students Prohibited, Policy 7:70 – Attendance and Truancy, Policy 7:110 – Student Transfers, Policy 7:180 – Preventing Bullying, Intimidation,

and Harassment, Policy 7:220 – Bus Conduct, Policy 7:340 – Student Records and Policy 8:20 – Community Use of Facilities – was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Lisa Anderson (08-01-03). A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Algonquin Road School -- Ms. Machroli – Upcoming events at ARS include recycling presentations at all grade levels. Again, the preschool screening and kindergarten registration is scheduled for February 5th and 6th. Precinct 16 will be using the art room for voting on the 5th and indoor recess will be held that day. A respect assembly, which goes along with our character education program, will be held on the 8th. On Saturday, February 16th the Mother/Son Dance will be held. ARS enrollment is currently at 298 and will increase to 301 in March. Students in 3rd and 4th grade are doing their practice ISATs.

Fox River Grove Middle School -- Dr. Mahaffy – We are in volleyball season and both teams have been winning. We certainly appreciate all of our volunteer coaches. A 6-8th grade dance is scheduled for February 8th with the May dance being the first one for the 5th grade to attend minus the 8th graders. As part of the school improvement process, the Middle School is emphasizing the professional learning community concept. Teachers who attend workshops will share the content of these professional development opportunities with their fellow teachers. Fifth grade came up with a slogan of PRIDE – personal best, respect, inside voices, dependable and equipped to learn. Students are also getting a bit sloppy in their work and the staff will now begin to retool those skills and abilities. Students should be proud of their work. All ISAT prep work is done (study prep, Study Island, short writing essays and the practice tests) but now we are looking into getting the students data cards and having an information assembly by grade level. Each student's card will show his/her last year's data on a personal best card. Scores will be explained and students will sign a contract to get ready for the testing. Staff will work on ISAT activities to be presented in late March as a performance surprise. The slogan to be used is "It's All About Me – Meets and Exceeds".

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Krause informed the Board that all Health/Life Safety issues have been completed and a follow up letter has been sent to the Regional Office of Education (08-01-04).

The annual Joint Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Board members, Pat Hughes and Steve Knar, volunteered to serve on this committee with Kris Germain as the alternate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Krause informed the board that the district's law firm is holding a workshop on Saturday morning, February 23rd. No one signed up to attend.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to adjourn to executive session at 7:38 p.m. to consider information regarding appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the district and for the purpose of conducting a semi-annual review of lawfully closed meeting minutes was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Lisa Anderson and Steve Knar. Voting nay – none. Motion approved

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to return from executive session at 8:33 p.m. was made by Susan McGarrigle and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar and Pat Hughes. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to keep the closed minutes of the regular Board of Education Meetings held on June 25, 2007, September 24, 2007, October 22, 2007, and the closed minutes of the special Board of Education Meetings of August 1, 2007 and September 24, 2007 closed due to their confidential nature was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Steve Knar. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to open to the public the closed session minutes from the regular Board of Education Meeting held on July 25, 2007 was made by Lisa Anderson and seconded by Susan McGarrigle. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle and Kris Germain. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to accept the resignation of Mrs. Debbie Randle-Hayes effective at the end of the school year was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Board members Steve Knar and Pat Hughes thanked Mrs. Randle-Hayes for her 19 years of service to the students and parents of Fox River Grove.

A motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Brian Wetherbee effective immediately was made by Susan McGarrigle and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Lisa Anderson and Steve Knar. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to employ Mrs. Kim Neilson as the District 3 Social Worker for the 2008-2009 school year was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Susan McGarrigle. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar and Pat Hughes. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to employ Mr. Eric Runck as principal of the Fox River Grove Middle School for the 2008-2009 school year was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. was made by Pat Hughes and seconded by Steve Knar. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye – All ayes. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

Patrick B. Hughes
President
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lois M. Bowman
Secretary
BOARD OF EDUCATION