

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF
FOX RIVER GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008 – 7:00 P.M.
FOX RIVER GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was held to honor the memory of Kay Laube, former board member and current village president.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

WELCOME GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Third grade teachers Mrs. Pat Beebe and Mrs. Bonny Patterson and students, Will Pickering, Ryley Knar, Jake Buss, Jodie Werner, Kyle Ives and Emma Suchy, presented the Board with delicious slices of apple pie. The 3rd graders informed the Board of their recent field trip to Royal Oaks Apple Orchard and the various projects they completed on this apple unit. Teachers and all third grade students were thanked for their efforts.

Board member Susan McGarrigle entered the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Mrs. Mary Ellen Bebbber, ARS Art Teacher, introduced 2nd grade student, Abby Sturtecky and 5th grade student, Alyssa Grieco. The artwork of these two students out of about 500 art pieces has been recognized by the Illinois Art Education Association. Their artwork will be honored at a convention in Geneva in October. Dr. Mahaffy, on behalf of School District 3 and the Board of Education, presented Abby and Alyssa certificates of art achievement.

Board member Gerry Blohm entered the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

No one signed in to address the Board.

Board member Tom Mollet entered the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Kris Germain to approve the consent agenda, approve and open to the public the regular minutes of the regular Board meeting of August 18, 2008, approve the August 2008 Treasurer's Report, approve the September 2008 Bills and Payroll and approve the August Activity Accounts Report. Susan McGarrigle seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain and Gerry Blohm. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy recognized audience member Susan Pettigrew who is currently student teaching and has about six weeks to go. After completion, she will return to our staff.

A motion to adjourn from the regular board meeting and go to public hearing for the FY09 budget was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm and Tom Mollet. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY09 BUDGET

Superintendent Mahaffy reminded the Board that they approved the tentative FY09 budget at the August meeting in order for it to lay for public view for 30 days. Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the fund balances from the August meeting. Due to IPAM changes, dollars in the Education Fund only available for TORT purposes need to be transferred from the Education Fund to the new TORT Fund (Fund 80). Therefore, this will decrease the amount of money in the Education Fund. However, this revenue could only be used for TORT litigation. Dr. Mahaffy reviewed a graph on projected fund balances from FY05 to FY08. The District continues to strive to maintain healthy fund balances. Through our auditors, the percentages on the Corporate Personal Property Replacement tax amounts were adjusted in the Education Fund, the Operations and Maintenance Fund and the IMRF Fund. Also, the general state aid allocation and hold harmless supplement amounts were confirmed since the August meeting. The district has been informed that we will probably not be receiving any state transition aid next year. TRS "on behalf of" is what the State pays each school district as their percentage to keep TRS healthy – this allocation is only in and out on paper – the district does not see this money. Other changes included an equipment line in band, technology software, modifications to some of the grant allocations, textbook amounts, off site special education costs including transportation, IPAM changes and recommended auditor changes. Additional line items for overtime (secretary, custodial, maintenance), were added to the FY09 budget to better track these expenditures.

There were no public comments from the audience.

A motion to close public hearing and return to open session of the regular board meeting was made by Gerry Blohm and seconded by Susan McGarrigle. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion to approve the FY09 Budget (08-09-01) was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson and Steve Knar. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion to approve the following volunteer coaches and assistant coaches – Pam Katchen, head coach (8th grade girls' basketball), assistant coaches, Lizzy Dyrek and Alyssa Zintl (7th or 8th grade girls' basketball), Caitlin Bailey, head coach (8th grade girls' volleyball), and Lisa Siedentop-Wing, assistant coach (8th grade girls volleyball) was made by Pat Hughes and seconded by Tom Mollet. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, and Pat Hughes. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the 2008-2009 Application for Recognition of Public Schools was made by Lisa Anderson and seconded by Kris Germain (08-09-02). A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the employment of Teresa Masterson as Algonquin Road School lunchroom aide was made by Lisa Anderson and seconded by Steve Knar. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle and Kris Germain. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the Resolution for Permanent Transfer from the Education Fund to the Tort Fund was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Lisa Anderson (08-09-03). A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the Fox River Grove School District 3 Fine Arts and Music Curriculum Guides was made by Kris Germain and Lisa Anderson (08-09-04). A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson and Steve Knar. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy and the administrative team recommended to the Board the movement away from the use of the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. This test has worked very well for the District in providing norm referenced data and scores for students to see how they compete with students across the nation as that test was taken in that period of time. No Child Left Behind requires Districts to have a Response to Intervention (RTI) plan in effect by January 1, 2009. Through the Response to Intervention plan, school districts need to implement ongoing progress monitoring activity assessment by 2010-11. RTI is a three tiered intervention system used as a precursor to special education services. ITBS does not provide this ongoing progress monitoring. AimsWeb is currently being used at the K-2 level as a probing assessment for reading. The

diagnostic reading center is a good on-going tool for assessment as well. The District spends about \$4,000 on scoring services and about \$1,000 on testing materials. ITBS does not meet the needs of RTI.

Mr. Runck described another possible program, MAP, Measurement of Academic Progress and ScanTron. These ongoing probing documents can provide the information needed for RTI. MAP tests in the areas of math, reading, language usage and the sciences. It monitors progress over time and can be national specific or class specific or co-horts over time. Immediate help can be given to a student in any area after the completion of this test. Teachers also are given specific areas in order to enhance student learning.

Ms. Machroli has been to several RTI conferences and Mrs. Jaime White, ARS psychologist, is the District's RTI coordinator. The AimesWeb assessment is easy to use and the information obtained is useful in the grouping of students and early intervention. This would be a wonderful addition in order to identify student needs.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that whatever assessment tool is chosen to be used in the District, all students would benefit. Response to Intervention is not a special education initiative, but a regular education initiative. The follow-up probes and testing would be geared to those who are not responding to intervention strategies. The teachers receive prescriptive suggestions as to how to enhance the students' weaknesses. Data is meaningful, current and timely for all the stakeholders – teachers, parents and students.

After much board discussion and since ITBS does not meet the criteria for RTI, the next step would be to continue to research what our assessment in this District would be to meet the needs of RTI and making sure that we are not losing assessment data that is valuable to our District.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that this will be a big decision. ITBS has been a great test, but does not meet the RTI requirements. Dr. Mahaffy, after researching the various vendors and pilot testing, will report back to the Board on what assessment services will be recommended and why.

A motion to accept the resignation of District Nurse, Destiny Sadoski, effective October 17, 2008, was made by Susan McGarrigle and seconded by Steve Knar. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, and Pat Hughes. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

A motion to give authorization to Dr. Mahaffy to advertise and interview for a non-certified nurse for School District 3 on or before October 17, 2008 was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

POLICY

A motion to approve the second reading and adoption of the following new or revised policies – Policies 2:105 – Ethics and Gift Ban, 2:120 – Board Member Development, 4:50 – Payment

Procedures, 4:55 – Use of Credit and Procurement Cards, 4:55-E – Cardholder’s Statement Affirming Familiarity with Requirements for Using District Credit and/or Procurement Cards, 4:80 – Accounting and Audits, 4:90 – Activity Funds, 4:170 – Safety, and 6:20 – School Year Calendar and Day was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Kris Germain (08-09-05). A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Steve Knar, Pat Hughes, Susan McGarrigle and Kris Germain. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Algonquin Road School – Ms. Machroli – Midterms will be sent home on October 1st followed by Fire Prevention Week with an assembly presented by the Fox River Grove Fire Department on October 7th. The student who sells the most Entertainment Books will be principal for a half day also on the 7th. There will be no classes on October 10th and 14th due to a Teacher Institute and Columbus Day. Red Ribbon week is scheduled for October 20th-24th and there is an early release on the 23rd. Ms. Machroli will bring back information on AimsWeb at the October board meeting. Enrollment is at 282 students. Students in grades Kindergarten through 6th received pencil pouches from Metra and the kindergarten students wrote a thank you letter to Metra.

Fox River Grove Middle School – Mr. Runck – The first middle school dance was held on September 19th. Students were asked to bring in non-perishable food items for the food pantry. Two assemblies are scheduled for the 25th – Count on Me and Behind the Faces. There will also be a Fire Prevention Assembly at the MS. Kim Neilson will do a presentation for the 5/6th grades on a drug prevention message and the 7/8th graders will have an assembly on “Lies About Highs”. School pride, which was written in last year’s school improvement, has been broken down into two areas -- in both academic and extra-curricular. The next major step is to implement the suggestions from staff and students. The local police department with the county sheriff’s department will be receiving a refresher presentation on gangs and drugs in McHenry County.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Mahaffy informed the Board that the Annual Safety Survey that needs to be reported to the Regional Office of Education needs to be completed after the last day of school but before the first day of school the following year. Therefore, the Joint Advisory Committee meeting will still be convened in the Spring to review both the ARS and FRGMS Parent-Student Handbooks and review of the federal and state grants. First responders will then be invited to attend a meeting in August to review the Safe School and Crisis Management Plan.

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the annual school report cards with the Board (08-09-06). These report cards contain our annual financial report, demographic data as a school district and ISAT scores compared to the State both last year and this year. The meets and exceeds categories were discussed. As these percentages continue to increase, a growth model assessment must be in place to continue to make these percentages rise. Dr. Mahaffy will prepare an information sheet on the schools in our area once he receives this data. The 2008 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status report was discussed (08-09-07).

The FRG School District 3 ISAT Longitudinal Test School Summary data (08-09-08) was also reviewed. This data shows year to year progress or trends. Teachers continue to get better with horizontal and vertical articulation. Information is constantly being shared for continued improvement and we are very proud of them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:47 p.m. was made by Steve Knar and seconded by Kris Germain. 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