

OAK GROVE SCHOOL BOARD BRIEFS

May 18, 2009

Regular Board of Education Meeting

This is a summary of events that occurred at the meeting, not official minutes.

DECISIONS

Wireless Upgrade

The Board approved \$5000 to have a wireless site survey performed. This survey will identify the wireless requirements for the building.

Parking Lot/Drainage Project

- The Board approved not to proceed with adding more parking spaces. This decision came after public Board discussion and an O&M review suggesting that the cost of this part of the project exceeds the benefit.
- The Board also approved fees not to exceed \$9544.66 for the engineer plan review and watershed development permit required by the Village of Green Oaks. These fees are required to be paid before work can begin.

Playground

The Board approved the playground bid from Fuerte Systems with community build. This bid includes playground equipment, tables, benches, trash receptacles, moving the basketball hoops and wood chips on play area.

Textbook Adoption

Consistent with the recommendation from the CCC, the Board approved \$28,532.54 for new Pearson-Prentice Hall math books for Jr. High. The Board also approved the adoption of the *Making Meaning* classroom reading program and materials for K-3 for \$13,048.60.

Employment Actions

- The board approved an increase from a part-time to full-time secretary position for the Junior High.
- The board accepted 2 maternity leaves.
- The board accepted 1 teacher resignation for the 2009-2010 school year.

On-line Board Packets

The Board agreed to table the approval of the contract with IASA for *BoardBook* for attorney review. *BoardBook* is a Web-based software application that electronically streamlines the preparation of board agenda packets and builds a searchable archive of meeting agenda packets and approved minutes.

Board Calendar – The Board approved corrections to the Regular Board meeting dates for 2009-2010 including changing the start time to 7:15 pm for the June 2009 meeting.

Board Briefs – The Board agreed to publish a summary of board meetings (Board Briefs) to the public about 7 days after each regular or special meeting.

Consent Agenda – The Board approved the consent agenda including approval of Regular Board of Education meeting minutes, April 20, 2009, and Special Meeting minutes, April 27, 2009, and May 6, 2009; destruction of closed session recordings 18 months or older per IL state law; authorization to pay May accounts payable and June payroll; and Treasurer's Report.

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INFORMATION

District Communication Committee Report -- The district communications committee presented a summary of the outcomes of their work. The communication committee was formed in November 2008 with a charge from the Board to improve communications by identifying successful means of communication currently operating; identifying communication areas for improvement; and presenting specific recommendations and plans to improve communication. The Board thanked the Communication Committee for all their work on this effort. Key findings will be published to the community.

Long Range Technology Report – Dr. Jason Meltzer presented an in-depth report about the technology integration team direction and approach. He also presented a first pass budget for next year.

The overall goal is to properly integrate technology for student achievement. He reinforced that technology integration success relies on our teachers and students using technology to achieve educational results. This means using technology administratively for things such as report cards, communication and correspondence; integrating technology in teacher material preparation and leading classroom activities; and giving our students hands-on experience.

There have been technology integration successes with individual teachers and grade levels. Dr. Meltzer indicated that improvement is needed in curricular areas. He suggested that a task force for technology professional development be renewed to stimulate technology integration.

The technology implementation progress over the last 3 school years was also highlighted. The technology plan going forward includes the addition of computers, presentation stations, and software. Current need is to upgrade the wireless network to provide easier student access to network files while using laptops and improve the network security. Higher network speeds will be an added benefit.

District Strategic Plan – Gordon Boulger is organizing the strategic planning process for the Board. The process will begin with a mini meeting with a few administrators and board members to share what each wants to get out of the strategic plan. The community will be surveyed for input as well as invited to a community meeting specifically for the strategic planning process. The Board will work with a consultant over 3 days in July to develop the plan.

Other Information

- Lynn Brundza distributed the Board committee appointments. Committee appointments will be posted on the website.
- Insurance committee met to discuss insurance premium renewal rate increases. The committee will meet again next week to continue discussion and decision making.

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RECOGNITION

Janice Matthews, together with the Board, recognized the 6th-8th grade students who received Character Counts awards for demonstrating the pillars of character. These students were celebrated at an Eagle Breakfast last week.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Manski
Board Secretary