REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Monday, February 28, 2011

The regular meeting of the Northland Pines Board of Education of Monday, February 28, 2011, was called to order by President Tim Gaffney at six o'one p.m. (6:01 p.m.) at the Northland Pines High School in the Large Group Instruction Room. The Board and citizens recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were board members: Jim Mulleady; Eric Neff; Mike Sealander; Holly McCormack; Tim Gaffney; and John Sarama. Mike Jovanovic was absent. Quorum was established. Also present were Mike Richie, District Administrator; Scott Foster, High School Principal/Technology; Josh Tilley, Dean of Students; Jackie Coghlan, Middle School Principal; Margo Smith, Business Manager; Duane Frey, Elementary Principal; Dave Bohnen, Building & Grounds Supervisor; Fritz Crall, Building & Grounds Supervisor; Andrew Ambrosius, Student Representative; and Susie Block, Recording Secretary. There were 50 citizens in attendance.

Open Meeting Verification - Tim Gaffney verified that the meeting had been duly called. Meeting notices were posted at the following locations:

1. The Northland Pines High School and Middle School in Eagle River
2. The Northland Pines Elementary Schools in Eagle River, Land O'Lakes and St. Germain
3. The Vilas County Courthouse - Eagle River
4. The Eagle River City Hall
5. Additional notice was given to the Vilas County News Review-Eagle River; WERL/WRJO Radio Station-Eagle River; The Rhinelander Daily News-Rhinelander and WHDG Radio Station-Rhinelander

Approval of Agenda - MOTION by Mike Sealander that the Board approves the agenda and leaves the order to the discretion of the Chair. Second by Eric Neff. Voice vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Public Participation Section of the Meeting

James Lynn spoke in opposition of teachers using sick leave pay to go to Madison to protest the state budget and requested that the Board discipline teachers if they lied about being sick.

Kathy Mitchell spoke in opposition of collective bargaining and payment of union dues.

Jeff Kirschmann asked the Board questions regarding who pays the teachers' pensions and who controls that money thereafter. Kirschman asked what amounts are contributed to health insurance by teachers.

Nancy Niemczyk spoke in support of teachers and asked the community members to come into the classrooms to see what teachers do each day.

Shirley Kufeldt spoke in opposition of teachers talking to students about unions and protesting and getting students to protest, saying that the teachers' integrity, reputation, trust and respect are tarnished when this happens. Kufeldt said teachers should not be pulling students into this situation and that is unacceptable.

Steve Decker spoke in support of civil debate and said that we are all one community and regardless of the way each individual feels about the state budget changes, there is no need to be evil to one another. Decker said we all need to step back and get along.

A public participation form was handed in for Kim Simac, noting that she could not arrive until 6:30 p.m., and requesting that she be allowed to speak to the Board at that time.

Minutes of Past Meetings - MOTION by Holly McCormack that the Board dispenses with the reading of the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 31, 2011; the Regular Meeting of January 31, 2011 including the closed session minutes; and the Special Meeting minutes of February 21, 2011; and approves them as presented. Second by Eric Neff. Holly McCormack amended her motion to also **include corrections for the Special Meeting minutes of February 21, 2011, to delete the references of Tim Gaffney calling the meeting to order and doing the open meeting verification, noting that Tim Gaffney was listed as absent from the meeting so the Vice President, Mike Sealander, ran the meeting in Gaffney's absence and Sealander did the open meeting verification**. Eric Neff seconded the amended motion. Voice vote on the motion as amended 6-0. Motion carried.

Board Committee Reports & Communications

- **Staff Member of the Month**: **Laura Weber**. Laura has been a teacher in the Northland Pines School District for the past 13 years. Laura's dedication to kids, her positive attitude and her willingness to help sets a great example. Laura gives of her time above and beyond the normal school day to provide opportunities for students to be successful. She works one-on-one with students after school to try to get them on track. She is compassionate and tries to bring out the best in kids. Over the years Laura has been involved with the Talent Show, the Spelling Bee, the middle school ski trip, activity days, the monthly birthday announcements, to name a few. Laura has collaborated with colleagues as part of our Ed Tech Grant at CESA, is a member of our Building RtI Team and the District's Leadership Team. She is also actively involved in the Eagle River Community. Laura is a true advocate for kids. Laura is a wonderful asset to the Northland Pines School District and she truly deserves this award. **Congratulations Laura!**
- Finance Committee meeting minutes for the February 28, 2011, meeting will be distributed in the March electronic board packet.
- Policy, Curriculum & Education Committee meeting minutes were distributed in the electronic board packet.

Student Representative Report to the Board

Andrew Ambrosius reported that the Boys Basketball team is going to play Oconto Falls in our fieldhouse on Tuesday, March 1, 2011; the Y is sponsoring a night of games and activities during the game. Congratulations to Boys and Girls hockey team finishing their seasons. It is scholarship time and students are working hard to complete scholarship applications.

YMCA Report – Director Nancy Ellis' report was distributed in the electronic board packet.

Administrators Reports

Mike Richie reported:

- Northland Pines was awarded a Rural School Award for our partnership with the Y.
- Open Enrollment numbers are 38 new applications to come in to our district and 18 have applied to leave the district. Richie reported on Senate Bill 2 changes pertaining to Open Enrollment.

Scott Foster reported that over 70 students were involved in the recent high school play **Seven Brides for Seven Brothers** and commended Kate Janssen, Brandon Bautz and all the staff and students involved in this excellent production.

Public participation comment: Kim Simac arrived and spoke in opposition of teachers using their positions to influence students in one political direction; Simac said she does not mind the teachers presenting their side, but over and over again they only present one political side and not the other, so there is no balance. Simac said teachers need to be teaching students about the great state of Wisconsin and about the great country of America, and not always tearing it down.

Discussion/Action Items:

Payment of Bills

MOTION by John Sarama that the Board approves the payment of bills according to the summary check register dated 01/14/11 – 02/24/11 in the amount of $1,384,225.29. Second by Mike Sealander. Voice vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Budget Repair Bill

Mike Richie said we do not know yet how this bill is going to affect Northland Pines. The Governor is supposed to release the state budget on Tuesday, March 1, 2011. Richie said we need a decision on the Budget Repair Bill and the Governor's state budget so we have the answers to move forward as a district.

2011-2012 Teacher Contracts

MOTION by Holly McCormack that the Board approves the issue of the 2011-2012 teacher contracts. Second by Mike Sealander. Voice vote 5-0. Tim Gaffney abstained. Motion carried.

66:03 Agreements

MOTION by Mike Sealander that the Board approves the 66:03 agreements with the Three Lakes School District. Second by Eric Neff. Voice vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Resolution

MOTION by Eric Neff that the Board approves the Resolution Appointing Associated Trust Company, National Association To Serve As Fiscal Agent In Connection With Outstanding Bond Issues. Second by Holly McCormack. Voice vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Fundraising

MOTION by Jim Mulleady that the Board allows Coach Dodge with oversight of administration to sell advertising space on the varsity baseball fencing. Second by Mike Sealander. Voice vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Resignations

MOTION by Jim Mulleady that the Board accepts the resignations of Mary Dunleavy and Nicole Pizzi. Second by Eric Neff. Voice vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Mike Richie noted that many districts are issuing a lot of non-renewal notices to their teaching staff to comply with the Februrary 28th Wis. Stats. date; that may be because either they do not have settled contracts and/or they do not have layoff language in their contracts. Northland Pines has a settled teacher contract through June 30, 2011, and in that contract we have layoff notice language

that indicates we may issue layoffs by May 1st if necessary; therefore, we do not have to issue non-renewal notices and the Board has indicated they will not be going in that direction tonight.

Executive Session

MOTION by Tim Gaffney to adjourn to executive session in accordance with Chapter 19, Sub-Chapter IV, pursuant to s. 19.85(1)(c)(e) and/or (f), and 118.125 of the Wisconsin Statutes to consider employee attendance and related disciplinary and collective bargaining agreement issues, and to discuss pupil truancy, pupil behavior, and related potential disciplinary issues.

(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session.

(f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.

Second by Holly McCormack. Roll call vote: John Sarama, yes; Jim Mulleady, yes; Mike Sealander, yes; Eric Neff, yes; Holly McCormack, yes. Motion carried.

Tim Gaffney recused himself and left the room/closed session discussion while the Board discussed the teacher disciplinary issue; he was called back in to the room by the Board when they discussed the student issues.

Reconvene to Open Session

MOTION by Mike Sealander that the Board approves the issue of reconvenes to open session to take such action(s) as the Board deems appropriate, following consideration given in executive session. Second by Eric Neff**.** Voice vote 5-0. Motion carried.

There was no action taken in closed session; however, the Board issued the following statement:

The Board has directed the District Administrator to further investigate 24 individuals who were absent from work on Friday, February 18th, with potential disciplinary action for the day in question to include, but not be limited to, docked wages for the day.

Adjournment

MOTION by Mike Sealander that the Board adjourns. Second by Jim Mulleady. Voice vote 6-0. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.