

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MENOMONEE FALLS

Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

MINUTES OF MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date: May 23, 2011
Purpose: Regular Meeting
Present: *Board Members Present* – Bertieri, Blodorn, Noshay, Shurilla, Palazzari, Ternes, VanderHorst
Administrators: Marty, Dohmeier, Gross, Myles
Media – Cable TV, Express News, MyCommunityNow.com, Patch.com

Kathy Shurilla, School Board President, called this meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Public posting of the meeting was noted.

Motion by Faith VanderHorst

To approve the Minutes of the regular School Board meeting of May 9, 2011

Yes - 7 No - 0

Motion by Faith VanderHorst

To approve the Minutes of the Public Budget Hearing of May 9, 2011

Yes - 7 No - 0

Finest:

Scott Walter, Principal, Riverside Elementary, announced to the School Board that Riverside will be receiving a Gold Wisconsin School Health Award signifying the school's commitment to providing students with the knowledge and skills to make healthy decisions. Also introduced were three 5th graders who spoke on their "College Bound" philosophy practiced at their school.

Three Friend of Education Awards were presented to worthy recipients: Rosalie Schulze, nominated by Carol Rudnick, student artist, Alex Uribe; Bruce Roehsner, nominated by Jerry Mislant, student artist Bree Knuese and Bob Simi, nominated by Keith Marty, student artist Megan Travia.

Max Haufschild, 5th grader at Riverside reported on activities and events taking place at his school.

After a short break, School Board President, Kathy Shurilla explained she would entertain comments or questions from those present. Before calling speakers forward, a brief presentation on the major changes in the MFEA contract were explained. School Board Vice President, Gina Palazzari explained the modifications made to the contract.

Parameters for speakers coming to the podium were explained.

Erich Rutsch, Crossway Drive - expressed gratitude to the School Board for working collaboratively with teachers. Instead of waiting for the Repair Bill to settle the contract, both parties agreed on the insurance change and other details of the contract.

Steven Powers, Ash Drive - has decided to send his children to private school. Respects teachers, but was disappointed with some of the actions of teachers. Admitted that he, as a business man, changes his insurance for employees every other year, looking for the best option.

Bill Ell, Shepherd Drive - Suggests waiting for Governor Walker's proposals. Feels the contract was approved without the citizens' best interests in mind.

Ian C. Schroeder, Lilly Road – Against new teacher contract and collaboration with the corrupt union.

Jason Downs, Stonewood Drive – Hard to discuss when he doesn't see actual language of contract. Not buying the argument that inaction would be costly. Not looking out for interest of the taxpayers. Being locked into a 2-year deal won't be able to get the best teachers in the future.

Don McNamara, St. Stevens Drive – School Board has always been generous to the district. Urges to vote no to a 2-year contract with all the unknowns. Feels Humana plan would be a plan most would love to have. Feels a lot of money is going to the teacher's union.

Michael Heiderich, Valley View Drive – Hopes the contract will be revoked when the Bill from Madison is enacted. Should have had the opportunity to review the papers and not have students present this evening. Doesn't feel teachers are doing a good job.

Keith Lofy, Lilly Road – Too short a time to consider. Believes pay should be for performance.

Bob Radder, Main Street – His children are no longer in the district. Upset with talk radio conversation. Should start with a blank sheet of paper and then add benefits. Need to do things differently, not the same as 30 years ago. Can't give what you don't have. Give the laws at the higher level a chance to take effect.

Paul Gentz, Joss Place – Living in surreal times. Should have had a public viewing before the approval. Everyone is taking massive pay cuts. He is a volunteer in his children's schools trying to make it a better place.

Chris Fritz, Pershing Avenue – Only finding out information from talk radio. Disapproves of the two-year contract, compromise due to pressure of Repair Bill. Would not be present had he known the contract is null and void if the Repair Bill passes.

Paul Spaulding, Northwood Drive – Credit to Dr. Marty for going on the Belling show. Doesn't see any reason for the contract settlement. Don't rush this through.

Jeff Thompson, Woodland Drive – Thank you to district for bargaining in good faith. Law becomes law when it gets published, doesn't see that yet.

Michele Divelbiss, Georgetown Drive – attends nearly every Board meeting to find out what is happening. Also attended the School Study Group sessions to learn the tools to know what was happening, subs in the district and has worked in every building, three children in the district, a PTA President. Feels the contract is a starting point and realizes the Board has to make some tough decisions even though it is a hot issue. Merit pay will need to be worked out; parents should be part of this evaluation.

