

Board of Education Minutes October 10, 2005

Pres. Halverson called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the high school media center.

Present: Dennis Halverson, Diane Kilkenny, Larry Levensgood, Chris Michaud, Dean Spencley, Ardeth Wieland, Bill Trubilowicz

Absent: None

Administrators present: John Sturock, Keith Haske, Gary Grundman, Dick Swenor

Guests present: Rob Shutler, Nathaniel Sotuyo

Supt. Sturock shared the elementary school calendar for October; a thank you note from Cherie Helm; a letter of retirement from Mari Bascom, Teacher Assistant at the elementary school; a letter of resignation from Bryan Hawkins as the Varsity Baseball Coach; and the MASB Delegate Assembly Handbook.

Moved by Diane Kilkenny, supported by Chris Michaud, that the items listed on the consent agenda which includes the minutes of the regular meeting of September 12, 2005, the special meeting of October 5, 2005, the general fund bills paid by check #11232 to check #11464 and the Treasurer's report for September 2005 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried 7-0

Supt. Sturock presented the Board Goal Action Plans that were created to address each goal. Bill Trubilowicz suggested changing the review date of the student handbook from June to March 2006.

Chris Michaud questioned whether or not we have an annual "update" for kids regarding consequences for drugs, alcohol, etc. She suggested having a class or an assembly once a year to remind kids of these consequences. Supt. Sturock explained that we have DARE in the elementary and middle schools and that we work with the local BASES program to address these needs at the high school level. We also perform a survey with our students to study the usage trends. Current results have shown that our usage rates are down both locally and county-wide. This is encouraging that hopefully, we are doing something right in the schools, as well as the parents at home. Bill Trubilowicz suggested putting a Feb. 2006 review date on the action plan that addresses working with the Sheriff's dept. and law enforcement agencies to assure a drug-free school to assess the progress of this action plan. Dean Spencley suggested possibly adding something to the freshman orientation like having a police officer explain the legal consequences of drug usage to the students.

Dennis Halverson requested that everyone keep in mind as we go through the year, whether or not we find these new action plans useful, both from the board perspective and from the staff.

Dennis Halverson introduced a letter he received from the Public Library requesting that the two boards meet to discuss the library property issue. He asked for board suggestions on a direction to take with the library. Dean Spencley feels that the whole boards meeting would not be a helpful way to discuss the matter. Sixteen people will be confusing, not to mention that attorneys would need to be present to answer any questions regarding the deed as it is a complicated legal matter. It was pointed out that the library has yet to follow through in good faith with filing the reverter clause on the quit claim deed as was originally agreed upon by both boards. Chris Michaud suggested sending our past correspondence to their board members rather than just to the library director. Dennis Halverson suggested that we continue to repeat our mantra of asking "why haven't they corrected deed?" We have previously been given timelines by them that have not been followed through and we deserve to know why. The board gave Dennis Halverson the direction to send a letter to their board to respond in writing to the following questions:

Why hasn't the deed been corrected as previously promised? When can our board expect it to be corrected? As long as those questions get answered then we will consider meeting with the library board. If the library board responds that they are not going to fix the deed then we don't have anything to discuss with them. Bill Trubilowicz suggested asking what the library thinks the agenda for the joint meeting should be. A suggestion was made to reference the May 2005 letter in asking AGAIN to have the deed corrected and to maintain our position that until the deed is corrected there is nothing to discuss.

Moved by Bill Trubilowicz, supported by Dean Spencley, that the Charlevoix Board of Education approve the appointment of Sharon Jennex-Batdorff as a full time bus driver for the 2005-2006 school year as recommended.

Motion Carried 7-0

Moved by Diane Kilkenny, supported by Ardeth Wieland, that the Charlevoix Board of Education award the snow plow bid to Hilltop, Inc. for the 2005-2006 school year.

Motion Carried 7-0

Supt. Sturock informed the board that Jayne Bennett is applying for a mini-grant to have an Irish festival in March 2006 in our auditorium which will include lessons, a concert, etc. The total cost is about \$12k, the grant would fund about \$4k. She will be seeking additional funding from other local sources such as the CCC foundation. He also informed the board that the state aid bill was signed which awarded us with a \$175 per pupil increase in discretionary funding.

Chuck Mason, student council representative, informed the board of a Katrina fundraiser that was started in the high school. In response to the earlier discussion on drug use awareness programs, he gave a student perspective to the board. He commented on the DARE program that is administered at the elementary and middle school, saying that although is very effective at those levels, by the time students get to high school they are sick of hearing the same information. He suggested delivering the information in a more effective manner; that personal testimonies have been very impacting and students would more likely benefit from hearing more of that rather than hearing the same information from police, etc. He also suggested having more parent groups to address the issues with each other.

There was roundtable discussion regarding a new AmeriCorp worker at the high school, the upcoming GrandFriend day at the K4, MEAP testing taking place at both the K4 and middle school.

Dean Spencley asked if anyone had any suggestions for a location to hold a haunted house as a fundraiser for the junior class.

Bill Trubilowicz suggested having a personnel subcommittee meeting to discuss the resignation letter from Bryan Hawkins. He also suggested having a building and grounds committee meeting to discuss the action plans that involve them and to possibly tour the buildings.

Dennis Halverson informed the board of a concert that Rotary is sponsoring on Saturday, October 15th at 7:30 in our auditorium. Tickets are \$15 each. He also mentioned results of a study that he read about showing the effects of class sizes on all grades up to 4th indicating that classes under 17 kids are more successful; grades beyond 4th did not have the same result. Dennis informed the board that he is leaving the police department to go work for Char-Em.

Meeting Adjourned 7:54 p.m.

Larry Levensgood, Secretary