SCHOOL DISTRICT OF INDEPENDENCE

23786 INDEE BLVD.

INDEPENDENCE, WI 54747

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

**MINUTES**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of Independence was called to order in the English room (311) at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, February 6, 2013 by President Joe Brägger.  
  
**Roll Call:** Present for roll call were Board members Jeff Bautch, Joe Brägger, Chuck Walek, Leah Matchey and Bob Guza, plus Superintendent Paul Vine, High School Principal, Barry Schmitt, and District bookkeeper, Marita Halama.

**Convene in closed session:** Motion made by Jeff Bautch, seconded by Bob Guza, to convene in closed session in accordance with Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1) (e) to review the teacher staff handbook. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote, and the meeting went into closed session at 6:06pm. Jeff Ruhland and Chad Risler of the IEA were present for a portion of the closed session in order to represent the teachers group in staff handbook discussions.

**Reconvene in open session**: Motion made by Jeff Bautch, seconded by Bob Guza, to reconvene in open session at 7:10pm; the vote on this matter was a 4-0 approval.

**Proof of public notice:** Dr. Vine confirmed the agenda was legally and properly posted.  The pledge of Allegiance was recited.  
   
**Delegations/Public Input**:  Jeff Ruhland commented on the ski trip held on February 6, and relayed the comments of the staff at Bruce Mound regarding how well behaved our group was, and Mr. Ruhland stated that this year’s ½ day trip accommodated the board and administration requests to reduce loss of classroom instruction time for such outings.  
           
**Consent Agenda:**

1. **Treasurer's’ Report:** Motion to approve treasurer’s report including payrolls of January, vendor checks #  27390 – 127534, and expense journal entries # 1701-1714; motion by Leah Matchey, seconded by Jeff Bautch (vote of 4-0 approval).

b)   **Minutes:**  Motion to approve minutes of January 9, 2013 regular meeting, and the January 16, 2013 and January 23, 2013 special meetings with the motion made by Jeff Bautch, seconded by Bob Guza;   the motion to approve carried on a 4-0 vote.

c)  **Employment**: Motion to approve moving the discussion on the head baseball coaching position to closed session as allowed by WI statute 19.85 (1) ( c ) was made by Leah Matchey, seconded by Jeff Bautch. Motion carried on a 4-0 vote. Motion was made by Leah Matchey, seconded by Bob Guza, to approve the hire of Erica Lundberg as assistant softball coach; motion carried on 4-0 vote. Motion made by Leah Matchey, seconded by Jeff Bautch, to approve offer of contracts to Jenna Sonsalla and Dana Bowen as middle school track coaches for 2013 spring. The motion carried 4-0.

**Celebrations and Acknowledgements:**

* Dr. Vine complimented the staff for completing the suicide prevention course training online through DPI.
* Wendy Stuttgen gave a power point presentation about the data collected from AIMSWeb scoring at defined intervals in the school year, and how the data helps target student needs and also tracks improvements in the implemented student assistance plans.

**Discussion:**

1. **Ag Science credit process overview:** the December 6 meeting agenda included requests for approval of some agriculture courses as meeting science requirements, and the Board had asked for more clarification on the rules and requirements before approving selected ag. courses as science credits. Jason Hovell was present at tonight’s meeting to provide further information and to relay information from WI DPI regarding the reasons for and process of applying for “equivalent credits”. The process involves aligning curriculum with science standards, and proving that the agriculture science courses are of equivalent curriculum. The DPI has developed stricter rules regarding the use of the “equivalent credits” and the after the Board approves the applications for such requests, the DPI will be the deciding agency for the final approval. The current plan is to have three Agriscience courses to be presented to the Board for application approval at the March meeting, and then being forwarded to DPI for final action. Mr. Hovell also indicated this is a separate process from the WTC cross walk for course credits which would count as tech school credits, and that some colleges will be more discriminating in what “equivalent credits” are acceptable on transcripts than others.
2. **Student Council Update:** Katie Franks was present to give the student council update on recent activities.
3. **Open Enrollment Space:** The timelines and processes were reviewed. State law requires annually adopting and approving space in schools, programs, classes for non-resident open enrolled students. Leah Matchey made the motion to accept the administrative listing of class size limits and special education student limits as presented at the meeting. Jeff Bautch seconded the motion, and it was approved 4-0.
4. **The 2013-14 district calendar**: The draft version of the calendar was presented for discussion; the student start date will be September 3, and the final calendar approval will be done at the March meeting.
5. **Board Policy # 421 Homeless Policy (first reading):**Dr. Vine developed the policy as required by the recent Civil Rights Compliance audit. After second reading next month and possible approval, the policy and rule attached are to be distributed and communicated as required.

**Action Agenda:**

1. **Second reading of Board Policy # 411 – Nondiscrimination policy:** Motion by Leah Matchey, second by Bob Guza, to approve the second reading of the policy as required by our recent Civil Rights audit.

b)  **Board policy # 164 Board member compensation (second reading of policy):** At the request of Board member(s), the policy is being developed to give the board the option of waiving the meeting fee (per diem) for board members participating in ad-hoc committees. Motion made by Bob Guza, seconded by Jeff Bautch, to approve the second reading of policy #164. Motion carried on a 4-0 vote.

c) **Board policy # 185 Board Committees (second reading of policy):** In conjunction with Board Policy #164, this policy allows for development of ad hoc committees instead of committees of the whole for handling certain district issues. Motion made by Leah Matchey, seconded by Jeff Bautch, to approve the second reading of policy #185. A 4-0 vote approved the motion.

**d)  Selection of carrier for district property:** Motion made by Leah Matchey, seconded by Chuck Walek, to approve EMC insurance (the lower of the two bids obtained) for all the district insurance, but not to change the replacement cost of the storage shed (does not result in enough savings to lower the value by the amount suggested) and to keep the collision and comprehensive insurance on all vehicles. The motion to approve was a 4-0 vote.

e) **Approval of CESA #10 contract for 2013-14 services:** Contracts for project circuit support services, and occupational therapy services are renewed for participating school at this time of year so CESA can plan for their staffing needs in the next year. Motion was made by Leah Matchey, seconded by Chuck Walek, to approve the CESA #10 contracts for project circuit and occupational therapy services for the 2013-14 year. Motion carried on 4-0 vote.

f) **Lease/rental agreement with Legion baseball for facilities use in summer 2013:** Mr. Schmitt detailed last years agreement, and the planned changes for the upcoming agreement which will allow for the Legion to provide donations of new equipment for the baseball program as approved by the athletic director in lieu of the $200 cash rent payment made last year. The other terms of the contract will remain the same for this year. Motion made by Leah Matchey, seconded by Jeff Bautch, to approve the lease agreement with the Legion for summer 2013 with the insertion of “as approved by the athletic director” into the language regarding donation of equipment. Motion was approved 4-0.

**Information:**

a)  **Administrative Reports:**  Administrative reports were highlighted by Barry Schmitt and Paul Vine.

b) **Amendment to the Section 125 Flex Plan:** Benefits Design Inc. (the third party administrator for our Flex 125 plan) relays timely changes to IRS rules in the form of amendments to our Flex Plan contract. The board was given the information regarding these rule changes as relating to HAS plans and allowable limits.

c)  **School Safety Committee update:**  The committee meeting was postponed, and will be rescheduled, so no update was necessary.

d) **Budget 2013-14 preliminary information**:Preliminary information was given to Board members regarding the 2013-14 budget based on current data. This will be updated as funding and expenses are finalized from state and federal budgets, and from the health insurance bid.

e) **WASB human resources workshop**: details again presented to firm up plans if board members want to attend February 15 at Steven’s Point.

1. **Other:** At this time, a parent in the audience questioned the lack of recognition of the power lifting participants, and what could be done to address this plus arranging for a display area for their awards, etc. Another concern was that the school ski trip did not include all of the middle school this time, and wondered if other field trips would be cut entirely, too. Due to questions posed at the meeting, the Board encourages any parents who have concerns about their student as relates to class performance, testing, behavior to contact the appropriate principal and seek conferences relative to the concerns.

**Convene in closed session in accordance with WI Statute 19.85 (1) (c )and (e):**Motion made by Jeff Bautch, seconded by Leah Matchey, to convene in closed session in accordance with WI Statute 19.85 (1) (c) and (e) to discuss teacher staff handbook, and to discuss contract process and staffing.  The motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.  Meeting convened in closed session at 9:22 pm.  
  
**Reconvene Open session:** A motion was made by Jeff Bautch, seconded by Leah Matchey, to reconvene in open session. Motion carried on a 4-0 vote. The meeting reconvened in open session at 11:45 pm. Announcements made on action taken as a result of closed session discussion were as follows:  
  
Motion made by Chuck Walek, seconded by Leah Matchey, to approve the hire of Peter Ryan as head baseball coach, and to proceed with recruiting an assistant coach. Motion carried on 4-0 vote (Jeff Bautch abstained).

**Adjournment:**  Chuck Walek moved to adjourn, with a second to the motion made by Bob Guza.  Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11:48 pm.

                                                                                                      Leah Matchey, Clerk

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