

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WALNUT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MONDAY APRIL 14, 2008**

The was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with board members Troy Schaben Rob Sampson, Shannon Griffith, Heather Gettler and Ron Hamilton present. Also in attendance were Principals Radloff and Croghan, Supt Kruse and several teachers and guests.

Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There was no public input.

Motion by Gettler, second by Sampson to adjourn the budget hearing meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WALNUT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MONDAY APRIL 14, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. with all board members and administration present along with several teachers and guests.

Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

3.0 Communications

3.3 A concern was addressed by a teacher on information that was shared with others when it was previously understood that the information was going to be kept confidential by the board. President Schaben apologized for the error and stated that the board would have to try very hard to regain the trust of the staff and faculty.

Teacher Kearney reported on music department state solo ensemble contests..

3.5 Patti Hemmingsen reported on possible landscaping by the Friends Organization. She requested permission to have trees removed and the area in front of the elementary building having a new updated look. Supt Kruse replied with issues of concern that the current trees may have been donated and felt that this element needs to be addressed before any changes are made. President Schaben stated that research regarding the possible donors of the trees will have to be done and the donors contacted for input. The building and grounds committee needs be involved in any and all changes. Also, a drawing needs to be presented on what is being considered for possible changes.

Rick Blum reported on the Dale Lynch tournament success and stated that the group raised approximately \$9,000 to be used for various programs.

4.0 Administrative Reports

Principal Croghan reported on the youth trip to Elk Horn on drinking and driving. Students spent time on a simulator and the effects of drinking.

Prom was very successful and the after Prom events were enjoyed.

There will be a career day in Atlantic on the 16th.

EMC Insurance will be doing a review of chemical storage and asbestos issues and give us a report on what needs to be changed or corrected. Dannie Holtz has attended asbestos training. Senior skip day to Kansas City will be the 15th and graduation will be the 18th.

Principal Radloff reported on the Pre School screening for the Harkin and Statewide. We had 23 prospective students attend. We use assessment solutions to look at all of our testing data for NWEA, Basic skills and ACT and all of the information. All counties are wanting to develop a program for the tracking of test data. Walnut's program will be used for the pilot program. . The Department of Ed will be doing a Pre School site visit on the voluntary pre school to check on how grant dollars are being used.

President Schaben had requested information on the moving of teachers to different classes. Although, it is an emotional issue, research shows that it shows positive reports and change. Interviews will be conducted this week for the Pre School and 5th grade positions. Some of the goals for testing had not met benchmarks. Most were 2-3% below set goals. Attendance goals through May are within the 10% mark that were set last fall and hopefully will be met by the end of school year.

Mr. Kruse reported on the lunch audit.. There are some areas that we must improve. The audit report showed we have too much salt and too high of a fat content in the food. So we must show a way in which we are going to reduce salt and fat. Also, there must be acceptable thermometers for testing temperature of food during serving.

Since the district has a pre- school/day care, it states that we must also offer infant milk and or infant cereal as a lunch for non eating children. We only have to offer one (1) brand and if the parent chooses not to use that brand, they must furnish their brand choice.

The district should be working on getting the Spring community meeting date set.

Principal Radloff is writing a pre school grant request through the IA west Empowerment.

Board member Hamilton questioned Principal Croghan on the hiring status of teachers and how many of the district's classes will be done in Atlantic. He stated that the community wanted to keep as many classes here in Walnut as possible. President Schaben stated that we need to make a decision as it is not fair to Atlantic to have to wait on us to make up our minds. It was decided to advertise all positions in the Des Moines Register and on the REAP website. A committee of two will be set up to review superintendent/principal applicants and narrow the selection.

5.0 Discussion Items

5.2 Supt Kruse reported on the administrative standard # 6 Societal Context. By July 1, 2008, we must have approved policy and procedures for evaluations of administrators within the district. We will have to draw up a handbook that will correlate with these standards for the district.

5.3 Supt Kruse stated that with the rising fuel costs, we may want to look at the purchase of a used larger capacity bus in order to save trips to Atlantic. This would save the district fuel and driver costs over the next year as it is getting harder to find extra drivers.

5.4 President Schaben stated that there should be a committee set up for interviewing of Superintendent/Principal candidates.

6.0 Action Items

6.1A-6.1F Consent Items: Motion by Sampson, second by Griffith to approve minutes, board bills of \$46,400.96, activity report, food service report, board secretary's report, board policies 900-904.4. Motion carried.

6.2 Motion by Hamilton, second by Gettler to approve the 2008-2009 school budget as presented and published. Motion carried.

6.3 Motion by Hamilton, second by Griffith to approve the Resolution for participation in the 2008-09 ISCAP Program. Motion carried.

6.4 Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to approve the boiler maintenance contract for \$5,850. Motion carried.

6.5 Motion by Hamilton, second by Gettler to approve the Phase I window bid from Remedy Glass for \$33,531.49. Motion carried.

6.6 Motion by Gettler, second by Griffith to accept the resignation from Hope Denton, English teacher. Motion carried.

Motion by Gettler, second by Griffith to accept the resignation from Andy Blum as Head Basketball coach. Motion carried.

6.7 Motion by Gettler, second by Sampson to approve the contract amounts for support staff. Motion carried.

6.8 Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to approve the 2008-2009 school calendar. Motion carried.

7.0 Board reports and Communications/Future Agenda Items

7.1 Lighthouse Project; The board members need to complete the answers to the project from the previous night.

8.0 Adjournment

Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WALNUT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MONDAY APRIL 21, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. with members Troy Schaben, Rob Sampson, Shannon Griffith, Heather Gettler and Ron Hamilton present. Also in attendance were Principals Radloff and Croghan, guest presenters Mary Jane Vens and Len Cockman from IASB and two guests.

Motion by Gettler, second by Sampson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

3.0 Workshop Items

3.1 Discussion on the vision and goals of the board and district followed with input from each member and administrator. Charts and graphs were used to help visualize the strengths and weaknesses of the district.

4.0 Adjournment

Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m..

Respectfully submitted