

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMUNITY MEETING  
AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WALNUT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 4, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with members Troy Schaben, Ron Hamilton, Heather Gettler, Rob Sampson and Shannon Griffith present. Also in attendance were Walnut Administration and many members of the Walnut Community.

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

Mr. Kruse expressed thanks to Tammy Langlois and the Booster club for the dinner that had been provided. He then provided a power point presentation on the current state of the district. Principal Croghan also gave a presentation on graduation requirements, credits and the current sharing status with Atlantic.

The meeting was then suspended and the group broke into small groups to discuss questions that had been provided to each group leader. At 8:40 p.m. all groups returned to the old gym and the board returned to session.

Several suggestions and questions were discussed and President Schaben then suggested that all the data that had been taken should be compiled and published in the paper for the community's review. Everyone agreed.

Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.  
The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CLOSED MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WALNUT COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD  
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. with members Troy Schaben, Ron Hamilton, Heather Gettler, Rob Sampson and Shannon Griffith present.

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

Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to close the session: “Motion to hold a closed session as provided in section 21.5(1)(a) and or (i) of the Code of Iowa, to conduct a personnel hearing as requested by teacher.” Roll call vote. Motion carried.

Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to end closed session. Roll call vote. Motion carried.  
Closed session ended at 11:59 p.m.

Motion by Gettler, second by Sampson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.  
The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WALNUT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with members Troy Schaben, Rob Sampson, Ron Hamilton, Heather Gettler and Shannon Griffith present. Also in attendance were Supt Kruse, Principals Radloff and Croghan and several guests.

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

**3.0 Communications**

3.1 Discussion topics from the public included the current state of one of the elementary classrooms.

3.2 Board Secretary requested permission to pay monthly bills that had not yet arrived due to the early meeting...Hamilton motioned to pay bills as they arrived, second by Sampson. Motion carried.

3.3 Teacher Kearney reported on the upcoming musical and stated that things were progressing well.

3.4 Supt Kruse reported that the Education Association has filed for impasse services. There are several issues that are still unresolved. A tentative agreement for the distribution of Teacher Quality funds has been reached.

**4.0 Administrative Reports**

Principal Radloff reported on testing scores and data that has been received showing the problem areas for students. There have been several items that have been put on the walls showcasing student art. She acknowledged the elementary teachers that participated in the soup supper. A thank you to Representative Jack Drake who donated a \$50 Savings bond to the district.

Principal Croghan reported on the start of a Study table for students who are having trouble in classes. Softball uniforms have been ordered for the upcoming season. Several students attended an assembly in Atlantic dealing with apathy, alcohol use and how decisions affect others. Donations from area organizations have been received and some will go for the purchase of an infield maintenance machine. The city is willing to update concession stand at park.

Supt Kruse reported that the April meeting will need to be moved up to align with the dates for posting of the budget. Walnut will host the first Lighthouse Project meeting. Super Board conference will be March 26, 2008 for any board member who would like to attend.

**5.0 Discussion Items**

5.1 President Schaben discussed the survey data that had been received from the community meeting, staff and students. He suggested the possibility of having another community meeting in October and late March of 2009 in order to discuss the future of the district and students.

5.2 Sharing options of the athletic activities will be discussed at the joint meeting with Atlantic later tonight. We could try to maintain our own programs or share with Atlantic, AHST, or EH-K.

5.3 Supt Kruse discussed the Administrative Standard #4-Family and Community. An educational leader promotes the success of all students by collaborating with families and community members, responding to diverse community interests and needs and mobilizing community resources.

## 6.0 Action Items

6.1 Consent Items: Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to approve the minutes, board bills of \$57,733.17, activity report, food service report, board secretary's report and board policies 802.1-802.9 and the new van purchase for \$23,781 from Anderson Ford. Motion carried.

6.2 Motion by Gettler, second by Hamilton to approve resignation from Stacey Sorensen. Sampson nay. Motion carried. Motion by Hamilton, second by Griffith to approve resignation from Rene' Redman. Motion carried.

6.4 Motion by Hamilton, second by Sampson to approve the financial advisory services agreement with Piper Jaffray for the refinancing bonds. Motion carried.

6.5 Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to refinance general obligation bonds for \$1,065,000. at lower interest rate. The savings to the district will be approximately \$90,000 on the last payment. Motion carried.

6.6 Motion by Hamilton, second by Sampson to approve the resolution with Bankers Trust to call the 1997 bonds. Motion carried.

6.7 Motion by Sampson, second by Gettler to approve the new locker purchase project for \$20,776.00. Motion carried.

6.8 Motion by Hamilton, second by Sampson to approve the pay rate for the Study table personnel. It was decided to use the home bound rate. Motion carried.

6.9 Motion by Schaben, second by Hamilton to approve sharing superintendent services with IKM. Nays, Gettler and Griffith, Sampson abstain. Motion failed

At 7:25 p.m. the meeting was suspended in order to attend a joint meeting with Atlantic.

The meeting resumed at 9:20 p.m. with the board going into negotiations strategy.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT BOARD MEETING  
WALNUT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND  
THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. in the Atlantic Media Center with all Walnut board members and Administration present. The Atlantic board members and Administration were also in attendance as well as several guests.

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

A presentation was given by Principals Herring and Croghan on the possibility of adding another period to the Atlantic schedule and having lunch in Atlantic in order to create a feeling of togetherness. Herring suggested this structure might save on transportation costs for Walnut.

The Walnut board decided to discuss options further before making any decisions.

Motion by Hamilton, second by Griffith to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.,

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WALNUT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 29, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with members Troy Schaben, Ron Hamilton, Heather Gettler, Rob Sampson and Shannon Griffith present. Also in attendance were Supt Kruse, Principal Croghan and several guests.

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

**3.0 Discussion and/or Action Items**

3.1 Principal Croghan gave a presentation on the scheduling of 3 periods and 4 periods in Atlantic. In following discussions, board members voiced opinions that parents need to be more involved and try to resolve issues of students who seem not to care. Other points might be starting school at 8:00 a.m. and is there enough staff to cover this. After considerable discussion, the board decided to approve a 3 X 3 schedule in Atlantic in the afternoon with students who have scheduling difficulties the option to schedule 4 periods in Atlantic. Motion by Hamilton, second by Sampson. Motion carried.

3.2 Motion by Gettler, second by Sampson to approve the locker purchase for 2 tier-72" lockers at \$20,776.00. Motion carried.

3.3 Motion by Hamilton, second by Gettler to use Market Factor funds for incentives either for early notice of resignation or new hire. Motion carried.

3.4 Supt Kruse gave options for sharing or hiring of superintendent. He stated that if the district wanted to continue sharing his services with IKM, he would prefer it only be for 20% time which would be equal to one day per week. He would use that time to mentor Principal Radloff as she is close to being certified for superintendent duties. Motion by Sampson, second by Griffith to share 20% with IKM. Motion carried.

3.5 The board went into negotiations strategy at this time.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,