



FAIRMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT #89
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Dr. Sonya Whitaker
Superintendent

Fairmont Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
December 21, 2011
5:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Fairmont Board of Education was called to order by the President, Mr. Joseph Ryan, at 5:30 pm. Members present were: Mr. Joseph Ryan, Mr. Bradley Johnson, Mr. Thomas King, Mr. Robert Loewe and Ms. Katie Ulmer. Members absent were Ms. Hope McElrath and Mr. Charles Travis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ms. McElrath arrived at 5:35 pm.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Whitaker introduced Ms. Cathy Macchietto, Auditor from Macchietto Roth & Company. She informed the Board of Education that Ms. Macchietto was prepared to present a formal report providing the details of the district's audit.

Furthermore, the Superintendent added that Mrs. Daniels and the PBIS team are here to share with the board information regarding to the positive experiences that the students in the district are having as a result of administrators and teachers effectively implementing the Positive Behavior Intervention Program at Fairmont School.

President's Report

Mr. Ryan thanked the staff for taking the time to attend the board meeting. Additionally, he thanked the board for 15 months of working together as a team. We should be proud of the work that we have accomplished as a team. The board president added that we set a financial budget and we stuck with it. He added that when you look around the district you will notice that things have changed for the better. We have added new staff which includes a new administrative team. In addition, the physical building actually looks different as well.

He informed the board that he attended a meeting at the high school two weeks ago. Mr. Ryan indicated that during that meeting he learned that there was conversation about "going bookless" and using technology in many classroom in the near future.

Mr. Ryan indicated that the work that we are doing to ensure that the students at Fairmont have exposure to technology will better prepare them for high school. Good things are happening here.

Audit Report – Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2011

The Annual Financial Report (AFR) and Audit Report were presented by Ms. Cathy Macchietto from Macchetto Roth & Company. Ms. Macchietto shared with the board that she spent a week in the district working on the audit for fiscal year 2011. She highlighted various areas in the report.

This year 14 journal issue adjustments were added to the books. Last year 38 journal adjustments were added to the books. There was a huge improvement in the number of journal entries that were made this year when compared to last year.

This year the district spent \$15,846 per student and last year the district spent \$18,196 which is a 13% decrease (great stride in spending). Ms. Macchietto shared with the board that they might consider moving from cash to accrual basis. She added that this form of accounting is fairly standard for districts in our area.

Ms. Macchietto shared that your audit report determines what category the district falls in as it relates to financial rating (grade) given to school districts by the State Board of Education. In 2010 the districts profile was 2.65 (Warning Category), and in 2011 the districts profile was 3.35 (Financial Review). You have made wonderful progress in improving your district's financial status in a one year time frame.

Mr. Ryan questioned the Average Daily Attendance (ADA). We had the community giving us a hard time regarding our per pupil expenditure amount. They had inaccurate information and indicated that we were spending (\$25,000) per student. Where did they get this information from?

Ms. Millerin explained that the Illinois Interactive Report Card (which is online for public information) added the instructional and operating expenditures together to calculate the per pupil expenditure amount. Instructional expenditures are a component of operating expenditures. As such, the \$25,000 figure counts instructional expenditures twice, and is therefore inaccurate.

It was motioned by Ms. Katie Ulmer and seconded by Mr. Thomas King to approve the **Consent Agenda (A) Regular Board Meeting November 9, 2011, (B) Bills Payable -December 2011 (C) Treasurer's Report -November 2011.**

Mr. Johnson questioned the bill's received (ventilation for the server room) did they change rooms? Mr. Williamsen explained the MDF room has a variety of wiring closets with no ventilation which caused loss of connection in the elementary wing.

Voting aye: Ms. Katie Ulmer, Mr. Thomas King, Mr. Robert Loewe, Ms. Hope McElrath, Mr. Bradley Johnson and Mr. Joseph Ryan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nay, motion passed.

Director of Finance and Operations Report

Ms. Millerin presented the board with a powerpoint presentation with the finance and operations update. She shared that the 2011 Levy was filed on December 8, 2011.

Next month I will present to the board where we are financially six months through the fiscal year.

I would like to thank the auditor for a job well done of explaining the audit.

Ms. Millerin explained to the board why the O & M expenditures were more this month. Additionally, she added that we are well on our way to eliminating the inter-fund loans.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Grohn shared that exciting things are happening. Joliet Junior College will offer GED classes to the community starting January 17th and in the fall they can provide us with ELL and or English speaking classes. The Fairmont School District 89 parents will be able to attend the classes free of charge and there will be not cost for the books. We are thrilled be able to offer this unique opportunity to our parent and community members.

MAP Testing is complete we will be analyzing the results as well as providing the Board of Education with an update as to our progress.

Mr. Loewe suggested that administration makes sure that everyone hears about the classes being offered by Joliet Junior College.

Assistant Principal's Report

Mrs. Daniels introduced the Positive Behavior Intervention Support Team (PBIS):

- Ms. Abdelhadi
- Ms. Archer, Coach (overseeing of the meeting)
- Mrs. Daniels, Administration Coach
- Ms. Davis
- Ms. Dooley – Record Keeper
- Ms. Grevoy – Timekeeper
- Mr. Mazgay – Coach
- Mrs. Nissley – Data Manager

This team has worked very hard. Mrs. Daniels explained the meaning of PBIS and why PBIS was chosen. There are three Fair Behavior Matrix areas and they are (Be Responsible, Respectful and Safe). Students will be formally introduced to the behavioral expectations soon after they return from winter break. Mrs. Daniels added that she is thrilled to share that disciplinary referrals have decreased by 50% since we have implemented PBIS.

The PBIS Team presented the board with a powerpoint presentation explaining the process.

Public Comments

Mr. Don Lazarz, Lago Vista Community Resident.

A million kudos for the improvements made to the building and the expenditures! This staff is powerful. The community needs to know more about the incredible work that is being done in this district. I feel that the money has been well spent on the students. We are preparing them to be successful in school and in the society. Mr. Lazarz thanked Mr. Ryan for his hard work.

Action Item 12-34 (2011 Annual Financial Report /Audit)

It was motioned by Ms. Katie Ulmer and seconded by Mr. Thomas King to approve the **Fairmont School District 89 June 30, 2011 Audit**. Voting aye: Ms. Katie Ulmer, Mr. Thomas King, Mr. Robert Loewe, Ms. Hope McElrath, Mr. Bradley Johnson and Mr. Joseph Ryan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion passed.

Action Item 12-35 (Inter-fund Loans)

It was motioned by Mr. Thomas King and seconded by Ms. Katie Ulmer to approve the four resolutions for **Inter-fund Loans Retroactive to June 30, 2011**. Voting aye: Mr. Thomas King, Ms. Katie Ulmer, Mr. Bradley Johnson, Ms. Hope McElrath, Mr. Robert Loewe and Mr. Joseph Ryan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion passed.

Action Item 12-36 (Personnel) Speech Pathologist

It was motioned by Mr. Thomas King and seconded by Ms. Katie Ulmer to approve the contract for fiscal year 2011-2012 for **Speech/Language Pathology Services with Speech Plus, P.C.** Voting aye: Mr. Thomas King, Ms. Katie Ulmer, Mr. Bradley Johnson, Ms. Hope McElrath, Mr. Robert Loewe and Mr. Joseph Ryan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion passed

Action Item 12-37 (Personnel) Part-time Speech Teacher

It was motioned by Mr. Thomas King and seconded by Ms. Katie Ulmer to approve the contract for an additional **Part-time Speech Teacher with Speech Plus, P.C.**, for fiscal year 2011-2012. Voting aye: Mr. Thomas King, Ms. Katie Ulmer, Mr. Robert Loewe, Ms. Hope McElrath, Mr. Bradley Johnson and Mr. Joseph Ryan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion passed.

Action Item 12-38 (Personnel) School Librarian

It was motioned by Mr. Thomas King and seconded by Ms. Katie Ulmer to approve the assignment of **School Librarian, Mary Lidd** effective December 12, 2011. Voting aye: Mr. Thomas King, Ms. Katie Ulmer, Mr. Robert Loewe, Ms. Hope McElrath, Mr. Bradley Johnson and Mr. Joseph Ryan. Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion passed.

**Salary: \$ 40,695.00 Base Salary
(Masters plus 30, Step 4)
\$ 22,734.64 (Prorated)**
**Benefits: Single Medical
Dental
Life**

Superintendent's Comments:

Dr. Whitaker thanked Mrs. Daniels for her hard work.

She commented to the board that the expenses for the training that the team needed to engage in and I thank the Board of Education for supporting this effort. The outstanding presentation that you saw tonight is a direct result of the very extensive training the team is involved in on an ongoing basis.

On January 19th the district will host an informational seminar for the community from 10 am – 12 pm and from 5 – 7 pm. I would like to encourage the board to spread the word to the community so that we may have as many community members attend the event as possible.

Our board meeting minutes and agendas will go live on the district website. This is being done so that we may implement another strategy for providing the community with as much information as possible about the work that is being done in Fairmont School District 89.

Board Comments:

Mr. Ryan commented that it was important to remember that if four or more board members attended the information seminar it would be considered a special board meeting and should be handled accordingly.

Mr. Ryan thanked Mrs. Daniels and her team for a wonderful presentation.

Ms. Ulmer stated that as children we were taught how to act at home. It's not being taught at home anymore and I am glad to see that it is being taught again in school.

Mr. Loewe shared that Mr. Travis was in the hospital in intensive care but they were moving him out of intensive care to a regular room.

It was motioned by Mr. Thomas King and seconded by Ms. Katie Ulmer to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 pm. Ayes have it. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Joseph Ryan, President

Attest: _____

Robert Loewe, Secretary