

LELAND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
Regular Meeting Minutes – Board of Education
Wednesday, August 17, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.
Room 10, Elementary Building – 370 North Main Street Leland, IL 60531

I. BUILDING AND GROUNDS INSPECTION

Members met in room #10 at 7:00, then left and walked down to the high school gymnasium, accompanied by the administrators, and head custodian, Don Hecathorn. An area of the gym floor had been removed, then replaced with new wood. The entire floor was then sanded down and repainted, resulting with the look of a bright new gym. It had been at least 15 years since the floor had been sanded and was long overdue. Work outside included a new sidewalk behind the west high school entranceway near the industrial arts rooms, part of another sidewalk near the south entrance to the superintendent's office (paid for by the village), and repainting of the overhang at the superintendent's entranceway to the building. The tour ended at the computer lab in the media center, where 25 new computers were on display. Dr. Abrell recognized Don and his summer custodial staff for their work in keeping the building and grounds in outstanding condition.

II. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Wesson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present for roll call and the pledge were members Crissip, C. Johnson, M. Johnson, McCullough, Plote, Wold, and Wesson. Also present were administrators Abrell and Blankenship, and recording secretary Flower.

III. RECEPTION OF VISITORS, GUESTS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF MEDIA.

President Wesson welcomed Stu Bloom of the Earlville Post, Mike Parrott, Tari Jansen, and Crystal Pennington. Mrs. Pennington addressed the board before members discussed action items (See below).

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

C. Johnson moved, and Wold seconded the motion, to approve the agenda.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Review of Minutes

A. Regular Session July 20, 2011

Financial Reports, Bills & Payroll

Report No. 12-019 Second Reading of Policies 6:100-E, 6:150, 6:160, 6:185, 6:190, 6:190-AP, 6:250, 6:250-AP, 6:250-E, 6:255, 7:60-AP1, 7:190-AP4, 7:260, 7:270-AP

The Board reviewed fourteen policies: 6:100-E Instruction – Exhibit – Guidelines and Application for Using Animals in School Facilities; 6:150 Home and Hospital Instruction; 6:160 English Language Learners; 6:185 Remote Educational Program; 6:190 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities; 6:190-AP Administrative Procedure – Academic Eligibility for Participation in Extracurricular Activities; 6:250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers; 6:250-AP Administrative Procedure – Securing and Screening Resource Persons and Volunteers; 6:250-E Exhibit – Resource Person and Volunteer Information Form and Waiver of Liability; 6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies; 7:60-AP1 Students – Administrative Procedure – Challenging a Student's Residence Status; 7:190-AP4 Administrative Procedure – Use of Isolated Time Out and Physical Restraint; 7:260 Exemption from Physical Activity; 7:270-AP Administrative Procedure – Dispensing Medication.

Report No. 12-020 First Reading of Policies 1:10, 1:20, 1:30, 2:10, 2:130, 3:10, 7:280, 8:10, 8:90, 8:95, 8:95-E1, 8:95-E2, 8:110

The board reviewed thirteen policies: 1:10 School District Organization – School District Legal Status; 1:20 District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements; 1:30 School District Philosophy; 2:10 School Board – School District Governance; 2:130 Board-Superintendent Relationship; 3:10 General School Administration – Goals and Objectives; 7:280 Students – Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease; 8:10 Community Relations – Connection with the Community; 8:90 Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs; 8:95 Parental Involvement; 8:95-E1 Exhibit – Letter Notifying Parents/Guardians of School Visitation Rights; 8:95-E2 Exhibit – Verification of School Visitation; 8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns.

Report No. 12-021 Extra-Curricular Assignments

Board members reviewed the extra-curricular assignments recommended by Dr. Abrell. Several class sponsors and coaches still need to be hired.

Report No. 12-022 Personnel Report

Employ, certified:

Shannan Crissip, Kindergarten Teacher, BA+0, Step 0

Brenda Orsucci, Spanish Teacher, BA+18, Step 0

Employ, non-certified:

Ginger Ryan, Aide in PALS program (spec. ed.), \$9.15/hr. w/benefits

Lynn Belcher, Bus Driver for a.m. and p.m. route, \$58.90 per route/day w/benefits

M. Johnson moved, and McCullough seconded the motion, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Voting aye: C. Johnson, M. Johnson, McCullough, Plote, Wold, and Wesson.

Voting nay: None

Abstaining: Crissip

Motion carried: 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention.

President Wesson recognized Crystal Pennington who wished to address the board about the splitting of the kindergarten class. Mrs. Pennington stated her daughter had been looking forward to school, having Mrs. Haag for her teacher, and being in the big kindergarten room. She and her family found out Tuesday night, during Kindergarten Round-up, that the class was split, she would have a different teacher, and be in a different room. Mrs. Pennington's daughter had been in pre-school with a number of other boys and girls, only 5 of which are with her now. Mrs. Pennington did not believe there was enough room in this smaller room for a rest area and play area. One of her biggest concerns was just learning about splitting the class the night before school started, giving the parents little time to prepare their daughter for these changes.

Administrators explained that after registration, numbers of kindergarteners jumped up to 30 and after screening new students last Thursday and Friday, made the decision to split the class and hire an additional kindergarten teacher. The classroom they selected was close by and had its own bathroom, and though smaller than the kindergarten class, is the same size as the 1st grade room, 2nd grade, 3rd grade, etc. Splitting of the class was made by evenly dividing the boys and girls between the two rooms. The two rooms will be quite identical in furniture and school supplies, games, books, and other learning materials. School is just starting, so other changes, such as a bigger rug for rest time, can still be added.

Mrs. Pennington was sure her daughter would adapt to her new room and teacher, but hoped parents would be notified earlier of such changes, if a similar situation arose again. Board members visited the new kindergarten room after the board meeting.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

Report No. 12-023 Transportation Safety Hazard

By law, we are annually required to review any transportation safety hazard conditions pertaining to the transportation of students who live within 1.5 miles of school.

Wold moved, and Plote seconded the motion, that absent of any hazardous conditions, the administration be directed to establish bus routes for the upcoming school year.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Report No. 12-024 Adoption of Tentative FY'12 Budget

Dr. Abrell reminded board members that budget numbers will change before the budget hearing meeting September 21st. Grant monies from the State for Reading Improvement Block Grant, Title I – Low Income, Title II – Teacher Quality, Title IV – Safe Schools have all been zero-ed out. It appears that the district will receive \$23,000.00 in General State Aid for 2011-12.

Transportation reimbursements from the State have been cut 6% from FY'11. Additionally, the district will not receive ARRA (Federal stabilization) monies. The State of IL still owes the district \$109,000 in reimbursements for transportation and special education that we were told we would receive. Below is a skeleton outline of the tentative budget indicating the following revenue and expenditure totals:

	Revenue	Expenditures
Education	\$2,217,632	\$2,594,247
Operation & Maint.	\$235,248	\$218,132
Bond & Interest	\$223,791	\$233,791
Transportation	\$186,688	\$220,219
Municipal Retirement	\$73,581	\$77,350
Working Cash	\$25,251	\$0
Life Safety	\$25,251	\$20,000

M. Johnson moved, and Crissip seconded the motion, to adopt the Tentative FY'12 Budget.

Voting aye: C. Johnson, M. Johnson, McCullough, Plote, Wold, Crissip, and Wesson.

Motion carried: 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Report No. 12-025 Approval of Renewal of Athletic Co-op for Baseball and Softball

As per IHSA requirements, the board needs to renew the co-op agreement with Earlville for baseball and softball.

C. Johnson moved, and Wold seconded the motion, to renew the co-op agreement with Earlville for baseball and softball.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Report No. 12-026 Approval of Revised Athletic Co-op By-Laws

As a result of the athletic co-op committee meeting in Earlville on Monday, July 17, 2011, the district needs to approve (or disapprove) the revised athletic co-op by-laws. Very minor changes were made. The committee is comprised of two Board of Education members from each district, the athletic directors, and administrations from each district.

Plote moved, and M. Johnson seconded the motion, to approve the revised athletic co-op by-laws.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Report No. 12-027 Request of Outside Groups for Use of School Facilities

The LYAA presented a request for permission to run the outside concession stand during high school and junior high soccer games, to conduct a volleyball camp in November and/or December for grades 3-5 girls; and to conduct a basketball camp in February and/or March for grades 3-5 boys.

M. Johnson moved, and C. Johnson seconded the motion, to approve the LYAA request to run the outside concession stand during soccer games, to conduct a volleyball camp for grades 3-5 girls in November and/or December, and to conduct a basketball camp for grades 3-5 boys in February and/or March.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

Report No. 12-028 Employee Insurance Renewal

Mike Parrott from Miller, Buettner, and Parrott was in attendance to give a brief summary of the status of the district's health insurance. As of the board meeting, Blue Cross/Blue Shield is showing a 31% increase in rates, and Humana is showing a 9.38% increase. Board members, administrators, and Mr. Parrott discussed different options, cost strategies that might work for the District, both this and another year. An insurance company will be selected at the September meeting.

Report No. 12-029 Final Class Schedule w/Course Enrollments – IVVC and Ag.

Board members reviewed the final class schedule for 2011-12.

Report No. 12-030 Tentative 2011-'12 HS, JH Fall Athletic Schedules

Tentative junior high and high school athletic schedules for fall and winter were reviewed by board members.

Report No. 12-031 Registration Enrollment

An enrollment summary was reviewed by board members. Formal registration was completed last week. The district is up 10 students from a year ago.

Report No. 12-032 IVVC Board of Control Minutes

Minutes of the I.V.V.C. Public Hearing on the 2011-12 Budget from August 3, 2011 were reviewed, as were the Minutes of the Board of Control meeting which immediately followed.

Report No. 12-033 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Status

The district did not achieve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the last school year at high school levels in math and reading. After three consecutive years of making the grade, this marks the second year at the high school level that the district did not meet the 85% of students meeting or exceeding the AYP academic goal for No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The bar will be 92.5% for the students tested in 2011-12. Efforts will be re-doubled regarding performance on state-mandated tests.

Report No. 12-034 Building Administration Report

The board reviewed the Building Administration Report. The administrators spent a lot of the past month finalizing staffing. They also are working on revising and updating the district website.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- It was not necessary to go into executive session.

IX. BOARD COMMENTS

- Starved Rock Division Fall Dinner Meeting @ Senica's Oak Ridge Golf Course, LaSalle – September 8th, 6:00-9:00 p.m. w/6:30 dinner. Board members interested in attending should contact Dr. Abrell by September 1st.
- Leland Schools Open House is next Wednesday, August 24th, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- I.V.V.C. Board of Control Open House is Thursday, September 15th, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

X. FUTURE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA

- Public Hearing for Budget is set for Wednesday, September 21, 2011 @ 7:15 p.m. in Conference Room

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Wold moved, and M. Johnson seconded the motion, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Plote, Secretary

William Wesson, President