

## WAKEFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

### BOARD MINUTES

FEBRUARY 10, 2014

The regular meeting of the Wakefield Board of Education was convened in open and public session on Monday, February 10 at 7:00p.m. in the boardroom at the Wakefield Community Schools, 802 Highland Street, Wakefield, NE.

Vice-President Bebee informed the group of the Open Meetings Act posted in the boardroom and accessible to all members of the public as required by law. All board members had received notice of the meeting and the meeting notice had been published/posted in a timely manner prior to the meeting date.

Roll was called with the following members present: Rose, Nicholson, Victor, Lehmkuhl, and Bebee. Absent: Lunz. Also present were Superintendent Bejot, Secondary Principal Heitz, Elementary Principal Wulf, Recording Secretary Marcia Kratke and Jaime Manz, Reading Specialist.

Motion by Victor, seconded by Nicholson to excuse Lunz from the meeting. VP Bebee stated the motion and the result of a roll call vote: Yes: Nicholson, Victor, Lehmkuhl, Bebee and Rose; No: None; Absent: Lunz; Motion carried.

Motion by Victor, seconded by Lehmkuhl to approve the agenda as corrected with the removal of Item 5.1. VP Bebee stated the motion and the result of a roll call vote: Victor, Lehmkuhl, Bebee, Rose and Nicholson; No: None; Absent: Lunz. Motion carried.

Jaime Manz thanked the board for allowing her to travel to Washington, DC with Mr. Wulf to accept the National Blue Ribbon Award. She stated that they did some networking with other schools, sharing ideas and sharing teaching strategies and have continued those relationships. She is very appreciative for all the reading books and supplies that students have to use at Wakefield. She has 25 students K-3 in her reading groups which meet every day for intensive reading interventions.

#### **Elementary Principal Report:**

Mr. Wulf reported that the elementary has started their One Book, One School with *Boxcar Children* being the book chosen this year. Students will participate in various activities including a 1-act play in conjunction with the Little Red Theatre which will be presented on Feb 24-25 in English and Spanish. State wide writing assessments have been completed. Senator Deb Fischer visited Wakefield Elementary and met with students and staff in regards to being selected as a Blue Ribbon School. All staff are reading *Teaching with Love and Logic* in the elementary. This book is about encouraging students to be independent thinkers and helps with classroom management and school climate. Kindergarten Roundup will be held in late March. Numbers for kindergarten for next year are between 35-45. We will also be setting a date for Pre-School registration. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held Feb 13 with times assigned by the office.

**Secondary Principal Report:**

Mr. Heitz reported the state writing assessments have also been completed. At the late-start in February we finished our book *Teach Like a Pirate* and also discussed having a focus on Instructional Strategies. In March we will have our Athletic Trainer speak with teachers concerning student concussions, what they need to look for in the classroom and how it affects classroom performance. Interviews for the FCS program will be held within the next week. Jr. High i-pads will be handed out this month. The students will be able to use them daily in the classroom but will not be able to take them home. At Parent-Teacher conferences on Feb. 13 parents will be able to sign forms and ask questions concerning the i-pads. The Todd Becker Foundation will be here to present a program on Feb 26 for grades 9-12. An evening presentation will be open to the public at 7:00p.m in the main gym. Jessica Sierk, a research student from UNL, will be spending a few days in Wakefield as part of a research project. She describes her research project as an "ethnographic study to describe the interracial/interethnic student interactions for high school students at a small diverse high school in Nebraska.

**Superintendent Report:**

Mr. Bejot stated that the ELL teams are going out and visiting other programs in the area and reporting back to the curriculum committee with their findings. The Music Committee met on Friday to review student and parent survey data. They spend time analyzing data, drawing inferences and conclusions as to possible ways to alter the music program. Legislative bills to watch are LB725 which deals with State Aid. Two models with an amendment have been released with the latest one showing a growth of \$28,250 in State Aid for 2014-15. Another bill, LB 682 (The Allied Schools Bill) is one he feels will limit local school board control. It will force all schools under 650 students to join with three other districts anywhere in the state and have the same school calendar, same school schedule and same school day. This bill has been prioritized by Senator Scheer who feels that rural schools will better utilize distance learning opportunities if this is passed. We already use Distance Learning with other schools and are pleased with the results. Schools work together on their own without being mandated by the legislature. It also hinders each schools school improvement process where we are scheduling reading interventions for the benefit of our students while other schools may not have that same process. He urged the board to write letters to their senators in opposition to this bill.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Action Items:**

Motion by Nicholson, seconded by Lehmkuhl to approve the consent agenda as presented. VP Bebee stated the motion and the result of a roll call vote: Yes: Victor, Rose, Lehmkuhl, Bebee and Nicholson; No: None; Absent: Lunz; Motion carried. Bills were paid for February as follows: General: \$211,204.14; Lunch: \$19,402.93; Payroll: \$174,833.45; Employee Benefit: \$255.20 and QCPUF: \$1,350.00.

Motion by Victor, seconded by Nicholson to accept a \$5000 donation from MPM Farms and designate it towards JH athletics. VP Bebee stated the motion and the result of a roll call vote: Yes: Rose, Lehmkuhl, Bebee, Nicholson and Victor; No: None; Absent: Lunz; Motion carried.

Tentative dates were discussed for a personnel hearing. March 3 at 5:00p.m. was set as the tentative date providing all board members and counsel could attend.

Motion by Nicholson, seconded by Lehmkuhl to renew our membership with NASB for 2014-15 at a cost of \$3,912. VP Bebee stated the motion and the result of a roll call vote: Yes: Lehmkuhl, Bebee, Nicholson, Victor and Rose; No: None; Absent: Lunz; motion carried.

Discussion on the presentation by NASB last month concerning "E-meetings" was held. If the board approves of using "E-meetings" training sessions will be set up for the administration and recording secretary and also a separate training session for the board.

Motion by Nicholson, seconded by Rose to approve using "E-meetings" for board meetings. VP Bebee stated the motion and the results of a roll call vote: Yes: Bebee, Nicholson, Victor, Rose and Lehmkuhl; No: None; Absent: Lunz; motion carried.

Mr. Bejot stated that he had interviewed four internal candidates for the position of AD. He is recommending Matt Brenn for the position.

Motion by Victor, seconded by Lehmkuhl to approve Matt Brenn as AD for the upcoming 2014-15 academic year. VP Bebee stated the motion and the results of a roll call vote: Yes; Nicholson, Victor, Rose, Lehmkuhl and Bebee; No: None; Absent: Lunz; Motion carried.

Motion by Victor, seconded by Nicholson to set the Drivers Ed fee the same as last year, \$210 for district students and \$260 for non-district students. VP Bebee stated the motion and the result of a roll call vote: Victor, Rose, Lehmkuhl, Bebee and Nicholson; No: None; Absent: Lunz; motion carried.

Motion by Lehmkuhl, seconded by Nicholson to approve the 2014-15 school calendar as presented. VP Bebee stated the motion and the result of a roll call vote: Yes: Rose, Lehmkuhl, Bebee, Nicholson and Victor; No: None; Absent: Lunz; Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the energy conservation project. Marcia presented different scenarios of possible tax levy requests for the various funds over the next three years with keeping tax requests approximately the same as in the past. She noted that these scenarios are not set in stone due to factors beyond our control which significant factors would be legislative actions and valuations.

A total of \$750,000 of this project would be paid out of General Fund-Maintenance; Depreciation Fund; and Special Building Fund. Rebates from NPPD, guaranteed energy savings, and a 1% loan from the Nebraska Energy Office over a 10-year period would finance the balance.

Motion by Lehmkuhl, seconded by Nicholson to approve an energy performance contract and an air quality/energy conservation program at a cost of \$1,921,920. VP Bebee stated the motion and the

result of a roll call vote: Yes: Lehmkuhl, Bebee, Nicholson, Victor and Rose; No: None; Absent: Lutz;  
motion carried.

Upcoming meeting dates were set as follows: March 10 at 7:00p.m.- March Regular Meeting; March 10  
at 6:00p.m.-Policy Meeting.

There being no further business VP Bebee adjourned the meeting at 9:02p.m.

Jim Lehmkuhl, Secretary

Marcia Kratke, Recording Secretary