

MINUTES OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED JOHNSBURG COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 12
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2011 – JOHNSBURG JUNIOR
HIGH SCHOOL NORTH LEARNING CENTER

Members Present: Mrs. K. Baird, Mr. G. Barla, Mr. T. Low, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley.

Members Present By
Means of Audio/Visual
Conference:

None.

Members Absent:

None.

Also Present:

Superintendent, Dr. D. Johnson; Business Manager, Mr. D. Lawson; Curriculum Director, Mr. D. Straight; High School Principal, Mr. K. Shelton; Junior High School Principal, Mrs. N. Hurckes; James C. Bush School Principal, Ms. M. Junge; Ringwood School Principal, Mrs. C. Neiss; Student Services Director, Mr. R. Schisler; Director of Technology, Mr. R. Gravel; District Maintenance Supervisor, Mr. T. Schwartz (until 8:10 p.m.); Citizens, Mr. F. Cavanaugh (from 7:09 p.m. until 7:20 p.m.), Mr. and Mrs. M. Rawlings; High School Students, Mr. J. Blumenthal (until 7:14 p.m.) and Mr. D. Fox (until 7:08 p.m.); Minute Recorder, Ms. B. Seger.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Low at 7:04 p.m. and proceeded with roll call. The roll call found Mrs. K. Baird, Mr. G. Barla, Mr. T. Low, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley present. Absent: None.

TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION TO ADD TO AGENDA

Mr. T. Low asked if there were any discussion topics to be added to the evening's agenda. The Board agreed not to add any topics to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. S. Rowe and seconded by Mrs. K. Baird to approve the agenda as presented. "Ayes": All. "Nays": None. Absent: None.

CONSENT APPROVAL FOR MINUTES OF:

- November 8, 2011 Board of Education Meeting
- November 8, 2011 Board of Education Closed Session Meeting

It was moved by Mr. S. Rowe and seconded by Mrs. M. Tinsley to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2011 Board of Education meeting and the November 8, 2011 Board of Education Closed Session meeting as presented. On roll call vote, "Ayes": Mr. G. Barla, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley, Mr. T. Low. "Nays": None. Abstain: Mrs. K. Baird. Absent: None. Motion carried.

COMMENDATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

- Jason Blumenthal – DAR Good Citizen Award – Mr. K. Shelton introduced High School student Jason Blumenthal to the Board and asked them to join with him in commending Jason for being chosen as this year's recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution Award. Board President, Mr. T. Low, presented Jason with a certificate and district frisbee.

- Daniel Fox – All-State Cross Country – The Board joined with Mr. K. Shelton in commending High School senior Daniel Fox for earning all-state honors at the state cross country tournament. Mr. K. Shelton introduced Daniel to the Board who congratulated him and presented him with a certificate and district frisbee.

- JHS Freshman Football Team – Food Drive – Mr. K. Shelton asked the Board to join with him in commending the Freshman Football Team for their efforts involved with the recent food drive, which benefitted the Helping Hands Food Pantry.

- National Honor Society Inductees – The Board joined with Mr. K. Shelton in commending this year's National Honor Society inductees. The Board also commended NHS sponsor, Amanda Stanko, for the fine job she did in organizing the induction ceremony.

- JHS Play, *Arsenic and Old Lace* - The Board joined with Dr. D. Johnson in commending directors Paul Hanrahan, Jamie Uthe and Kevin Duffy, as well as the entire cast and crew, for their efforts in the successful production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

- Beginning Band and 7th/8th Grade Winter Concerts – Mrs. N. Hurckes asked the Board to join with her in commending Joyce Beernink and Sue Childress and all of the beginning band and 7th and 8th grade students on their fine performances at the concerts that were held on November 9th and 17th.

- Veterans Day Activities – The Board joined with Dr. D. Johnson in commending the principals and staffs of the district's schools for organizing the various Veterans Day activities that were held in each of the buildings.
- JEPF Casino Night – Dr. D. Johnson asked the Board to join with him in commending Leslie Koscinski and the entire Johnsbury Educational Partnership Foundation Board for organizing and working at the successful annual Casino Night that was held on November 12th.
- PTO Junior High Teen Night – The Board commended the PTO for organizing the second Junior High Teen Night, which was held on November 18th.

AGENDA TIME FOR CITIZENS TO SPEAK

Mr. F. Cavanaugh addressed the Board about his concerns regarding the procedure being used for parent communication for High School athletic events. The Board thanked him for his comments and concerns.

APPROVE NOVEMBER END-OF-MONTH 2011 BILLS

Mr. D. Lawson answered a few questions from the Board regarding various bills and agreed to provide additional information on the district's phone service and treasurer's reports. Mr. D. Lawson also notified the Board that the auditors' report and management letter that they received would be reviewed at the upcoming Finance meeting and the December Board meeting.

It was moved by Mr. G. Barla and seconded by Mrs. M. Martin to approve the November end-of-month 2011 bills as follows: Education Fund, \$149,794.37; O & M Fund, \$101,416.39; Bond and Interest, \$214.00; Transportation Fund, \$18,257.63 and Municipal Retirement/Social Security Fund, \$21,769.93 as presented. On roll call vote, "Ayes": Mrs. K. Baird, Mr. G. Barla, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley, Mr. T. Low. "Nays": None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COUNCILS

Elementary Advisory – Mr. S. Rowe and Ms. M. Junge reported on the recent meeting where the discussions included homework, the lunch program, the school and safety survey, parent-teacher conferences and the recent Veterans' Day activities.

Junior High School Advisory – No report at this time.

High School Advisory Council – No report at this time.

High School Technology Advisory Council – No report at this time.

MAYC – No report at this time.

PTO – No report at this time.

SEDOM – No report at this time.

Foundation – No report at this time.

Tech Campus – No report at this time.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

SCHOOL PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. S. Rowe reported on the results of the School Personnel Committee meeting which was held prior to the regular Board meeting where the discussions included the revision of the superintendent evaluation tool. He noted that the committee reviewed the current tool and compared it with the IASB tool and agreed to develop a revised tool, which will be brought back to the Board at a future meeting.

SCHOOL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. T. Low reported on the School Operations Committee meeting that was held on November 8th just prior to the regular Board meeting where the committee reviewed the annual building audits which include results of inspections of building roofs, exteriors, parking lots, landscaping, office and classroom interiors, HVAC heating/ventilation air conditioning, plumbing, electrical, lighting, fire protection, and general housekeeping that were presented by Mr. T. Schwartz. He noted that they also discussed the list of priorities regarding the district's maintenance needs that was also presented. Mr. T. Schwartz was present at the meeting and answered several of the Board's questions regarding items on the priority list.

Mr. D. Lawson updated the Board on the proposed lease for the district farmland that was discussed at the committee meeting and at the last Board meeting. He noted that the suggested revisions from those meetings were reflected in the revised lease. The Board discussed specific items regarding the lease that still need to be decided upon and agreed that the Finance Committee would review the options at their upcoming meeting and then bring their recommendations to the next regular Board meeting for approval.

PUBLICATION PREFERENCES PRESENTATION

Mr. R. Gravel used a PowerPoint report to give the Board a brief presentation on the procedure currently being used in the district regarding publication preferences for students. He highlighted the reasons why the procedure was updated, the process that was used to develop the revised procedure and the sources used to advise the district on the revisions.

District parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Rawlings, addressed their concerns regarding the procedure.

TAX ABATEMENT

Mr. D. Lawson reviewed the tax abatement, which would be presented to the Board for formal approval at the December 14th Board meeting.

TRI-CONFERENCE REPORT

Each Board member that attended the recent IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference reported on the various sessions they attended.

ACTION ITEMS

ESTIMATE LEVY AND PUBLISH "TRUTH IN TAXATION"

Mr. D. Lawson reviewed the levy process that was presented as an informational item at the last Board meeting and highlighted the historical EAV Summary and the estimated amount of taxes recommended to be levied for 2011 in order to allow for new growth plus the tax cap. Mr. D. Lawson also explained that as part of the levy process, a public notice of both the hearing and the adoption of the levy need to go in the local newspaper no more than 14 days or less than 7 days prior to the hearing/adoption date.

After discussing the options, it was moved by Mr. S. Rowe and seconded by Mr. G. Barla to approve an estimated 2011 total property tax levy increase of 21.50% and approve the publishing of the "Truth in Taxation" notice. On roll call vote, "Ayes": Mrs. K. Baird, Mr. G. Barla, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley, Mr. T. Low. "Nays": None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR CONSENT APPROVAL OR ADOPTION OF:

- JHS Music Department Trip Proposal Approval – The proposal for a High School Music Department trip to Florida in March 2012 was presented for approval.

- Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policy 5:125 – Dr. D. Johnson recommended that the second reading and adoption of new Board Policy 5:125 be deferred until the December 13th Board meeting to allow the Board time to review the changes to the policy that were just received from the district attorney. The Board agreed with his recommendation.

It was moved by Mrs. M. Martin and seconded by Mrs. M. Tinsley to defer the second reading and adoption of Board Policy 5:125 until the December 13th Board meeting and to approve the proposed JHS Music Department Trip as presented. "Ayes": All. "Nays": None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

- The Board was reminded that there would be a Finance Committee meeting on December 6, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the Junior High School.
- The Board was also reminded that the next regular Board meeting would be on December 13, 2011 in the Johnsborg High School Learning Center.

CLOSED SESSION – 9:33 PM – 11:10 PM

It was moved by Mrs. K. Baird and seconded by Mrs. M. Tinsley to go into Closed Session at 9:33 p.m. regarding appointment, employment, or dismissal of an employee or officer. On roll call vote, "Ayes": Mrs. K. Baird, Mr. G. Barla, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley, Mr. T. Low. "Nays": None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. K. Baird and seconded by Mrs. M. Martin to come out of Closed Session at 11:10 p.m. On roll call vote, "Ayes": Mrs. K. Baird, Mr. G. Barla, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley, Mr. T. Low. "Nays": None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL ISSUE

It was moved by Mr. S. Rooney and seconded by Mr. S. Rowe to suspend Employee #2011-12-A without pay for five (5) days. On roll call vote, "Ayes": Mrs. K. Baird, Mr. G. Barla, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley, Mr. T. Low. "Nays": None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – 11:13 PM

It was moved by Mr. S. Rowe and seconded by Mrs. M. Tinsley to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 p.m. On roll call vote, "Ayes": Mrs. K. Baird, Mr. G. Barla, Mrs. M. Martin, Mr. S. Rooney, Mr. S. Rowe, Mrs. M. Tinsley, Mr. T. Low. "Nays": None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Melissa Tinsley, Secretary

Thomas Low, President