

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SCHOOL DISTRICT OF COLBY  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2012  
COLBY DISTRICT/EDUCATION CENTER

The Regular School Board Meeting on February 20, 2012, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Colby District Education Center by Board President, William Tesmer. Members present were Donna Krueger, Cheryl Ploeckelman, Bill Tesmer, Todd Schmidt, Ed Haas, Eric Elmhurst and Dennis Engel. Also present were Superintendent Steven Kolden and Chris Thieme. Hanah Woik, Student Board Representative was absent.

The meeting notice was posted according to the requirements of the open meeting law.

This is National Future Farmers of America week. FFA officers and several members presented before the board. David Stuttgen spoke on the current problems for farmers hauling manure and manure runoff damage. Other members each picked a FFA Activity and presented the why, where and how the activity helped students, community members and others.

The Chamber of Commerce Board sent a Thank You to the school district for our current membership and support.

Mr. Kolden read the report from Hanah Woik, as she was absent.

Mr. Kolden reported the Colby Middle School is one of ten schools selected to participate in the “Play 60 Challenge” sponsored by the Green Bay Packers. Wisconsin Act 32 contained a provision to implement a Statewide Student Information System (SSIS) mandated for all school districts. The Department of Public Instruction will receive SSIS proposals in March, review and evaluate proposals during the summer and issue a contract to provide the software service before the end of 2012. Early in 2013 the first districts will implement the software. Changes have been made to the SAGE program. Schools may now choose to participate in grades 2, 3, both or neither on an annual basis. The latest Pupil Count as of January 13, 2012 was distributed, along with enrollments by building. Elementary enrollments were available to begin class planning for 2012-2013. Board members received information on the benefits of joining the National School Boards Association. The consensus of board members was not to join at this time. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the Colby School District are proclaiming the week of March 5-9, 2012, as SCHOOL BREAKFAST WEEK. Board members were reminded of the Legislative Meeting in Medford on April 16, 2012. The CWETN Distance Learning Network is holding their Annual Meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Board members may attend the video telecast in the distance learning room at the Colby High School.

Motion by Mr. Engel, seconded by Mrs. Krueger to move the April Regular School Board Meeting from April 16<sup>th</sup> to April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Colby District Education Center. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Engel, seconded by Mrs. Krueger to approve the Consent Agenda moving the Sustainability Committee discussion and Candace Huebner Retirement to Regular Business. Voice vote – Motion carried. The following items were approved:

- Minutes of January 9<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting and January 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting.
- Colby Middle School Trip to Washington, D.C.
- Fourth Grade trip to Minnesota Zoo
- Spanish Club to St. Paul, MN for Festival of Nations.
- Board member expenses for Mrs. Ploeckelman to attend WASB School Finance Seminar and WASB Legal and HR Conference.
- Resignation of Linnea Bertram, Speech/Language Pathologist
- Resignation of Daena Garcia, ELL Aide
- Hire Theresa Ibarra, Little Stars Aide

Board members discussed payment for attendance at Sustainability Committee meetings. Board members agreed the committee was not a board committee but a community committee and there would be no pay for attending Sustainability Committee meetings.

Motion by Mr. Haas, seconded by Mr. Schmidt to approve the midyear retirement of Candace Huebner in 2012-13 with the provision that a replacement Speech/Language Pathologist acceptable to administration can be hired to fill the position. Voice vote- Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mr. Elmhurst that the dollar value of Ms. Huebner's accrued sick leave be added to her Early Retirement Health Benefit. Roll call vote: Yes – Mr. Elmhurst, Mr. Schmidt, Mrs. Ploeckelman, Mr. Tesmer; No – Mr. Engel, Mr. Haas, Mrs. Krueger. Motion carried 4-3.

Motion by Mrs. Krueger, seconded by Mr. Schmidt to approve the receipts and invoices reviewed by the Finance Committee as presented. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Financial Report	
January Receipts #489486-489537	\$ 853,021.76
Mid Wisconsin Bank Wires #1332-1339	109,036.86
Community Bank Regular Checks #29020-29049	12,677.14
Direct Deposit # 90044605-90044764	237,528.70
Dorchester State Bank Checks #62007-62160	394,028.55

Board members received a Budget & Expense report as of February 20, 2012, detailing the amount of the budget that has been expended and comparing it with the prior year.

Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Elmhurst attended the Clark County School Boards meeting. The speaker told those attending that Charter Schools would not necessarily generate additional revenue in the long run as there are only so many students throughout the county. Project based learning was mentioned. It was said that there are only two options for schools failing financially – consolidation or dissolution.

Mrs. Krueger attended the WASB State Convention in Milwaukee. She attended the WASB meeting and voted on the resolutions presented. She attended sessions on open communication with all staff members, Common Core State Standards, Math Placement and Testing and a speech by Wes Moore, youth advocate, Army combat veteran, promising business leader and author.

Mr. Tesmer and Mr. Kolden also attended the WASB Convention. They attended sessions on Key Work of School Boards, School Funding, School Law – Transitioning under Governor Walkers new guideline for public employees, WIAA Roundtable, Common Core Standards and the new testing beginning in 2014.

Mrs. Ploeckelman distributed pictures of projects completed by students in the new Art & Metal Design Class. She also had copies of the 2012-13 Colby High School Course Description Handbook for board members.

Mr. Elmhurst wanted to thank the people from Colby who assisted in a wrestling tournament for students Pre-K through eighth grade at Abbotsford.

Board members agreed that under Section 8 – Post-Employment Benefits in the handbook, unfunded liabilities will not be vested.

A survey will be available on the district website for district residents. There will be specific questions regarding the school calendar and other questions on which the board would like input from district residents.

Mr. Kolden informed the board members that the 2012-2013 budget has very limited options for reducing expenditures unless we reduce programs and thus staff members in the programs. We are again faced with needing to make major budget reductions.

Motion by Mr. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Elmhurst to approve Part I of the Employee Handbook including the Preamble and Definitions, Employment Law, General Employment Practices and Expectations, Management Rights, Grievance Procedure, Pay Periods, Compensation and Expense Reimbursement, Worker's Compensation, Sick Leave, Jury Duty Leaves, Bereavement Leave, Personal Leave, Uniformed Services Leave, Unpaid Leaves of Absence, Benefits Applicable to All Employees, Work Stoppage and Conformity to Law. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0-2, Abstain – Mrs. Ploeckelman, Mr. Tesmer.

Motion by Mr. Elmhurst, seconded by Mrs. Ploeckelman, to reconfigure the Technology Specialist Position under Section IV – Support Specialist of the Employee Handbook. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mr. Elmhurst to add a Spanish Club Advisor position under Part V –Co-Curricular Employees with payment at 32% of the Co-Curricular base. Roll call vote – Motion carried 6-0-1, Abstain – Mr. Tesmer.

Motion by Mr. Engel, seconded by Mrs. Krueger to contract with Johnson –Block and Company (formerly Vig & Associates) for audit services for 2011-12. Voice vote – Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mrs. Krueger, to convene in closed session per Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1) c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; Superintendent Position Evaluation. Roll call vote – Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Ploeckelman, seconded by Mrs. Krueger, to move from closed session and to reconvene in open session as previously announced. Voice vote - motion carried.

Scheduled Board of Education Meetings:

Facilities/Transportation Committee Meeting – February 21, 2012 – 5:30 p.m. – CDEC

Policy & Curriculum Meeting – February 22, 2012 – 6:30 - CDEC

Regular Board of Education Meeting – March 19, 2012 – 7:30 p.m. – CDEC

Finance Committee Meeting – March 19, 2012 – 7:00 p.m. – CDEC

Motion by Mr. Engel, seconded by Mrs. Ploeckelman, to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Edward Haas, Clerk

Chris Thieme, Reporting Secretary