

St. Paul School Board
Unapproved Minutes
April 2, 2007

Chairperson Jane Sundheim called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm

Members Present: Mike Schmidt, Beth McFadzen, Al Kluz, Kris Tontis, Michelle Cichacki, Linda Cooney, Lynne Gieche, Christy Connell and Lucille Conterno

Members Absent: Patti Berg, Andrea Dedrick

Minutes from the March 12, 2007 meeting were approved. Motion by Kris Tontis, and Second by Mike Schmidt

Public Comments:

- Career Day received great reviews this year.

Old Business:

- Long Range Goals will be revisited in the next meeting.
- Parent Survey Results were posted in the newsletter. Of 112 families, about 50% of the surveys were returned. Results of the survey were reviewed and discussed.
- Budget Discussion
 - Salary Scale was approved for St. Paul Teachers at the last meeting. Teachers received a 4 and 5 percent raise in salary.
 - Enrollment/Tuition History was discussed. We have 156 students returning for the 2007-08 school year. This a reduction in enrollment from 165 students currently. Tuition increased by 5% \$100.00 per student. The book bill was raised by \$25.00 to offset increased cost. It was pointed out that the kindergarten tuition was lower than grade 1 to 8 tuition even through the kindergarten program is now full day.
 - Tuition discussion: Shall Kindergarten students pay same tuition as other students? Board vote: unanimous YES (Kindergarten to pay same tuition as other students)
 - Budget Line Item discussions:
 - Board discussed results of parents survey that showed parents satisfaction for the art curriculum as 2.6 on scale of 1 to 5. Board vote: Shall we add an Art teacher? Board vote: unanimous YES (Add Art teacher for grades 1 to 8)
 - Spanish Program and its current effectiveness discussed. It was brought up that the Kettle Moraine School District cut out their Spanish Program due to the fact that students were not testing into Advanced Spanish when they went to high school. St. Paul's

students were also not testing into an advanced Spanish class in high school. Discussed the goal of Spanish program to be exposure not mastery. Board discussed whether to keep Spanish grades 1 to 8. Budget constraints discussed. Discussed that budget might afford a half-time Spanish teacher for grades 5 to 8. Shall we have a Spanish program for grades 5 to 8? Board vote: 5 NO, 2 YES. (Spanish program cut for the next year.)

- The Board discussed if extra money needed to be used to help support a full-time aide. Currently, money for the half-time aide position comes from a grant. Ms. Cooney related that she feels the students needs are currently being met from the half-time aide position. Aide discussion: Shall we increase aide from _ to full time? Board vote: unanimous NO (1/2 time aide remains the same.)
- The Board discussed needs for textbook updates in Music and for Science grades 6 to 8. Determined that not enough money in the budget for this. Discussed the possibility of raising tuition an additional \$25.00 for a total of \$125.00. This would be a 6% raise it tuition. After checking other District 5 tuitions it was confirmed that St. Paul's tuition would be similar with the other district schools. Tuition discussion: Shall we raise tuition another \$25? Board vote: 2 NO, 5 YES (Tuition raised another \$25 for a total increase of \$125.00 total per student.)
- This change added an additional \$7000.00 to the budget for consideration for programs. Discussed that the cost of a Science textbook update was approximately \$3000.00. A Music book update is approximately \$5000.00 and the half time Spanish teacher position is approximately \$3000.00. Board member brought up idea that school needs a guidance counselor due to the ongoing problems with bullying and peer relationship issues. Discussed that Music book update is not a good use of the money at this time. Agreed to vote on having two of the three programs (Half-time Spanish program or Guidance counselor or Science book update). Program discussion: Shall we have text book update, guidance, Spanish? Board vote for two of the programs: Text book update 7, Guidance 5, Spanish, 2. (Textbook update and Guidance program approved).
- Total Budget Approved – Vote: Budget unanimously approved

New Business:

- School Board Openings
 - Mike received one call from someone interested. There still remain three openings for next year's school board.

Committee Reports:

- Building and Grounds- no report
- Finance /Budget- no further report
- Middle school
 - Friends and Fun activities are planned for the rest of the school year. The first month went very well.
- Communication- no report
- Marketing- no report
- Development- no report
- Home and School
 - Money will be allocated to teachers for their "Classroom Wish Lists"
- Bullying Committee
 - Working on development of our own bullying program

Principals/Teacher Report

- WKCE Results- All our students fall within the proficient and advanced ranges with the exception of one student
- G&T Coordinator from Waukesha is still unable to meet with the faculty. Will continue to work on it.
- Survey results- Ms. Cooney spoke with each teacher individually regarding results of the parent survey. This provided some feedback for each teacher's PDP (Professional Development Plan) which is used as a tool to improve instructional skills. Ms. Cooney has been trained as to how to support and approve PDP's. There will be further training in August provided to teachers.
- Students were saving \$1000 for Guatemala
- Students were serving at St. Ben's
- 4 teachers are pursuing professional development opportunities this summer.
- There will be training in the ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) and the way to interpret test results and use data more efficiently.

Discussion related to the next school board meeting

Discussed need for a strategic plan for the school. It was decided to put together a flyer and invite all parents to and teachers to come to brainstorming session for input. It was decided to have this gathering an hour before the regular scheduled school board meeting and then address suggestions and ideas at the next meeting. Board members agreed to bring hors d'ourves. The teachers will be given individual invitations to attend.

Next meeting will be held May 14, 2007 at 6:00 pm (Bring hors d'ourves)

- School vision brainstorming
- Hand book pp. 11-20
- Dress code
- New members

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm Motion by Christy, second by Lynne

Respectfully submitted,
Beth McFadzen
School Board Secretary