

EWEN TROUT CREEK SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 16, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Maki, Kirk Schott, John Pinkerton, Amanda Brady, Samantha Schutz.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Tammy Gibson and Alan Tulppo

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Witt, Mary Beth Perttu, Dustin Brand, Carol Yakovich, Lawrence Schaad, Pam Besonen, Peg Carrothers, Shawn Brown.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: John Pinkerton made a motion to approve the agenda. Samantha Schutz seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES: Amanda Brady made a motion to approve the minutes of the December meeting. John Pinkerton seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Alan Tulppo announced that one of our students, Tommy Cousineau, an 8th grade student, was awarded first place in the Northwoods Writing Contest. This was completed as part of the 8th grade ELA class, taught by Mrs. Becky McKay. The contest was open to all school districts in the CCISD and the GOISD. This was an honor for Tommy.

Motion by John Pinkerton to recognize Tommy Cousineau for this award. Carol Maki seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Tulppo invited Officer Witt, Carol Yakovich and Lawrence Schaad to do their presentations to the board before the Administrative Reports.

OFFICER BILL WITT: Officer Bill Witt, representing the School Resource Program informed the board of the purpose of the School Liason Officer is to keep the school safe. He works with the administration, staff and students. He does criminal investigations as necessary regarding property, larceny, drug and alcohol, and assault crimes. Officer Witt mentioned that the new camera system is in place and that visibility is a big deterrent to problems. He also informed the board that there is a difference between criminal and administrative issues. Even if a student is not found guilty in a court of law, does not mean that the school board cannot find a student guilty and punish them as per our school policies.

Officer Witt also informed the board of an Act of Violence training taking place in Watersmeet in February. Officer Witt and Officer Mazurek will be a part of that training.

Officer Witt is at the school at least two days a week and is also available for special events such as dances, proms, sporting events, etc. He also commented on the issues he and other officers are seeing with social media. Reminding those present that any electronic postings are permanent records.

A parent asked Officer Witt what is being done for preventative measures about the social media issue. He stated that there are education programs regarding social media but they are not well attended by parents. The best attended programs are during the school days when the students are a captive audience.

UNIQUE LEARNING SYSTEM: Carol Yakovich and Lawrence Schaad, Special Ed. teachers at Ewen Trout Creek presented the Unique Learning System (ULS). This system is designed for students with special needs. This system also covers many subject areas and grade levels. The board agreed to get ULS for our students.

PK-12 PRINCIPAL & SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Mr. Tulppo stated that the board committees need to meet in the next month.

The curriculum committee needs to make final graduation approval requirements for 2018 seniors.

The personnel committee needs to discuss retirements in the support staff.

The properties committee needs to look at funds left over and to consider projects to look at that were deferred.

The policy committee has Neola policy packets to look at and work on the fall policy update packet.

The pupil accounting field audit was held and we were given a very clean report. Mr. Tulppo stated that the field audit helps establish the school's final student count and that errors can result in the loss of funding. He commended Pam Besonen for her great work on preparing for this audit. This is the second year in a row that a clean audit was given.

BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT: Tammy Gibson gave an update on a bus repair issue. Over \$11,000.00 has been spent on the wheelchair bus and it is still not on the road. She will continue to look into it and report back at next month's meeting.

Drivers Ed. is finishing Segment 2. There is a question as to how the school is going to proceed with Drivers Ed in the future. Drive America is completing our Segment 2 session this year, Tammy will do some research and have a recommendation at the next meeting.

On January 25th the election coordinators will be meeting at the Ewen Trout Creek School. Tammy will represent the Ewen Trout Creek School Board at that meeting.

Tammy was very pleased, and surprised to receive the Special Ed. payout check given by Deb Zelinski. This was more than she has budgeted for. The District also received an Xcel Energy rebate last week of about \$20,000.00.

John Pinkerton made a motion to thank the GOISD for the payout check. Amanda Brady seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT/PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion by John Pinkerton to approve the financial report and pay the bills plus the Messa Insurance bill when it arrives. Amanda Brady seconded that motion. All ayes, motion carried.

MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS GRANT APPROVAL: Peg Carrothers informed the board that the arts council has money in our area for Mr. Carrothers to compose original music for the ETC Choir to perform at our school and at the Ontonagon Theatre. Motion made by Amanda Brady to approve the grant application, seconded by Samantha Schutz. All ayes, motion carries.

SCHEDULE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Committee meeting dates were discussed and decided on. Personnel committee will meet on 1/23/17 at 5 p.m. Properties committee will meet on 2/6/17 at 5:30 p.m. Curriculum committee will meet on 1/25/17 at 5:30 p.m. Policy committee will meet on 2/15/17 at 5:30 p.m.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: The strategic planning committee will meet on 1/24/17. They are looking at surveys and trends in nine areas.

STUDENT CELL PHONE USAGE: John Pinkerton expressed concerns about where cell phones are being used in the school. Since cell phones have cameras on them they should be kept out of certain areas in the school, such as restrooms and locker rooms. John has heard that sexting is becoming a problem also.

Mr. Tulppo stated that he will post cell phone free zone signs in the bathrooms and locker rooms.

Mr. Tulppo also suggested that Officer Witt and Officer Mazurek could do a presentation regarding social media and sexting to the students.

SALE OF PROPERTY: Motion made by Amanda Brady to have Mr. Tulppo write a letter to Mr. Berndt that he has 30 days to pay on the property he bid on or the sale will be reposted and calls will be made to interested parties. John Pinkerton seconded the motion. All ayes, motion carried.

It was suggested that a diaper changing table be installed in the bathrooms.

Motion by John Pinkerton to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Second by Amanda Brady. All ayes, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

BOARD SECRETARY

BOARD PRESIDENT