

**Beaver Dam Unified School District
Board of Education Minutes**

Accountability Committee Meeting

October 20, 2014

A meeting of the Accountability Committee of the Beaver Dam Unified School District Board of Education was held on the above date at the Educational Service Center at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Bev Beal-Loeck, Jim Jansen, Marge Jorgensen, John Kraus, Jr., Laura Lerwick, Lisa Panzer, Chad Prieve, Gary Spielman, and Joanne Tyjeski. Administration present: Bob Avery, Director of Business Services, Crystal Bates, High School Associate Principal, Sharon Bliedernicht, Director of Human Resources, John Casper, Middle School Principal, Mark DiStefano, High School Principal, Sandra Garbowicz, Director of Teaching and Learning, Donna Pivonka, Director of Student Services, and Steve Vessey, Superintendent.

Mr. Avery presented a report recommending snowplow vendors for the 2014-15 school year. A question was asked about grouping the DSLA with the rural elementary schools rather than with the ESC and High School. An answer will be communicated via the weekly update.

Mrs. Bliedernicht presented changes to the certified staff handbook. This includes the penalty for breaking the contract; aligning the evaluation timelines to educator effectiveness; aligning contract renewal dates to state statute; and updating the premium share percentages for health and dental insurances.

Mrs. Bliedernicht presented a change to the Support Staff Handbook regarding the new premium share percentage for insurance.

Mr. Avery will present the Quarter 1 Budget to Actual report in November.

The High School facility assessment recommendations from Plunkett Raysich Architects in 2012 were reviewed. The report was updated to reflect items that have been addressed, what is being addressed, and what remains to be addressed. This is a continuing discussion for a key performance objective in the district's strategic plan. There were questions regarding including evaluating off-site facilities such as the soccer field at Prairie View Elementary School and possibly looking at other sites as a possible option for the study to evaluate. The soccer fields can be included and looking at other sites limits the study. If the study is limited, there won't be good justification to defend a decision because options are left off the table. This process will take months and the next step is for the Board to authorize preparing the request for proposal to hire an architectural firm to conduct the educational needs assessment for the High School building and campus. This will be on the Board agenda for the October 27th regular business meeting.

Mr. Casper, along with Middle School Teachers, Mrs. Schwartz and Mrs. Stoehr, reviewed the current homeroom structure at the Middle School and how reading is being integrated into it. This is now a critical piece of vocabulary development and is getting students ready for class time. They are operating more efficiently and beginning the transfer stage. Students are better

prepared for first hour. Content areas are rotated weekly. Behavior issues are down and this has led to structural changes and increased organization. New teachers are applying processes with this structure into their classrooms. This is non-graded, so the pressure is lower, non-differentiated, but there is still accountability as it is tied back to classroom.

The next Accountability Committee meeting will be November 17th.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Panzer, Committee Chair.