

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

Planning Committee Meeting

January 18, 2016

A meeting of the Planning Committee of the Beaver Dam Unified School District Board of Education was held on the above date at the Educational Service Center at 6:22 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, Sharon Bliefernicht, Director of Human Resources, Mark DiStefano, High School Principal, Sandra Garbowicz, Director of Teaching and Learning, and Steve Vessey, Superintendent.

Ms. Bliefernicht presented information the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) school districts across the state are providing for retiring staff. There were a wide-range of benefits and many do not offer them to support staff. Many of our support staff do not take the benefit currently offered. She presented a number of different options to consider. The main consideration for continuing health insurance as a post-employment benefit is that it needs to equal what the highest compensated employees in the District receive.

Mr. Vessey reported on the progress of the scheduling key performance objective (KPO). The discussion focused on the direction of the KPO committee. Most of the change is focused on the Middle School, with minimal changes at the High School and elementary schools. Response to the parent surveys was low and staff surveys showed few issues. The staff survey contradicted much of the past anecdotal information received by administration. Middle School parents are looking for more options and more math and science. A three-year plan is being developed, which impacts 1:1 learning, Project Lead the Way (STEM), changes to the music curriculum, pulling the “wheel” schedule (short segments of various courses), and elective offerings. Changes will be based on researching best practices and conducting school visits to learn what has worked in other districts. There will be an emphasis on the core areas. “Freedom in Fences” is the theme of the work ahead. This may lead to expanding Project Lead the Way to grades K-12.

With the transition of Mr. DiStefano from the High School principalship to the Director of Human Resources, thoughts about administrative staffing for the DSLA were shared with the committee. Prior to Mr. DiStefano being responsible for the DSLA, there was a plan for it to transition to a teacher-administrator. There now is an opportunity to implement this model. The position would be 25% administrator and 75% teacher. The Virtual Academy may also be part of the responsibilities. There is staff at DSLA ready to assume these responsibilities.

Mr. Vessey shared a school calendar for the 2016-2017 school year, which is based on the current school year. There are no significant changes and Mr. Vessey is looking for the Board to adopt it at its next regular meeting.

Mr. Avery presented an update on the request from the City of Beaver Dam Senior Center to use the woodshop at DSLA. With the move to the Watermark, the senior center is losing its senior woodshop and the woodshop at the DSLA is not currently being used. If implemented, the district would remove the existing equipment and the City would install their equipment. The liability remains with the City for the care, upkeep and training to use this equipment. The District's insurance agent provided a sample lease agreement detailing insurance requirements for a no cost lease if this proceeds.

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for February 15th.

Minutes submitted by Marge Jorgensen, Committee Chair.