

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

**Planning Committee Meeting**

**November 21, 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 6:30 p.m. Board members present: Bev Beal-Loeck, Jim Jansen, Marge Jorgensen, John Kraus, Jr., Laura Lerwick, Lisa Panzer, Gary Spielman, and Joanne Tyjeski. Administration present: Crystal Bates, High School Principal, Mark DiStefano, Director of Human Resources, Sandra Garbowicz, Director of Teaching and Learning, and Steve Vessey, Superintendent.

Mr. Vessey presented a proposal to change the school year calendar for the second semester of 2016-17 and the entire 2017-18 school year. School day schedules at all schools would increase by 20 minutes beginning January 16, 2017, by adding 10 minutes each at the beginning and end of the day. The last school day for students would be May 22, 2017. High School graduation would be Sunday, May 21, 2017. Holiday break, spring break and all other calendar dates for the 2016-17 school year would remain unchanged. The 2017-18 school day would remain unchanged from the second semester of the 2016-17 school year. The 2017-18 school year would begin on September 5, 2017, and end of May 21, 2018. The proposed changes would gain 24 non-student days for construction work at all district schools, ensuring a completion date in mid-August 2018. A cost savings is estimated at approximately \$345,000. Some of the issues are the financial impact on school year support staff, an earlier graduation date for families, childcare complications, curricular adjustments, and extended time away from academics for students. The proposed changes will be presented to the board for approval at the December regular board meeting.

The committee reviewed a proposal from CG Schmidt to provide construction management services for the renovation and remodeling projects. The proposal will be presented for action at the December regular board meeting.

The committee discussed implementing an Adopt-a-School program to help develop deeper and closer relationships between board members and staff and students and gain a better understanding of the day-to-day operations of schools. Each board member will adopt a school beginning in September 2017, and extending through the end of the 2017-18 school year. This program is an outreach plan that school board members developed and adopted. The committee reviewed possible partnership activities, board member expectations, and administrator expectations.

Ms. Bates presented a proposal for a small group of High School Choir students to travel to Iowa to participate in an honors choir weekend activity. The students will travel to and from Iowa with the Beaver Dam Choir Director. Once arriving at the University, the students will be supervised by University staff. The administration will ask the board to approve the trip at the December board business meeting.

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup>.

Minutes submitted by Laura Lerwick, Committee Chair.