

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

Planning Committee Meeting

February 15, 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, 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, Melissa Gehring, Athletic/Activities Director, and Steve Vessey, Superintendent.

Mr. Vessey reviewed a draft of the community survey with the committee. The survey will be mailed with a self-addressed, stamped envelope and will include an ID number and information about how to take the survey online. A 14% return rate is the threshold for the data to be valid and reliable. The hope is for 25% or more. The committee reviewed the current draft, and provided feedback/suggestions.

Mr. Avery shared documents related to the 2016-17 budget. He provided the parameters being used to guide the budget building. These include revenues calculated in accordance with current state law. As this is the second year of the state biennial budget, there should be no changes to the structure of school funding for 2016-17. It also includes the CPI index certified by the Wisconsin Employment Relations Council of 0.12%. There are a few other specific changes, but the rest of the budget would be frozen. The result is a projected deficit of \$380,508 for 2016-17. This is based on cast-forward staffing and does not account for changes in staffing costs due to retirements/resignations. He also shared a timeline of board actions and other key dates related to the budget development process. This includes retirement and layoff deadlines, adoption timelines, and the budget hearing for August 8th.

Ms. Bliefernicht shared two options for modifications to the district post-employment benefits. One option is to modify the current health insurance offerings so that they would be consistent with PPACA non-discrimination requirements and the other is to eliminate health insurance as a post-employment benefit and replace it with cash options in the form of 403(b) contributions. There is no recommendation at this time. Further discussion and analysis needs to be done and it is recommended that a new plan be adopted in the fall for implementation in the 2019-2020 school year. This has been reviewed with legal counsel to ensure that any option being explored does not include a risk to the district on issues of vestiture.

The committee reviewed the schedule of meetings involving board members over the next several months to ensure adequate coverage at the various events. To help with communicating attendance, a document will be shared for board members to sign up for building tours, coffee meetings, and other such community outreach events.

Mr. Vessey shared an updated draft school year calendar for 2016-17 after receiving additional input from administration. The school year would start September 1 and end on June 6. Winter break would run December 23-January 1, with school resuming on Monday, January 2. Spring break would run the week of March 20-24. The calendar will be brought to the board for adoption at the March meeting.

Mr. Vessey updated the committee on the current City/WisDOT plans for construction near the Middle School on Spring St. planned for the summer of 2017. The City is looking for the District's feedback on lining our hardscape playground for parking with an in- and out-flow with a right-turn only exit. There were some concerns about the design and a shared driveway. The District would like 4th St to be a one-way (east to west).

Ms. Gehring shared a proposal from Wayland Academy to join the co-op with the BDHS boy's hockey team and Dodgeland School District. Wayland had inquired last year, but the request was denied as it was submitted late. The committee supported the proposal for Wayland to join the co-op.

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for March 28th.

Minutes submitted by Marge Jorgensen, Committee Chair.