

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

Planning Committee Meeting

November 17, 2014

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, Chad Prieve, and Joanne Tyjeski. Administration present: Bob Avery, Director of Business Services, Mark DiStefano, High School Principal, Rebecca Droessler Mersch, Virtual School Coordinator, and Steve Vessey, Superintendent.

Ms. Droessler Mersch and Mr. DiStefano updated the committee on the status of the online academy. Ms. Droessler Mersch shared a timeline of what has been completed and what will be completed. The two options are a virtual academy or a charter school. The charter model sets up a separate school, whereas the virtual academy would work within the High School and Don Smith Learning Academy (DSLAs). The non-charter virtual academy model would not be available for open enrollment. An in-house (non-charter) model could focus on students and supplement existing BDHS/DSLAs programs. Beaver Dam resident open enrollment students attending other districts could return to BDHS. The academy would start internally and could be expanded into a charter to attract non-resident students. A team of stakeholders is researching options and methodologies. There is flexibility for teachers with both platforms. The model could be presented to the full board for consideration in January prior to the open enrollment timelines. The goal is to pilot it during summer school 2015 and roll it out Fall 2015.

Mr. Avery presented a budget timeline that was modified slightly from last years'. The annual budget meeting will be scheduled before the August regular monthly board meeting to ensure that the district can secure cash flow borrowing before late October, if it is needed. The board would then adopt the budget and certify a levy in August based on current estimates and then amend the budget and the levy in October to reflect changes based on enrollment and state aid allocations. He cautioned the committee that much of the preliminary work is speculative, as the district's revenues will be determined in the state biennial budget, which will be presented later in the winter or early spring. Next month, the committee will review budget parameters to serve as the foundation for building the 2015-16 budget.

The committee discussed the superintendent and board evaluation process. Mr. Prieve noted that there is an aligned process but it hasn't been formalized. There isn't a documented timeline for evaluating the superintendent. Mr. Vessey noted that he is a proponent of having it in policy so that the tools are in place if ever the board needs to consider non-renewal of a superintendent. Consensus was for Mr. Prieve and Mr. Vessey to draft a timeline, present it to the Executive Committee and then return it to the Planning Committee. Ms. Panzer recommended a second evaluation during a year with "if needed" language.

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

Minutes submitted by John Kraus, Jr., Committee Chair.