Beaver Dam Unified School District Board of Education Minutes

Planning Committee Meeting

December 21, 2015

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, 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, Mark DiStefano, High School Principal, John Casper, Middle School Principal, Sandra Garbowicz, Director of Teaching and Learning, Kerri jo Patten, Middle School Associate Principal, Jesse Peters, Prairie View Elementary School Principal, Donna Pivonka, Director of Student Services, and Steve Vessey, Superintendent.

Mr. Vessey invited administrators to participate in the committee's discussion regarding the music department proposal presented to the school board the previous week. There were some concerns expressed about the proposal as submitted. It will be presented to the full board for action at the January regular meeting.

After school visits to Baraboo and Sheboygan to view their technology services, it was determined that leadership is needed in how to best use current and future technology equipment. Administration presented a plan from the Staff Technology Committee to reorganize the department to meet the future instructional technology needs of the District. The plan shifts the focus from an emphasis on network and infrastructure to supporting computing needs in the classroom. The plan creates a new Coordinator of District Technology position to oversee the Instructional Technology department, as well as oversee the library media specialists and building level supports in technology. There will be an emphasis on developing the capacity of staff to integrate technology into their instruction. A level one technical support position will be added for the roll out of 1:1 environments, starting in the Middle School next year, as well as 6th assignments in the middle school for tech integrators. These positions will be included in the base assumptions for building the 2016-17 budget.

Mr. Avery and Ms. Pivonka presented a report on projected classroom (regular education) and caseload (special education) space available to accept new open enrollment students for 2016-17. The determination of available space is a requirement in State statutes in the event a district considers denying an open enrollment application based on space availability. All grades have space available, but the caseloads at the middle and high school will prevent the District from accepting new open enrollment students with special needs at these levels.

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for January 18th.

Minutes submitted by Marge Jorgensen, Committee Chair.