

## **Regular Board Meeting January 18, 2016**

The Board of Education for USD #291 Grinnell Public Schools met on Monday, January 18, 2016. Attending: Board members Duane Vollbracht, Brian Beckman, Robert Fellhoelter, Julie Dickman, Joyce Baalman, Alan Suter and Loren Stephens; Superintendent Mike McDermeit; Clerk Mary Jane Goetz; staff member Les Barnhart.

Meeting called to order by President, Duane Vollbracht at 7:30 p.m. Agenda approved as presented.

Mr. Barnhart reported on technology committee meeting. Information we received from Brainpop is more expensive than what we originally thought so will continue to research. Mr. Barnhart is continuing to work with Windows 16. We have received several bids for Erate and will clarify some information which will be ready by the next meeting. The committee approved S & T for local, long distance and internet service. Mr. Barnhart is making sure iPads are configured for state assessments.

Duane Vollbracht reported for NKESC. KASB convention was the main topic of discussion.

Alan Suter reported for NWKATS. Funding, courses and sport teams were discussed. He would like to see USD 292 appoint a representative to bring back information for the high school.

Mr. McDermeit reported on Governor Brownback's proposed budget adjustments.

Mr. McDermeit is working on the Monsanto Grant. WHS has invited us to attend the STEM presentation on Tuesday, January 26. Board members are also invited to attend. Mr. McDermeit went over toilet flush valves and the different types we have installed over the years. Consensus is to get a price quote for replacements in the gym bathrooms and locker rooms. The baby changing tables have arrived and Huse Construction will install them. We had teacher in-service today with staff being trained on assessment test security, twitter, Facebook, and Apple TV. They worked on a project based learning activity. The staff enjoyed a meal provided by the Grinnell Methodist women. We received a grant from Dane G. Hansen Foundation for our 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade to tour the Eisenhower Museum in April. Mr. McDermeit updated the board on basketball games and quiz bowl meets. Trevor Zarybnicky, regional winner, will be honored in Topeka for the "If I Were Mayor" essay contest. Western Kansas Scholastic Art awards were announced with nine 8<sup>th</sup> grade students receiving awards. Mr. McDermeit informed the board of Greenbush volume purchasing for lunchroom food items.

The minutes of the regular meeting held December 14, 2015 were approved.

Approval of January checks: General Fund \$62,385.18, Supplemental General \$4,513.66, 4 Year Old at Risk \$659.43, K-12 At Risk \$113.99, Capital Outlay \$70.79, Food Service \$5,037.50, Special Education \$25,952.43, Federal Funds \$3,659.85.

The WHS shop class brought over a Thunderhawk sign that was donated by a patron. It will be hung outside above the breezeway doors at GMS.

The board approved S & T for local, long distance and internet service.

Mr. McDermeit discussed the house he toured in town. We will get an appraisal and discuss it at our next meeting. The board is still researching the need for a daycare in the school building. There was discussion on a one year contract, lunches during the school year and summer; children of USD 291 staff have priority, and insurance/liability. Mr. McDermeit has visited with Brewster on their daycare program. Mr. McDermeit asked for volunteers to serve on a committee. Julie Dickman, Brian Beckman, Kris Vollbracht and Samantha Goetz have volunteered to be on the committee. The board welcomes any patrons to be a part of the committee.

The board approved Mr. McDermeit's contract through the 2017-2018 school year, making it a two year contract.

Mr. McDermeit reported that the date for the negotiations exchange letter with the teachers has changed to March 31. Brian, Loren & Mr. McDermeit attended negotiations training at NKESC. We will discuss the notice letter at the February or March meeting.

The GEA committee will meet the evening of February 3.

Board adjourned at 9:30 p.m.