

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN, MARCH 7, 2011
VICE PRESIDENT FAANES PRESIDING**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Vice President Faanes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Secretary Patti Iverson confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed and was in compliance with the open meeting law.

Roll call was taken and the following commissioners were present: Duax, Faanes, Janke, and Shiel. Absent: Craig, Johnson and Wogahn. Student Representatives Joe Luginbill and Rebecca Giles were also present.

NOTICE OF CLOSED SESSION

Vice President Faanes announced that the Board would go into closed session following the committee meeting under 19.85 (1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session; and 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one signed up to address the Board.

BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Heilmann said the second legislative gathering took place between the Altoona, Chippewa Falls and Eau Claire School Boards and four local assembly persons. They discussed the budget repair bill as well as the Governor's budget. Assemblyman Warren Petryk has since extended an invitation to these superintendents and business managers to meet with members of the Joint Finance Committee to advocate for their local districts.

Dr. Heilmann reminded the Board of the WASB Day at the Capitol on March 16, 2011, to hear about the 2011-13 state budget briefing and WASB priorities.

Referendum information can be accessed online on the district's website; at upcoming community forums on March 9, 2011, at the Chamber of Commerce and on March 29, 2011, at DeLong Middle School; during the TV-13 Morning Show on March 10, 2011, at 10 am; at the Manz PTA meeting on March 15, 2011, at 6 pm; at Memorial's State of the School meeting on March 17, 2011, at 6:30 pm and at the Historic Randall Park Neighborhood Association meeting on March 17, 2011, at 6:30 pm.

North Jazz Band I was named the 2011 Shawano Jazz Fest Champions and Sarah and Angie were named outstanding festival soloists. The Eau Claire Memorial boys' hockey team made it to the state semi-finals last weekend. Both groups were congratulated for their fine efforts.

Minnijean Brown Tricky, one of the Little Rock Nine, who participated in desegregation of schools in 1957, spoke to students at North and Memorial recently. Her message, which addressed the ECASD character traits of non-violence and perseverance, was very well received by all in attendance.

Student Representative Report

Becca Giles reminded the Board of North and Memorial high schools' upcoming State of the School meetings. North's session will be held for students on March 16 from 3 to 4:30 pm and Memorial's session will take place on March 17 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm for students and community members. Topics to be addressed include the referendum, technology policy and post-secondary education.

Joe Luginbill asked the Board to observe a moment of silence for one of its students, Teddy Wright, who recently passed away.

Other Reports

Policy and Governance Committee

There was nothing to report.

Budget Development Committee

There was nothing to report.

CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA

Board members asked to pull Resolution 1 from the consent agenda.

Com. Duax moved, seconded by Com. Shiel, to approve the consent resolution agenda consisting of the following items:

- ◆ The minutes of closed session of February 21, 2011, as mailed.
- ◆ The matters of employment of March 7, 2011, as presented.
- ◆ Final notice of nonrenewal to certified staff who were on emergency contract during the 2010-11 school year.
- ◆ Letters of renewal for teaching staff.

Consent resolution agenda items approved by unanimous roll call vote.

INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #1 – Minutes of Board Meeting of February 21, 2011

Com. Janke asked that the minutes be amended as follows on page 9: "... when comparing average teacher salaries across the nation Wisconsin is near the bottom. Wisconsin ranks 49th out of the 50 states for starting teacher salaries. He said the state has a \$65 billion budget and a deficit of about 1.8 billion, which is less than 3 percent.

Com. Janke moved, seconded by Com. Shiel, to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting of February 21, 2011, as amended. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Regular meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Patti Iverson, Board Secretary

**COMMITTEE MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN
MARCH 7, 2011**

1. Call to Order – Committee Meeting

Board Members present: Duax, Faanes, Janke and Shiel. Absent: Craig, Johnson and Wogahn. Student Representatives Joe Luginbill and Rebecca Giles were also present.

2. Committee Reports/Items for Discussion

A. Update on Impact of Governor Walker’s Budget Proposal on the 2011-12 ECASD Budget

Dan Van De Water, Executive Director of Business, shared an update on what has transpired relative to information that may be known about the 2011-12 budget. He said two variables were built into the projections: 1) revenue limit per pupil increase or decrease and 2) changes in wages and benefits (compensation).

Mr. Van De Water shared three different scenarios. Scenario A calls for no increase in the per pupil amount, which would result in a short-fall of \$36 million over five years. Scenario B is what would happen if there was a \$500 decrease in the per pupil amount, which is the word that is coming out of Madison. This would result in a shortfall of \$63.6 million over five years. Scenario C is the most sustainable option. It would tie compensation increases in the future to the revenue limit and would project a \$17.9 million short fall over five years. Mr. Van De Water projected that the amount of challenge for 2011-12 could be between \$2,025,000 and \$8,300,000.

The Governor recently released his budget, and on Friday the Department of Public Instruction modified the revenue limit formula based on that budget bill. Mr. Van De Water said there wasn’t a lot of difference from what was shared at the last meeting. Scenario B would have a \$559.18 decrease in the per pupil amount (rather than \$500). So the projection model for Scenario B would show a shortfall of \$8.9 million for next year.

Mr. Van De Water said that more information would be needed on state aid and how the Governor’s budget translates into that formula. There could be amendments or changes to the budget, which could also affect the bottom line. The other unknown factors at this point are wages and benefits for employees.

Com. Janke asked if the District could stay in business with the types of cuts that would have to be made. Mr. Van De Water said that Scenario B would be unsustainable. Scenario C would tie into compensation that is agreed upon with employees and projections show that could be manageable.

Mr. Van De Water said that the budget won't be finalized until October 15, 2011, when the final state aid is figured. What happens between now and then is still open ended.

Becca Giles said the premise of the Governor's budget repair bill is decreasing income of state workers to prevent massive layoffs. She felt with the budget gaps the district will be facing, the district will have to cut teachers.

Com. Faanes explained that the \$559.18 reduction per student will affect every district differently. Near Milwaukee, some districts spend \$7,000 per student more, which would mean Eau Claire could have \$70 million more to spend on students if we spent at that same level. Mr. Van De Water noted that some districts don't receive any state aid, so if they are not cutting aid to those districts, it's a lot different for districts like Eau Claire where half of its revenue stream is state aid. And he added that for the budget repair bill, the health care and retirement contribution will also affect districts differently depending on how those things were negotiated. Teachers could decide if they wanted increases in health care or salary. If more was put in salary, the reductions the Governor is asking for will impact those districts less. Eau Claire will still have a few million dollar gap after the budget repair bill not including the "tools" the Governor referred to.

3. Request for Future Agenda Items
4. Other Business
5. Motion to Adjourn Committee Meeting

Com. Duax moved, seconded by Com. Shiel, to adjourn committee meeting. Carried by unanimous voice of acclamation.

6. Motion to go into Closed Session

Com. Janke moved, seconded by Com. Duax, to go into closed session under 19.85 (1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session; and 19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Duax, Faanes and Shiel. Nay: Janke.

7. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.