

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN, MAY 2, 2011**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Dan Van De Water called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He 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: Craig, Cummins, Faanes, Janke, Johnson, and Wogahn. Absent: Duax. Student Representatives Joe Luginbill and Becca Giles were also present.

Mr. Dan Van De Water called for nominations for President of the Board.

Com. Johnson nominated Carol Craig for President. There being no other nominations Com. Faanes moved, seconded by Com. Johnson, that nominations be closed, rules suspended, and a unanimous ballot cast for Carol Craig. Carried by unanimous roll call vote. Carol Craig was declared elected President of the Board of Education.

Nominations were called for Vice President of the Board. Com. Johnson nominated Ken Faanes for Vice President of the Board. There being no other nominations Com. Cummins moved, seconded by Com. Wogahn, that nominations be closed, rules suspended, and a unanimous ballot cast for Ken Faanes. Carried by unanimous roll call vote. Ken Faanes was declared elected Vice President of the Board of Education.

Nominations were called for Clerk of the Board. Com. Faanes nominated Brent Wogahn for Clerk of the Board. There being no other nominations Com. Faanes moved, seconded by Com. Johnson, that nominations be closed, rules suspended, and a unanimous ballot cast for Brent Wogahn. Carried by unanimous roll call vote. Brent Wogahn was declared elected Clerk of the Board of Education.

Nominations were called for Clerk Designee of the Board. Com. Wogahn nominated Dan Van De Water for Clerk Designee of the Board. There being no other nominations Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Faanes, that nominations be closed, rules suspended, and a unanimous ballot cast for Dan Van De Water. Carried by unanimous roll call vote. Dan Van De Water was declared elected Clerk Designee of the Board of Education.

Nominations were called for Treasurer of the Board. Com. Wogahn nominated Wendy Sue Johnson for Treasurer of the Board. There being no other nominations Com. Faanes moved, seconded by Com. Cummins, that nominations be closed, rules suspended, and a unanimous ballot cast for Wendy Sue Johnson. Carried by unanimous roll call vote. Wendy Sue Johnson was declared elected Treasurer of the Board of Education.

Nominations were called for Secretary of the Board. Com. Wogahn nominated Patti Iverson for Secretary of the Board. There being no other nominations Com. Faanes moved, seconded by Com. Wogahn, that nominations be closed, rules suspended, and a unanimous ballot cast for Patti Iverson. Carried by unanimous roll call vote. Patti Iverson was declared elected Secretary of the Board of Education.

President Craig said that she would announce Board Committee appointments at the May 16th meeting.

The Board members drew numbers to determine seating arrangements for future meetings.

Organizational meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Patti Iverson, Board Secretary

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN, MAY 2, 2011
PRESIDENT CRAIG PRESIDING**

The following commissioners were present: Craig, Cummins, Faanes, Janke, Johnson, and Wogahn. Absent: Duax. Student Representatives Joe Luginbill and Rebecca Giles were also present.

NOTICE OF CLOSED SESSION

President Craig announced that the Board would go into closed session following the committee meeting under 19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility to discuss the superintendent evaluation and contract and administrative contracts.

PUBLIC FORUM

Brian Goulet, a Memorial High School student, talked about the cell phone policy. He felt they should be allowed in the hallways between classes and at lunch because they would not be interfering with instruction during that time. He felt it should be up to teachers to decide if they should allow cell phones during class. He understood that texting should not be done during class.

Philip Tibbetts, another Memorial student, thought that cell phones were being taken too seriously. He didn't think it was fair for teachers to take them away from students. He thought they should be allowed at lunch time or between classes. He didn't think it was necessary to have strict rules on cell phone use.

BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Heilmann said another design meeting was held last week with school teams and Bray Architects. He shared the following information:

1. Executive Director of Business Services Dan Van De Water has been working with Baird to develop the financing plan for the project. The financing plan goals are:
 - Meet the referendum goal of no increase in debt service levy above current level.
 - Achieve lowest total financing cost.
 - Maximize investment earnings.
 - Maximize funds available for projects.
 - Meet IRS spending requirements.

2. Baird is planning a bond anticipation note (BAN) sale for Board action on May 16th. This will provide funds to cover costs that the District is now incurring. A BAN is a short-term financing instrument that is used to provide funds in advance of the official bond sale. The sale of bonds will occur next fall with the final bond sale occurring in spring, 2012.
3. Dan Van De Water and Mike Clark from Baird held a bond rating conference call with Standard and Poors on Monday, May 2nd. Baird is completing work on a preliminary official statement.
4. The accounts necessary to track revenue and expenditures have been set up.

Dr. Heilmann shared information about various legislative bills being considered that would have negative impacts on local school districts. He also discussed a Legislative Fiscal Bureau paper regarding the state-provided student information system. The Governor intended that this be mandatory for all districts but his budget bill didn't provide for that. Consequently, he asked that it be amended.

The National Institute for Early Education Research said that Wisconsin was recently recognized as having the sixth best array of quality pre-k programs with easy access for parents compared to other states.

Dr. Heilmann said that a Pew Pension Study showed that Wisconsin and New York are the only states that have fully funded estimated pension liabilities.

Blugold Beginnings held the UW-EC campus tour field trip for fifth graders. This introduced students to the idea of college and let them experience the university campus on a personal level.

Communication to Superintendent/Board President

President Craig announced that four Board members will be attending the WASB Spring Academy in Wisconsin Dells. Anyone else who is interested should contact Patti Iverson.

Student Representative Report

Becca Giles said the Student Representatives gained more feedback from students on the cell phone policy. She said there has been wide-spread support for removal of the current policy. She and Joe Luginbill shared a few comments that they received from other students.

Other Reports

Policy and Governance Committee

Board members received two documents with a list of policies that are being considered for revision. The Board was asked to rank these policies and get them back to the Policy & Governance Committee in the near future.

Budget Development Committee

There was no report at this time.

CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA

Board members asked to pull Resolutions 3 and 5 from the consent agenda.

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

- ◆ The minutes of Board meeting of April 18, 2011 as mailed.
- ◆ The minutes of closed session of April 18, 2011, as mailed.
- ◆ New ECASD Policy 226 – Administrative & Non-Affiliated Staff Evaluations
- ◆ Amendment to Approve 2011-12 Open Enrollment Requests

Consent resolution agenda items approved by unanimous roll call vote.

INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #3 – Employment Report

There was discussion about the ATODA coordinator cut. Dr. Heilmann explained that federal funding for the program is uncertain at this time and consequently, the reduction was made. Some of the duties of that position and other activities supported by the grant will be picked up by others in the district.

Com. Faanes moved, seconded by Com. Wogahn, to approve the matters of employment of May 2, 2011, as presented. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution #5 - Rescission of ECASD Policy 443.5 – Student Use of Cell Phone or Beepers

Administration was asked how staff and students would be informed about the change in policy. Dr. Heilmann said the intention with the rescission was that it would be implemented in the fall of 2011. Between now and then several things would happen. The specific rules would be developed. It was pointed out that after discussions with middle school principals, it was recommended that middle and high school students have different rules. Middle school students would be allowed to use cell phones before and after school but would be restricted from using them in the classroom unless under direct teacher supervision. The rules for high school students would be less restrictive. Students would have wireless access so it would be appropriate to allow them to use their mobile devices. It was noted that Websense would not go away. Students and parents would be provided information about appropriate use of mobile devices with the back to school packet in August and there would be opportunities for students and their parents to hear what the expectations will be. There would not be an expectation that all students have mobile devices.

Com. Janke strongly objected to rescinding the policy. He said he received many letters from teachers who had concerns about it. He didn't think teachers should have to enforce cell phone use. He was also concerned about those students who might not be able to afford mobile devices. He wasn't aware of any research that shows that cell phone use in classrooms or hallways helps student achievement.

Com. Johnson felt that administration brought the request forward and they should be allowed to create administrative rules that make sense at the middle and high schools. To do otherwise she felt would be micro-managing.

Com. Cummins asked about teacher training to help students understand how the devices would be used appropriately in the classroom. Mr. Scidmore said that this would give staff an educational opportunity to teach students about proper use of mobile devices. There is a required class in technology at the middle schools so it would be discussed with that age group. As rules change from the transition from middle to high school, the incoming class of freshmen would be given the new set of expectations. It would give staff an opportunity to teach students how to exist and co-exist in this environment.

Com. Cummins also wondered what students who don't have these devices would do. Mr. Scidmore said that the issue of equity has been discussed and there is a model in place to address that. Equipment could be available to students for checkout similar to what is done in the band program.

Privacy issues were also addressed. Mr. Scidmore said those become behavioral issues and not technology issues. Students would need to be held to certain expectations and there would be real consequences for those that don't.

Com. Cummins said she would feel more comfortable rescinding the policy if the rules were finalized. She wanted more detail about expectations by grades. President Craig asked if it would be possible to have rules finalized by the first meeting in August and Mr. Scidmore said that could be accomplished. This would give the Board time to address any issues before school starts and the policy is implemented. President Craig asked that the Board be given an update in January 2012 to determine the impact of the policy. Mr. Scidmore said he has discussed this with all staff at the secondary buildings and all staff were invited to provide input on rules they would like to see.

It was noted that Policies 264 and 443.5 are in conflict with each other at the present time.

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Johnson, to rescind *ECASD Policy 443.5 – Student Use of Cell Phone or Beepers*. Motion failed for lack of 2/3 majority by the following vote: Ayes: Craig, Faanes, Johnson and Wogahn. Nay: Cummins and Janke.

Regular meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Patti Iverson, Board Secretary

**COMMITTEE MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN
MAY 2, 2011**

1. Call to Order – Committee Meeting

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

2. Committee Reports/Items for Discussion

A. Review of Proposed *NEW ECASD Policy 416 – Gifted & Talented Educational Programming*

Pam Cernocky said the Gifted & Talented Advisory Committee requested that a new policy on gifted & talented programming be generated. A draft policy was developed and the Policy & Governance Committee made some slight modifications. Ms. Cernocky noted that it isn't gifted and talented students but students with gifts and talents that are being served. She said that often the GT resource teacher works with an entire classroom not just those students who have been identified as GT.

Ms. Cernocky wondered if the word 'strives' could be changed to 'shall provide.' Committee members said that verbiage was discussed but they felt it should stay as drafted because it would be very difficult to say unequivocally that every student would be provided everything appropriately.

Com. Johnson struggled with the label of GT when students have potential to excel or need more enrichment. She felt it should be made even more clear that this isn't just for students identified as gifted and talented.

The Policy & Governance Committee will make the suggested changes and bring the policy back to the Board for a first reading.

B. Remove *Rule 351.1 – Summer Athletic Camp Guidelines* from Board Policy

Board Rule 351.1 – Summer Athletic Camp Guidelines is appended to *Policy 351 – Summer School*. Policy 351 does not speak to summer athletic camps and Rule 351.1 is out of date and incomplete. Consequently, it has been rewritten to be more comprehensive and clear and has been appended to the Facility Conditions of Use agreement. Mr. Van De Water said the rules only address summer athletic camps and doesn't clearly differentiate between school camps/clinics and non-school camps/clinics.

There is also confusion of what constitutes employee status or contracted services when offering camp. The Policy & Governance Committee recommended these rules be updated and appended to the Facility Use document.

It was noted that all camp directors must be ECASD employees; however, volunteers would still be allowed. The amount of a \$50 maximum charge for students to participate was discussed. Some felt that number was rather arbitrary and it should be left up to the athletic council or principal to give flexibility.

C. Discussion & Possible First Reading of Revisions to *ECASD Policy 343.2 – Class Size*

A revised draft of *Policy 343.2—Class Size* was shared with the Board. Administration recommended that the final sentence be excluded from the Policy which states, “The School Board shall approve class size ranges and periodically review data on exceptions for class size ranges.” An alternative of that sentence was shared by President Craig which read, “The School Board shall bi-annually review how student achievement and parity of student teacher ratios are impacted with the implementation of this policy.”

Dr. Heilmann felt it would be difficult to approve class size ranges because occasionally there are class sizes that get to the upper end so more specialized, comprehensive course offerings can be provided. He suggested looking at ratios rather than ranges. He felt the amending language speaks to the role of the Board which is to monitor what impact student teacher ratios has on student achievement. He believed that class size number guidelines would be included in the Administrative Rules.

President Craig felt that the third paragraph spoke to the fact that at each level there will be ranges set, which is currently not in place.

Dr. Heilmann said the research will show mixed results on the impact of class sizes. He felt the most important criterion on the quality of education is not the number of students in the classroom but the quality of teachers in the classroom.

Com. Johnson wanted to cut down on the extremes in class sizes. She thought the Board should set the ranges so in the event of severe budget crises, it would give the Board the ability to control that.

The word criterion will be changed to criteria. There were mixed feelings about leaving the last sentence as originally written or using the substitute language suggested. Dr. Heilmann questioned if class sizes should be

inserted into the policy if kept as originally drafted. The Policy & Governance Committee will review the policy again.

D. 2011 Annual Report for the Joint Commission on Shared Services Initiatives

President Craig said the purpose of the Joint Commission on Shared Services Initiatives is to examine and identify opportunities for potential shared services among the governments and to recommend to the respective governing bodies the approval of concepts and strategies for implementing those shared services that increase efficiency, improve quality or reduce costs in the delivery of public services without sacrificing public accountability. The Commission was established in 2006 and the ECASD was asked to join the city and county in 2009.

A copy of the 2011 Annual Report was shared with the Board. President Craig explained that there were four specific projects the Joint Commission worked together on during 2010-11: 1) Information Services, e-Government, Web Site Services, 2) Employee Health Care Costs/Wellness, 3) Building Code Inspections, and 4) Transportation.

Bob Scidmore talked about the collaboration that has already taken place between all three entities with regard to information services. Great strides have been made to make the Chippewa Valley wireless. A \$12 million grant was awarded for the infrastructure and another grant was received to teach other regions about it. The Chippewa Valley's model has received national attention. The wireless service enables police, emergency vehicles, schools, etc., to tap into those capabilities.

With regards to collaborating on transportation, there are several federal rules that prohibit overlapping services between Student Transit and City Transit. These entities have been working more collaboratively behind the scenes, but short of changing ECASD policy regarding transportation, the opportunity for other types of collaboration do not exist. There is a report that explains the statutory obstacles that deal with cities collaborating, which President Craig will share with the Board.

There was a discussion about collaborating on health insurance. Discussions have taken place on this subject but each entity has different plans and timeframes when each begins and ends. This has created some stumbling blocks but the idea is still being reviewed. Dr. Weissenburger added that each quarter the HR people from the city, county and school district meet to talk about health insurance plans and what is considered successful and what is not working. In the past the QEO environment presented many challenges but that could change in the future. He added that coverage and how plans are handled are dramatically different between the city and school district.

Dr. Heilmann said a survey on shared service opportunities will be sent out to elected officials, employees and the broader community to get more input from the users.

3. Request for Future Agenda Items

4. Other Business

Com. Wogahn asked how the Board would proceed given that Policies 264 and 443.5 are in conflict with each other. Dr. Heilmann said he has several questions that will need to be addressed given that Policy 443.5 was not rescinded.

5. Motion to Adjourn Committee Meeting

Com. Wogahn moved, seconded by Com. Faanes, to adjourn committee meeting. Carried by unanimous voice of acclamation.

6. Motion to go into Closed Session

Com. Faanes moved, seconded by Com. Wogahn, to go into closed session under 19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility to discuss the superintendent evaluation and contract and administrative contracts. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Craig, Cummins, Duax, Faanes, Johnson and Wogahn. Nay: Janke.

7. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.