

The September 21, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Byron Board of Education was brought to order by Mr. Randy Markley, President, at 7:00 p.m. in the George Vince Community Library, Byron High School, 312 W. Maple Avenue, Byron, MI 48418.

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Anibal, D. Crawford, A. Lawrence, R. Markley,
J. Vandemark, G. Viener

MEMBERS ABSENT: M. McGuire

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: D. Scow, T. Dykstra, S. Vowles, P. Kentish-McWilliams

CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF PRESENT: T. Krejci, S. Riley, P. Ebner

OTHERS PRESENT: A. Abrol, D. Markley, J. Passig, P. Richardson, D.
Olrich, S. Ritter, R Blair, S. Blair, L. Knight, D.
Browning, M. Kundrat, L. Howell, K. Ladi, T. Forbush,
B. Hillaker, J. Root

Audit Report

Anita Abrol of Lewis & Knopf, CPAs, P.C. reviewed the 2008-2009 Audit Report for the school year that ended June 30, 2009. Ms. Abrol noted that the district received a “Clean” audit opinion, which is the highest level of assurance possible for the district’s financial status.

Retirees Honored

The Board recognized recent retirees, Sharon Blair and Lynda Knight. Sharon joined the Byron Area Schools as a custodian in 1987. Sharon was always known as a hard worker and dedicated staff member. Lynda Knight began working as a bus driver in 1987. Lynda was always a loyal and dependable bus driver for the district.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Crawford, supported by Vandemark, that the Byron Board of Education approve the proposed agenda for the August 17, 2009 regular meeting as written. Moved by Vandemark, supported by Viener to amend the motion to read, “the Byron Board of Education approve the proposed agenda with two additions to, ‘New Business’ for the September 21, 2009 meeting.”

Vote (Voice Vote): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Viener, supported by Lawrence, that the Byron Board of Education accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Moved by Viener, supported by Crawford to amend the motion to read, “the Byron Board of Education accept the Consent Agenda with the exception of item “C,” which will be moved to New Business:

- A. Minutes of August 17, 2009 Regular Meeting
- B. Expenditures for August:

Computer Printed Prepaid	\$131,527.85
Prescription Reimbursement	0.00
General Fund Bills	73,227.91
Electronic Fund Transfers	487,238.67
TOTAL	\$691,994.43
- C. ~~FFA Alumni Donation Acceptance~~ (Moved to New Business)
- D. Resignation of Brad Chrisinske from H.S. School Improvement Committee

- E. Resignation of Stephanie Harrington-Shellhaas, E.S. Music Educator

- F. Recall of Shelly Warner as Para-professional at high school and middle school
- G. Employment of Lawrence Wykes as Bus Driver
- H. Employment of Jessica Schroeder as Bus Driver
- I. Employment of Meagan Earls as Elementary Music Teacher (.06 time)
- J. Employment of Daleen Tullar as Child Care/Academic Enrichment Teacher (full time)
- K. Employment of Jennifer Tuttle as Child Care/Academic Enrichment Teacher (A.M.)
- L. Employment of Tom Butcher as Middle School FFA Advisor
- M. Employment of Shelly Andrews as Middle School Student Council Advisor
- N. Schedule B and Supervision Assignments at H.S.

Vote (Roll Call): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved.

2009-2010 Board Committee Reports

Building & Site Committee: No meeting

Contract/Negotiations Committee: Update in Executive Session.

Curriculum/Professional Development Committee: Mr. Scow reported that the committee met prior to the Board meeting this evening to begin discussions of costs and other issues surrounding the addition of Spanish to the curriculum.

Comprehensive Health Committee: No meeting

Policy/Guidelines Committee: No Meeting

Shiawassee County School Board: Planning meeting to be held September 29, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at Shiawassee RESD North Street Building in Owosso. (Randy Markley is the Board's representative to the County School Board).

Public Input

None

Donation from FFA Alumni Association

Moved by Lawrence, supported by Crawford, that the Byron Board of Education accept the donation from the FFA Alumni Association to fund the Middle School FFA Advisor position.

Vote (Roll Call): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved.

Board of Education Goals

Moved by Viener, supported by Vandemark, that the Byron Board of Education approve the graduation date of Sunday, June 6, 2010 at 2:00 p.m., and that the ceremonies take place in the Byron Middle/High School gymnasium.

Vote (Voice): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved.

NEOLA Policy Revisions - Second Reading & Approval

Moved by Vandemark, supported by Crawford, that the Byron Board of Education approve the new and revised bylaws and policies as provided by NEOLA, with the first reading taking place August 17, 2009 and the second reading on September 21, 2009.

Vote (Voice): Yes 7, No 0. Motion Approved.

Policy 7434 Revision – Use of Tobacco on School Premises – Second Reading & Approval

Moved by Lawrence, supported by Viener, that the Byron Board of Education approve revised Policy 7434, "Use of Tobacco on School Premises," with the first reading taking place August 17, 2009 and the second reading on September 21, 2009.

Vote (Roll Call): Yes 5, Absent 1, No 1. Motion Approved.

National FFA Convention

Moved by Crawford, supported by Lawrence, that the Byron Board of Education approve the field trip request for six Byron High School FFA students to travel to Indianapolis, Indiana for the National FFA Convention from October 20-24, 2009.

Vote (Voice): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved.

Eighth Grade Field Trip Request – New York City, Philadelphia, Washington D.C.

Moved by Vandemark, supported by Viener, that the Byron Board of Education approve the eighth grade field trip to New York City, Philadelphia and Washington D.C. planned for April 19-24, 2010.

Vote (Voice): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved.

Information Items

A. "Soaring Eagle" Nice Job Notices:

Staff:

Jamie Anderson
Stacey Anibal
Ed Bedell
Lori Bedell
Jackie Carstens
Mandi Davis
Niki Dorff
Tom Dykstra
Lindsey Estep
Tate Forbush
Megan Friend
Carol Geer-Amsterburg
Kim Janicek
Joel Howard
Marsha Korroch
Theresa Krejci
Lisa Lambert
Autumn McGuire
Ellie Miller
Deb Olrich
Emily Opper
Lisa Postema

Kara Richardson
Kathy Rodriguez
Malinda Smith
Matt Streeter
Heather Thiele
Lisa Trebtoske
Amy Wheaton
Carrie Wilcox-Brewer

Students:

Crystal Cox
Jill Gulick

Volunteers/Community:

Lori Godfrey
Cheryl Green
Kelly Green
Janelle's Family Restaurant
Nana's Coffee Café
Theresa Marvin
Mary Pearsall
Jennifer Root
Erin Skrbec

B. Upcoming Dates:

- Fri., Sept. 25 Varsity Football vs. Atherton (H) (7:00 pm)
- Fri., Oct. 2 Varsity Football vs. Hamady - Homecoming (7:00 pm)
- Wed., Oct. 7 Board Work Session (6:00 pm)
- Fri., Oct. 9 Varsity Football @ New Lothrop (7:00 pm)
- Thurs., Oct 15 Senior Citizen Luncheon (1:00 pm)
- Fri., Oct. 16 Varsity Football vs. Genesee (H) (7:00 pm)
- Mon., Oct. 19 Regular Board Meeting (7:00 pm)
- Fri., Oct. 23 Varsity Football vs. Chandler Park Academy (H) (7:00 pm)

Closed Session – Discussion of Contract Negotiations

Moved by Vandemark, supported by Lawrence, that the Board go into Closed Session for discussion of Contract Negotiations at 8:35 p.m..

Vote (Roll Call): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved.

Open Session

Other

A. Pre-school Recommendation from Mr. Scow:

Funding for preschool involving the school budget is uncertain at this time. The preschool program is funded through a combination of state grants (Section 32d) and parent paid tuition. Currently, it is likely that the state grants will either be reduced or eliminated altogether.

Other area districts that have been consulted are proceeding with preschool as if they are going to be fully funded. If the state funding does not come through they will be cutting off service to those who cannot pay tuition. At this time, we are recommending Byron does the same. Two preschool employees, Anne Boillat and Pearl Tonti will be recalled as of September 28, 2009 to prepare for preschool to open. They will be conducting the required home visits, preparing the room for children and preparing for open house on October 1st. It is planned there will be two sections of 16 four year old students beginning on October 5th and 6th. Preschool will meet every other day for full days to mirror our kindergarten program.

If the state does not cut funding we will be able to continue the program for the full school year. If the state cuts funding for preschool we will only offer a tuition based program as of December 18. Those families unable to pay tuition will unfortunately have to be terminated as of that date.

This will not cause a financial hardship for the district, but it will not be pleasant telling some children it is their last day of preschool if it comes to that. Like we heard from others, we need to "hope for the best."

B. Elementary Library Recommendation from Mr. Scow:

Mrs. Kentish-McWilliams and Mr. Scow met with Mrs. Pam Richardson, the district librarian and Charlotte Passig, the President of the Byron PTA to discuss operation of the elementary school library. The plan is to staff the library with volunteers coordinated by the PTA. Mrs. Richardson has developed a plan to train and support the volunteers and spend much needed time in the elementary library maintaining the collection of books. She will be in the elementary library approximately 7-7 ½ hours per week. The library itself will be staffed by volunteers and will hopefully be open 4-5 hours per day. This depends on the level of volunteer help we can secure.

To support this effort we are going to recall Kathy Travis for 7 ½ hours per week to work in the high school library while Mrs. Richardson is at the elementary school. This will not be full re-employment for Mrs. Travis.

Adjournment

Moved by Vandemark, supported by Crawford, that the meeting adjourn at 9:18 p.m.

Vote (Voice): Yes 6, Absent 1, No 0. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

By

Pamela M. Ebner
Acting Secretary