

Special Meeting of the
BOARD of EDUCATION of the SCHOOL DISTRICT of REEDSBURG
Official notice of meeting given and posted.

February 24, 2009

Central Office Building

7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 — Call to Order: Mr. Balda, Board president, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 — Roll Call: The following Board members were present: Steve Balda, Heather Scully, Gary Woolever, Mike Hartje, Jim Wieczorek, John Pearson and LuAnn Brey. Absent: None. Also present: Tom Benson, District Administrator; Pat Ruddy, Assistant District Administrator; Sharon Suchla, Director of Instruction; David Perrodin, Director of Pupil Services; Rob Taylor, High School Principal (arrived at 7:08 p.m.); Paul Bierman, Elementary Principal; Randy Johnson, Buildings & Grounds Director; Jeff Seering, Reedsburg Independent, Ken Leiviska, Reedsburg Times Press; Tommy Lee Bychinski, Reedsburg Utility; and Barbara Sand, secretary (see sign in sheet for other attendees)

Agenda Item 3 — Report on Public Notice: Notice of the meeting was given to the Reedsburg Independent, the Reedsburg Times Press, WRDB radio and was posted at the Central Office Building, Reedsburg City Hall and the Reedsburg Public Library.

Agenda Item 4 — Discussion & Possible Action Regarding Administrative Recommendation of Potential Cuts for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011: The Board again reviewed and discussed the list of potential cuts for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years if the referendum fails, as presented by Administration at the last Board meeting. Mr. Benson reminded everyone that the Board has already approved cuts of \$250,000 for next year and that the following reductions would be in addition to that \$250,000.

Below is the proposed reduction/ cut list for 2009-2010 if the referendum fails (above & beyond the \$250,000 already cut from the 2009-2010 budget:

- Further reduce instructional support materials by \$18,000
- A current administrator will take over the teaching principal duties at Rock Springs (\$12,000)
- Do not replace RAHS Social Studies/ Counselor (resignation) (\$70,000)
- Do not replace RAHS English (resignation) (\$70,000)
- Do not replace RAHS Math (retirement) (\$73,500)
- Do not replace RAHS Library / Media Specialist (retirement) (\$73,500)
- Further reduce facility maintenance (\$60,000)
- Administrative TEAM may recommend further changes (+/-) while maintaining a balanced budget

The cumulative savings for the above items is \$370,000.

Following discussion, motion by Mr. Wieczorek, second by Mr. Hartje to accept the administrative recommendation for the additional \$370,000 in cuts to the 2009-2010 budget if the referendum fails as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

The Board then discussed the potential cuts for the 2010-2011 school year if the referendum fails. The proposed reduction/ cut list for 2010-2011 if the referendum fails is as follows:

- Further reductions to summer "extended contracts" (Ag, Counselors, etc.) (\$6,000)
- Reduce/ eliminate elementary strings program (\$30,000)
- Reduce support staff positions (secretarial) (\$48,000)
- Reduce support staff positions (teaching assistants) (\$60,000)
- Reduction of 0.7 FTE Art position (\$40,000)
- Close a single-track elementary school building (\$500,000)
- Administrative TEAM may recommend further changes (+/-) while maintaining a balanced budget

The cumulative savings for the above items is \$684,000. The recurring savings from the initial \$250,000 in cuts made to the 2009-2010 school year is \$142,000 and the recurring savings from the second round of cuts for 2009-2010 is \$280,000. **Grand Total = 1,106,000**

Following additional discussion, motion by Mr. Hartje, second by Mr. Woolever to accept the administrative recommendation for additional cuts totaling \$684,000 for the 2010-2011 school year if the referendum fails as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Agenda Item 5 — Discussion & Possible Action Regarding RAHS Special Education Teacher Vacancy: With the death of Christine Rohner, high school learning disabilities (LD) teacher, the need to find a replacement is crucial (the position will be handled by a substitute teacher for the balance of this year). The student population needing the services of special education staff at the high school strongly supports the need of a permanent replacement.

Following discussion, motion by Mr. Hartje, second by Ms. Brey to approve the hiring of a special education teacher at the high school, replacing Christine Rohner. Motion carried 7-0.

Agenda Item 6 — Discussion & Possible Action Regarding School Nurse Vacancy: Marci Hilliard, part-time school nurse (0.8 FTE) has resigned, effective at the end of the current school year. The workload that is carried by the district's nursing staff is enormous. We (the district) would assume a significant level of risk by not filling this position due to the number and severity of medical issues that are dealt with on a day-to-day basis.

Following discussion, motion by Mr. Wiczorek, second by Mr. Pearson to approve the hiring of a 0.8 FTE school nurse, beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, replacing Marci Hilliard. Motion carried 7-0.

Agenda Item 7 — Issuance of 2009-2010 Teaching Contracts:

Motion by Mr. Wiczorek, second by Mr. Hartje to approve the issuance of the 2009-2010 teaching contracts as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Agenda Item 8 — Approval, Issuance of Layoff Notices: Contract language requires that notice be given to any staff member whose position will be eliminated, or when another position has been eliminated and a more senior member of the department will be exercising bumping rights. This action is in no way a reflection on the performance of any of these teachers. Should a vacancy be created in the same department, and if the district decides to fill that vacancy, these teachers would have recall rights.

The following teachers should receive notice that they will not be receiving a contract offer for the 2009-2010 school year: MaryBeth Turner (due to the elimination of the job share position associated with the Teaching Principal position at Rock Springs Elementary School); Cristin Lagerman (due to the elimination of the job share position associated with the Teaching Principal position at Loganville Elementary School) and Marie Davidson, Title 1 teacher who will be bumped by the Reading First Coordinator, whose position will be eliminated at the end of the current school year due to the conclusion of the Reading First grant. All three individuals are aware of the situation and understand that they will be receiving layoff notices in the near future.

Motion by Ms. Brey, second by Mr. Woolever to approve the issuance of layoff notices as presented by administration. Motion carried 7-0.

Agenda Item 9 — Set Dates for Public Informational Meetings (Referendum): The following dates and times have been selected for referendum informational meetings:

- Monday, March 9 @ Rock Springs Elementary School – 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, March 12 @ Loganville Elementary School – 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, March 19 @ LaValle Elementary School – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 24 @ The Fusch Center (Reedsburg) – 1:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 30 (location in Reedsburg yet to be determined) – 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 10 — Adjourn: There being no further business, motion by Mr. Hartje, second by Ms. Brey to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Mr. Balda declared the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.