

GERMANTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
GERMANTOWN, WISCONSIN 53022
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 12, 2015

1. The meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Bob Soderberg in the Rockfield Elementary School library at 7:00 p.m. District Administrator Jeff Holmes read the official meeting notification. Roll call: Soderberg – yes, Medved – yes, Loth – yes, Warnimont – yes, Barney – yes, Spies – yes, Larson – yes.
2. Motion by Larson, second by Barney to approve the agenda with the addition of a report on Rockfield’s student garden project under reports and information items. Motion carried.
3. District resident Jennifer Witzel addressed the Board regarding the reassignment of district staff member April Smith. Board President Bob Soderberg commented on the tremendous loss the school district and community suffered recently with the death of former high school assistant principal and football coach legend Phil Datka. Mr. Soderberg recognized and thanked high school Principal Joel Farren for coordinating the visitation at the high school.
4. Motion by Larson, second by Spies to approve the December 15, 2014 Board of Education meeting minutes. Motion carried.
5. Jeff Holmes recognized high school senior Carly Townsend who was not able to be present but has received numerous volleyball honors and awards this school year including the Gatorade State Volleyball Player of the Year and MaxPreps All American Honors.
6. Student Representative Emma Brandenburg reported on student events taking place in the schools.
7. Rockfield Elementary School Principal and teachers Colleen Schowalter and Jocelyn Ritger gave a presentation on the Rockfield student’s Learning with Gardening project. The student’s have been able to experience the entire process of growing plants from seeds to planting in outdoor beds to harvesting, while building their skills in math, science, nutrition, reading and writing.
8. Jeff Holmes requested Board members inform the superintendent’s office if they would like to be registered for the State Education Convention and to let Board President Soderberg know if they have suggestions for any of the Resolutions to be taken to the Delegate Assembly.
9. Jeff Holmes provided an updated enrollment report.
10. Director of Teaching and Learning Brenda O’Brien updated the Board on 2015 summer school planning.
11. Director of Pupil Services Sally Kellman provided an overview of current special education projects including addressing reading concerns, parent engagement, and the special education structure at the high school.

12. Standards Development Committee Chair Brian Medved provided updates from the December 17, 2014 and January 7, 2015 meetings. The Board will proceed with planning a summit for school board, administration, staff, parents, students, constituents and stakeholders to define the “Germantown Way” of education and schooling, articulate the personal qualities and skills important for students to be successful, and define educational goals desired for all students to develop regardless of their ability, future goals, or personal interests. The summit is scheduled for Friday, April 24, 2015 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 25, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
13. Recommendation from Insurance Committee to approve the 2015 AJ Gallagher consulting agreement with the change of vendor cancellation from 30 days to 60 days. Motion carried.
14. Insurance Committee Chair Tom Barney also updated the Board on improvements in staff participation in the Humana Vitality and Wellness program.
15. Recommendation from Personnel Committee to approve hiring an additional special education teacher for Rockfield Elementary School. Motion carried.
16. Recommendation from Personnel Committee to accept the resignation of school district nurse Elizabeth Klancnik, waive the separation fee, and post the vacancy. Motion carried.
17. Motion by Warnimont, second by Barney to accept the donation of \$500 from Ayer Contractors Inc. to the high school Boys Cross Country team. Motion carried.
18. Motion by Larson, second by Spies to approve the overnight travel request for approximately 22 Pom and Dance Team members and advisors to travel to LaCrosse, WI February 6-7, 2015 for the State Dance Competition with all costs paid by students and club funds. Motion carried.
19. The Board reviewed the draft Standardized Assessments Opt In/Out form which Director of Teaching and Learning Brenda O’Brien will continue to work on with district teaching staff and provide clarification to the Board.
20. Motion by Spies, second by Larson to enter into closed session pursuant to Sections 19.85(1)(c), 19.85(1)(f), and 19.85(1)(g). Roll call vote: Medved –yes, Loth – yes, Warnimont – yes, Barney – yes, Spies –yes, Larson – yes, Soderberg - yes. Motion carried.
21. The Board entered into closed session at 8:32 p.m. and returned to open session at 8:37 p.m. with a motion by Warnimont, second by Larson to accept the resignation of Debora Jansen, thank her for her 16 years of service to the district, and waive contract liquidation damages on a non-precedent setting basis. Motion carried.
22. Motion by Barney, second by Warnimont to adjourn. Motion carried.
23. Board President Soderberg declared the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Jayne Borst
Recording Secretary



Lester Spies
School Board Clerk