

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AMBOY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #272
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2008, AT 7:00 P.M.
AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL, CAFETERIA**

President Becker called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. All board members were present. Also present were: Quintin Shepherd, Randy Highbarger, Becky Highbarger, Mary Sheridan, Brandi Conley, Deanna Hoy, Linda Klein, Kellylyn Wood, Keri Lachat, Deanna Barlow, Chris Schaver, Lisa Bickett, Bonnie Morris, Chase Castle, Tony Becker, Joyce Schamberger, Jessica McCormick, and Judi Callison.

The floor was opened to comments from the public. President Becker began by informing the audience that the Board had considered the student population at Central School since the last meeting, and the decision has been made to set four sections of 2nd grade and 2 sections of 3rd grade.

Becky Highbarger addressed the Board and thanked them for their decision. She went on to explain her feelings regarding the needs of the students in the classroom, which included physical, mental, behavioral and social. She said, because of the dynamics of the children, it is a class that needs constant reinforcement and one-on-one instruction to succeed.

Randy Highbarger expressed concern for the 3rd grade classroom that would be in two sections of approximately 25. President Becker said they have performed well in the structure that existed, and he feels they will continue with the building blocks they need to be successful. "Central School has performed historically above 90%. It has a great staff. There is nothing there, in my opinion, that will harm or hinder any of those children in their educational opportunities. They will be well served," said Becker.

President Becker assured the audience that the Board would continue to monitor class sizes. He said the needs of both classes have been assessed, and the decision was based on the best way to allocate teacher resources.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Setchell to approve the following consent agenda item(s):

- Minutes of the May 22, 2008, Regular Open & Closed Board Meetings;
- Agreement between Amboy and La Moille to continue coop for the following activities: cross country, golf, wrestling and track/field for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years; and
- Destruction of audiotapes dated December 14, 2006.

Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

In his brief finance report, Superintendent Shepherd stated that "as we stand in June, we have finished pretty well. There were no surprises, and that's a good thing at the end of the year," he said.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Akre to approve the current expenditures and payroll. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

There were no Principal Reports for the month of June. The report by Rob Brown of Johnson Controls was tabled until next month. Superintendent Shepherd briefly reviewed information in his report. He noted that attendance reports continue to show a decline in enrollment through the years.

A motion was made by Olson and seconded by Flessner to adopt Resolution authorizing permanent transfer of Interest from Working Cash Fund to Operations and Maintenance Fund. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Mead to approve Resolution establishing Prevailing Wage, as presented. Motion carried with a vote of six to one, with Board Member Flessner casting a no vote.

Revised job descriptions for non-certified support staff were presented for first reading. They will be voted on at the next regular meeting.

Proposed IASB policy revisions for June 2008, were presented for first reading. They will also be voted on at the next regular meeting.

At 7:20 p.m., a motion was made by Mead and seconded by Akre to move to Executive Session to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and student discipline. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

At 8:00 p.m., a motion was made by Flessner and seconded by Akre to return to Open Session. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Setchell and seconded by Mead to approve the suspensions of Students 6-23-08-01 through 6-23-08-06, as presented. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Setchell and seconded by Stephenitch to accept the resignation of Jim Murphy as Sub-caller for the district, effective for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Flessner and seconded by Mead to accept resignation of Brittany Klein as ELL/Spanish teacher at Amboy Junior High School, effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Akre and seconded by Flessner to approve the employment of Thomas Kowalewski as Computer/Business teacher at Amboy High School for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Setchell and seconded by Akre to approve the employment of Kellylyn Wood as Science teacher at Amboy Junior High School for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

A motion was made by Stephenitch and seconded by Flessner to approve employment contract of Joyce Schamberger as Principal of Amboy Junior High School for a term of three years, 2008 through 2011, as amended. Motion carried with six votes. Board Member, Olson abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by Akre and seconded by Setchell to approve employment contract of Jessica McCormick as Principal of Central School for the 2008-2009 school year. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Upcoming dates include: Finance meeting on Thursday, July 10, 2008, and next Regular School Board meeting on Thursday, July 24, 2008, at Amboy High School. A date for the summer retreat will be set at a later date.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, a motion was made at 8:06 p.m. by Flessner and seconded by Stephenitch to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Mead, Secretary

Mark Becker, President

Approved: _____