

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 252
820 EAST MINNESOTA STREET
CANNON FALLS, MN 55009
MINUTES April 9, 2012

The School Board of Independent School District 252 met in a regular session, Monday April 9, 2012 in the Boardroom of the High School. Present: Bob Brintnall, Pat Dougherty, Jerry Reinardy, Brenda Owens, Curt Beissel, Rob Siebenaler. Others present: Superintendent Beth Giese, Lori Hanson, Dave Davisson, Kathy/Rollie Sessions, James Rolfes, Mike Retzer, Erica Berg, Connor Rechtzigel, Jonah Pinc, Jayme Miller, Mike Gesme, Deanne Coleman, Deanne Coleman, Maureen Sabrowsky, Dave Jensen, Brad Rheingans, Linda Jokela, Jake Winchell and Nora Felton.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Bob Brintnall at 6:00 p.m.
2. Moved by Pat Dougherty, seconded by Rob Siebenaler and unanimously approved the amended agenda with the motion to table Item G: 'Discussion of reducing 1st grade to 3 sections for 2012-13 based on current enrollment figures' due to Elementary Principal Anne Fick's absence at tonight's board meeting.
3. Reports: The BPA students asked the Board's permission to hold a garage sale fundraiser on the weekend of April 21, 2012 to help offset their costs to participate in the upcoming National Competition. Motioned by Jerry Reinardy, seconded by Pat Dougherty and unanimously approved BPA to hold a fundraiser. The board congratulated the group on their accomplishments at all levels of participation!
4. Moved by Pat Dougherty, seconded by Curt Beissel and unanimously approved to increase parking fees from \$30.00 to \$50.00 at the start of the 2012-13 school year.
5. Moved by Curt Beissel, seconded by Rob Siebenaler and unanimously approved to hire a 1.0 - 4th/5th grade Math/Reading/Science Teacher for the 2012-13 school year.
6. Moved by Brenda Owens, seconded by Pat Dougherty and unanimously approved to hire a 1.0 TOSA Math Specialist for 2012-13.
7. Moved by Rob Siebenaler, seconded by Jerry Reinardy and unanimously approved to hire a .75 Elementary Literacy Coach for the 2012-13 school year.
8. Moved by Jerry Reinardy, seconded by Rob Siebenaler and unanimously approved to sell the 9 passenger van.
9. Moved by Brenda Owens, seconded by Pat Dougherty and unanimously approved to seek quotes for the purchase of a minivan.
10. Chairman Bob Brintnall opened the discussion of whether or not to run a referendum this fall 2012. Bob mentioned that there is a lot of broadcast and print news out there that has helped educate our community as well as everyone Statewide regarding school finance. This financial situation is not just a Cannon Falls issue. With 2 failed referendums, does our community need a break from a vote? We have done an excellent job at being extremely fiscally responsible and hats off to the entire board along with Supt Giese and staff! Running a referendum is a major undertaking and is draining on our District Personnel. This item is merely discussion tonight, however if a vote had to be taken today, he would rather not go out for a referendum this fall. Rob Siebenaler felt taking a year off is not a bad idea but next year we will be pressed to pass it. He was pleasantly surprised to learn the referendum doesn't expire to \$0 until the close of the 2013-14 school year instead of the 2012-13 year as projected the last few years. He feels the economy is turning around and another year may help pass the referendum. Curt Beissel felt we need some more time for the community to see what we have accomplished, where we are now and where we are going. Seems it would be best to wait one more year. Curt feel the community is likely to support a renewal of the \$500/student that has been in place. Brenda Owens also reminded everyone that 2012 is a general election year and statistically there is usually a better chance of passing a referendum during an off year election. Pat Dougherty felt that the fact we have found out we have another school year cycle of funding from the 2007 referendum we should wait another year before asking for a renewal. He went on to say that it does make me nervous to be using our savings (approx \$100,000) to balance this year's cut/revenue goal. We have looked at the enrollment figures, salary increases, fuel costs, etc in the former projection models and we were looking at somewhere near \$850,000 worth of cuts projected next year. We will not get to those levels of cuts by doing the one time cuts that we have this school year. Pat requested that Supt. Giese bring a similar projection model to the next board meeting. Jerry Reinardy felt if we are looking only at a renewal of the existing \$500/student referendum we might as well wait another year. However, we do need to start educating this community right now about the 2013 referendum and that passing it is crucial.
11. REPORTS: **Brenda Owens** complimented and thanked the Education Foundation for helping sponsor and promote a fantastic concert by the Cactus Blossoms in our auditorium. She also praised them for their continued fundraising efforts for our school and community. **Policy Committee:** The Wellness Committee is coming to the next meeting to update the Wellness Policy. Reviewed Bullying and Social Networking. **Curriculum Committee:** April brings A LOT of testing. The Committee is hoping to be involved with the strategic planning committee and could help look at such questions as: are there enough AP classes, not enough, do we have enough class selection for the Average student learner. We need to look at Curriculum in relation to our budget as well and have some guidelines as to how important are classes such as the Arts, class sizes in 1st grade, 5th grade, High school, etc. What is top priority, second and so on? **Finance and Facilities** meeting to be announced. **Staff Development:** met and with the board cutting the budget for that next year, the will be working heavily with the power standards. They will work really hard to get the work done without funding. Go Co Ed District is bringing in some workshops and staff development opportunities for the 5 school districts. **Dave Davisson** reported that we are transitioning from inside to outside sports and events. Inspections of the buildings are happening now and seems mowing will be starting a little early this year.
12. Motioned by Rob Siebenaler, seconded by Pat Dougherty and unanimously approved to adjourn at 7:21 pm.

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified and acting Clerk of Independent School District 252, State of Minnesota, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the School Board of said District held on the date therein indicated.

WITNESS MY HAND officially as such Clerk this 23rd day of April, 2012.

Brenda Owens