

Regional School District No. 7
Board of Education
November 14, 2007

PRESENT: Mr. Thomson, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Kenneson, Mr. Griffey, Mrs. Dorazio, Mr. Gregor, Mr. Jerram, Student Representative Michael Welch, Clint Montgomery, Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Thomson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Ziad Al-Shorafat, a High School Principal from Jordan, has been visiting Northwestern Regional School on a Fulbright grant. He is one of ten administrators visiting the United States to exchange information about educational programming. He has been observing the classes, students, teachers, and administrators in an effort to learn more about schools in the United States. He expressed his appreciation for the hospitality of the Board, the school and staff.

PUBLIC

MOTION by Mrs. Yard, seconded by Mrs. Dorazio, and passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of October 24, 2007.

MINUTES
10/24/2007

Michael Welch reported that the High School Debate Team competed twice in the last two weeks. He reported that Student Representative, Averill Cantwell came in second place to the State Champion.

STUDENT
REP
REPORTS

Michael Welch also reported that he is still working on the open lunch policy. In order for students to take part in this program, they will need consent from parents and approval from their Housemaster. In addition, Michael suggested that in order to limit the number of students eligible for the program, a student must have achieved academic honors during the prior term. This would show a level of responsibility on the student's part. Michael asked for input from the Board on potential roadblocks that he might address before the program begins. Mr. Griffey suggested he check the school's liability for students going off campus in cars. Mrs. Yard suggested that students who do not make academic honors should still be eligible for the program using an alternate standard. Mr. Montgomery indicated that, given the recent student injuries at other high school campuses, that safety will be the main concern.

Superintendent Montgomery reported that the specifications for the abatement process of the gym floor are not yet in. In addition, he reported that he met with Mr. Jeffko of O&G, Mr. Newbury, and a representative from the public to discuss the possibility of performing the abatement over the winter break. After seeing the condition of the floor and getting more detailed information about what the insurance company and the state require, it was agreed that the summer of 2008 is the best time to proceed with the gym floor. Information was also shared regarding the fact that the insurance company has considerable control over the process and the time line, since they have agreed to pay for the installation costs..

UPDATES

Superintendent Montgomery reported that a notice will soon go home to parents about the new AlertNow Rapid Notification Service and a test run will be initiated in the near future.

ALERTNOW
SERVICE

Superintendent Montgomery shared a letter from CAFE regarding the review of Board's policy manual in the spring of 2008.

POLICY
REVIEW

Superintendent Montgomery reminded the Board that the date of Graduation is set for June 17, 2008 at the Warner Theater. This reserved date puts a limit of 5 possible snow days to be called in order to meet the required 180 days of school before June 17th. In addition, Mr. Montgomery stated that Thomas Brodnitzki is being considered as the guest speaker at graduation.

MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously to approve #5141 – Use of Alcohol Detection Devices.

POLICY
#5141

Mr. Montgomery stated that the work has begun on updating the District Strategic Plan which runs through June 2008. As part of this process, Mr. Montgomery requested that one or two Board Members consider volunteering to work on the District Strategic Planning Committee. The committee will be comprised of Board members, parents, and people in the community. With the continued help of Dr. Wasta, this committee would work to create goals that would help define those skills necessary upon graduation and to set goals for the district schools.

DISTRICT
STRATEGIC
PLAN

Superintendent Montgomery shared a letter from the State Department of Education. The letter commended Region 7 for the quality of the programming, planning and data collection in the area of suspension and expulsion. Mr. Montgomery commended Mr. Houldcroft, the coordinator of the Alternative Disciplinary Program, for his leadership and work in this area.

CORRES-
PONDENCE

No comment from the public.

PUBLIC

MOTION by Mr. Griffey, seconded by Mr. Gregor, and passed unanimously, to go into Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. for the purpose of negotiations, a personnel issue, and possible Board of Education Legal Action. Present in Executive Session: Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Kenneson, Mr. Thomson, Mrs. Dorazio, Mr. Gregor, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Griffey, and Superintendent Montgomery.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Griffey, seconded by Mr. Gregor, and passed unanimously, to come out of Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

PUBLIC

MOTION by Mr. Griffey, seconded by Mr. Jerram, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,

Tera B. Dunn