

BOIS BLANC PINES SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular School Board Meeting
March 15, 2022 4:00 p.m.

Call to Order: The Vice President, Chris Hasbrouck, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Other board members present were Linda Gekle, Jim Gilligan and Cindy Riker. Suzette Cooley-Sanborn was absent. Our teacher, Sherry Corbett, was present. Our EUPISD Superintendent, Angie McArthur attended via conference call. Tom McKee, Administrator, was unable to attend the rescheduled meeting. Public present and in attendance via teleconference.

Approval of Agenda: Jim Gilligan made a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. Supported by Hasbrouck. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Recognition/Presentation: None

Approval of Consent Agenda: Jim Gilligan made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included minutes from our regular meeting on February 8, 2022, approval of bills as presented and approval to transfer \$15,000 from saving to checking. Supported by Gekle. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gekle, Gilligan, Hasbrouck and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Cooley-Sanborn. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Cindy read an email from Misty Sibbald, dated March 8, 2022, per Misty's request.

Reports by:

Superintendent:

- Reviewed information regarding millage renewal, which is on the agenda. Be sure to discuss timing of election either August or November.
- Spring Break is March 28th through April 1st
- M-STEP for Reading & Math will be done between April 11th and May 20th. There is an online practice at https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709_70117-350540--,00.html
- The EUP-Wide Professional Development day will be on October 14, 2022.
- Changes to OMA are still pending legislature. Cindy shared the Attorney General's opinion.

Administrator:

- Although unable to attend the meeting, Tom forwarded to the Board a listing of the current State Bills being presented in Lansing.

Teacher:

- Tornado Drill today. All other drills done to this point.

New Playground Committee:

- Met last month. Need to walk the property when the weather breaks. Once they can take some measurements they will be able to put a design on paper.

Old Business:

New Doors: The contract and specs have been signed and returned. Awaiting delivery at A1, which could be 5-8 weeks. Once they received we will get an invoice for approximately \$1200. After they are received it will be a matter of getting them to the island for installation.

Ice rink liner: Jim and Jay Beugly did not get the rink up after last month's meeting as planned. Jay informed Jim he has a pamphlet with directions to assemble. At this point the ice rink will not be up and usable this year. Finally have all pieces together. We need to do prep work next fall. We still have a need for a maintenance person. Hopefully that person can coordinate. Discussion about possibly moving the location of the ice rink, if the playground is complete or available. It is movable.

Neola 2nd Reading & Resolution: Cindy Riker asked the Board whether or not they had any questions or concerns regarding the proposed policy changes. There were none. Having completed the first and second reading of the Bois Blanc Pines School District's fall 2021 Policy changes in NEOLA, Cindy Riker made a motion to pass a resolution to adopt all changes with the exception of PO 0167.3, Public Participation at Board Meetings and PO 5722, School Sponsored

Publications and Productions. Supported by Chris Hasbrouck. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gekle, Gilligan, Hasbrouck and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Cooley-Sanborn. Motion carried.

New Business:

Response to Sibbald email: Cindy Riker responded to each question within Ms. Sibbald's email with some input from other Board members and the teacher. A copy of the email and the responses are attached and part of these minutes. Ms. Sibbald can ask for further information or clarification during public comment.

Millage: Our millage is due to expire at the end of this year. With operation costs increasing we had hoped to ask for an increase. However, per our attorney at Thrun Law Firm, due to Proposal A, passed in 1994, we are at the maximum millage, which is 4.9848 mills. The maximum we can levy is 4.1 mills. The only other option we have is to ask the voters to approve levying the mills against the non-principal residence property AND the principal residence property. Currently the non-principal residence property is levied. Including principal residence property would only generate an additional \$15,000 per year. After board discussion it was decided we would ask the lawyer to go forward with the millage renewal proposition based on the maximum of 4.9848 mills. The election is always held in November during the general election. Angie gave further explanations to the Board. The other option we may want to consider in the future is asking voters to approve a sinking fund which would cover specific items such as building improvement, technology improvements, etc.

Start Preparing: We need to start thinking about the 2022-2023 Budget. Next month Cindy will present to the Board the updated list of repairs to be considered. She has asked the Board and the teacher to start thinking of any major purchases outside the norm and repairs to be done. Additionally, we need to review the current contracts with the teacher and custodian. Although we had budgeted for the new doors, we did not budget enough. It may end up being completed during the 2022-2023 timeframe. Cindy will send them an email reminding them of the items to review before the next Board meeting.

New Vacuum Cleaner: Our school vacuum is broken. Our custodian has recommended a new one to be purchased from Amazon. It is a Dyson Animal Plus Stick vacuum. Jim Gilligan made a motion to approve the purchase of the vacuum for approximately \$465.00. Supported by Riker. Roll call vote. Ayes: Gekle, Gilligan, Hasbrouck and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Cooley-Sanborn. Motion carried.

Board Comments: None

Public Comment: Community members asked questions about the ice rink and field trips. Angie McArthur mentioned that very few Districts have been taking field trips. MDE has just changed the masking rules. The local health department is still suggesting masking. Covid rates are high and vaccination rates are low. It's a recommendation that field trips be curriculum related, which is difficult to do with mixed grades. There is still a lot of time to do field trips. But things are limited due to covid.

Other Business: Cindy Riker reviewed a resolution and a letter the Township has sent to Lansing and the Michigan Attorney General's Opinion on OMA. She urged the Board members to voice their concerns about OMA. Jim asked if we still had the maintenance position posted. Cindy will repost as the businesses reopen.

Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Riker, Secretary/Treasurer
Bois Blanc Pines School Board

RESPONSES TO MS. SIBBALD'S EMAIL IN RED.

Cindy Riker BBP BOE <criker@eupschools.org>

to Suzette, Angie, Misty, Tom, bcc: me

Misty,

Please accept this email as a written response to your email. I have done some more research to clarify some of your questions. I hope that will help. Our responses are in **red**.

On Tue, Mar 8, 2022 at 12:30 PM Misty Sibbald <misty_04@msn.com> wrote:

Hello,

*I am including correspondence below between Tom McKee & I from yesterday regarding the school ice rink. I have additional questions for board members.

I would like this email presented at the March 15th meeting please, I am not able to attend. I would like my concerns on record please. My concerns are things discussed at various board meetings by various board members. I would also, kindly, appreciate a response in writing.

Have the students to date, put on ice skates and utilized the skating rink provided by Bois Blanc Pines School in the last 2 years? If not, why? **Yes. The very first year. Not certain of date. We did take a student, maybe two, out on the ice rink. So yes, it was utilized. But that's about it. Note: It was later clarified by the teacher that the students went out on the ice several times, but without equipment. So the rink was purchased in 2019-2020 and only utilized in the 2020-2021 school year, but not with equipment. Just out on the ice.**

After reviewing board minutes, needing a new ice rink liner was discussed by Suzette in July 2021 and tabled for November 2021. Why was this tabled? **We did not reply to this question. I've researched. We did not table the ice rink. Cindy mentioned that it was in follow up for the November meeting. Board felt that was fine.**

Wouldn't it have been productive to order a liner in the summer and have things ready to go for the winter season/school year? **In hind sight, probably. This is my opinion, since we did not address this in the meeting.** Was the skating rink prepped and ready in the fall 2021 for winter 21/22? **No**

Per meeting minutes for December 2021, the liner was not ordered until December 2021 and in January of 2022, we were still waiting on the liner to arrive, per Cindy. **In November minutes it was noted the rink was not measured. And we failed to put someone in charge of doing so prior to the meeting. Therefore, we did not know the size to order. Jim volunteered to measure. Suzette would get info from vendor(s). Trying to be proactive, we approved a purchase not to exceed \$300. In the December meeting we had to amend the purchase amount. A motion was made to purchase liner in amount of \$493.50. It was ordered and shipped on 1/6/22. It was received in late January 2022.** It's now March 8th 2022 and there has been no news on the rink or liner. Sadly we've missed the opportunity for a welcomed, on-island activity/field trip for the students.

Skating necessities & costs were discussed by Chris at the November & December 2020 meetings, as well as snow shoes for students. January 2021 meeting, \$1000 was designated for skates, helmets, etc. Was anything ordered? If not, why? **Yes, items were ordered. We got helmets, walkers, elbow pads, knee pads and new skates as necessary. Some equipment was donated to us by an off island organization. That was in 2020-2021. Per Sherry, the students were out on the ice several times but not on skates. By the time the orders came in the ice was melting. She has pictures of the students in all their gear. They put their names on their helmets. During that year, Sherry asked for volunteers to come take the students out on the ice, as she does not skate. She did not feel comfortable taking them out to skate by herself. She did not get any volunteers.**

Were snow shoes ordered and if so, have they been utilized? **Snow shoes were provided to us in Nov/Dec 2019 by Dean Paul. School closed in 2020. Not certain if they were returned. Angie mentioned they were on loan from Whitefish. She will check with Tom McKee to see if they were returned. Sherry mentioned that the snowshoes that were there did not fit the students.** I have not received anything home about a snowshoeing field trip, that I recall but I could be wrong.

I was not able to locate meeting minutes for:
Feb 2021 March 2021 April 2021 May 2021 **As noted, you were able to find these minutes.**

On-island field trips:

September 14, 2021 meeting minutes

Jim Gilligan mentioned a field trip to the Historical society. Also a trip to the lighthouse was discussed with Rick Winters offering help to see this through. Sherry mentioned "other various trips in the works" **Cindy mentioned that choosing field trips was not the Board responsibility. That would be Tom and Sherry (administrator & teacher). The Board was responsible for approving expenditures related to field trips. We would respond to what we know. The Historical Museum closed in September. It was not pursued. Transportation was an issue for the trip to the lighthouse. Some other trips were pursued by Sherry. Most of the places would not take groups due to the current covid status. Sherry mentioned that she felt academics took precedence over field trips.**

Have the students taken any on-island field trips for the 21/22 school year? If not, why? Again, I could be forgetting something. **In the fall, the students did water testing. It is noted in the October minutes that it turned into an all-day affair rather than a couple of hours. The testing will continue as the weather breaks.**

What is planned for March, April, May, June 2022 in the way of field trips? **Nothing at this time, other than the water testing.**

When can the students visit Cheboygan for things like: **These individual visits were not addressed at the meeting.**

The Creation Station
Public library
Bowling
Veterinary Clinics
Firehouse
Etc.

Student handbook for 2021/22 makes no mention of canceled field trips for the school year due to Covid or any other reason.

Thank you,
Misty Sibbald

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tom McKee <tmckee@eupschools.org>
Date: March 7, 2022 at 9:36:30 AM EST
To: Misty Sibbald <misty_04@msn.com>
Cc: Sherry Corbett <scorbett@eupschools.org>
Subject: Re: Skating Rink

Hello,

The skating rink has not been utilized or set up this year because the board ordered a new liner for it and it took a while for it to arrive. (Unsure if the old liner was damaged or ripped) It is my understanding that there were going to be two or three volunteers that were going to try and get to putting it out there sometime this month so the kids could use it for a couple of days before the snow melts.

Tom

On Mon, Mar 7, 2022 at 9:30 AM Misty Sibbald <misty_04@msn.com> wrote:
Hello!

Has the skating rink not been utilized/set up this year? If so, is there a reason why?

Thank you!
Misty

--
Thomas O. McKee
Superintendent/ K-12 Principal
Whitefish Township Community Schools
7221 M-123
Paradise, MI 49768
O: (906) 492-3353
C: (906) 630-0814
tmckee@eupschools.org