

Bois Blanc Pines School Board of Education
Special Meeting
February 21, 2020

Call to Order/Roll Call

School Board President Cindy Riker called the meeting to order at 4:00p.m.

Board Members present were Board President Cindy Riker and Secretary Dan Reynolds. Board Members participating via conference call were Vice President Suzette Cooley-Sanborn, and Trustee Jessi LaPorte.

Public present were Ken and Christine Hasbrouck, Joan Schrocka, Margi LaPorte, Shawn Nelson, Brandon Schlund, Michelle Satchell, Sherrie Akers, and Francis Urbany.

C. Riker noted that an agenda was not required for a special meeting.

Review of Legal Documents

C. Riker asked the Board whether they had an opportunity to fully review confidential legal documentation that included a Separation and Release Agreement and a recommendation letter for teacher Wendy Spray. All Board members acknowledged that they did have an opportunity to review the documents in full.

C. Riker then asked whether the Board had any questions that would necessitate further discussion in a closed session. All Board members stated that they had no further questions.

At that time, S. Cooley-Sanborn made a motion to accept and approve the Separation and Release Agreement for Wendy Spray. D. Reynolds second.

Roll call vote: Ayes were J. LaPorte, D. Reynolds, S. Cooley-Sanborn, C. Riker. Nays, none.
Motion carried.

C. Riker signed the Separation and Release Agreement following the above motion.

J. LaPorte made a motion to approve the recommendation letter for Wendy Spray. S. Cooley-Sanborn second.
Roll call vote: Ayes were J. LaPorte, D. Reynolds, S. Cooley-Sanborn, C. Riker. Nays, none.
Motion carried.

Public Statement regarding the Pines School District

D. Reynolds delivered the following public statement from the Pines School Board:

“On behalf of the Bois Blanc Pines School District, the Board of Education accepts with regret the resignation of Mrs. Wendy Spray, who has been the teacher in our school for the past 15 years. Mrs. Spray’s resignation is effective immediately, and we wish her every success in her future endeavors.

“Operating a school in a small Island community is a unique challenge for everyone involved. Faculty, parents, students, administrators, and Board members have invested countless hours and resources to

keep the Pines School open, and to fulfill its mission. Every one of us is committed to maintaining a public school on Bois Blanc Island because we know that a fully-functioning school is essential to the success of any community. Our students are our future.

“A lack of student enrollment and attendance during the current school year forced our recent school closure and faculty layoff. It is our sincere hope that Island families with school-age children will come forward to work closely with this Board, and to help us find mutually-agreeable solutions that will lead to future re-enrollment. As always, students are at the core of our mission, and we can only move forward with the support of families who want the best possible public education for their children.

“It must be reiterated that school faculty, students, and families are entitled to privacy. The Pines School Board is serious about its obligation to protect that privacy at all times. We ask the public to do the same by respecting their privacy as well. For that reason, we cannot and will not answer questions related to individual faculty members, individual students and their families, and/or any legal proceedings.

“If you share our passion for the success of the Pines School and its future students, and if you are a registered Township voter who resides on the Island most of the time, then we invite you once again to consider joining our Board of Education. We currently have one vacancy to fill, and multiple Board positions will be on the ballot for election in November of this year.

“We will continue keeping the public informed through open meetings, for which the schedule is posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this challenging time.”

C. Riker asked whether the public in attendance had any questions. No questions were asked.

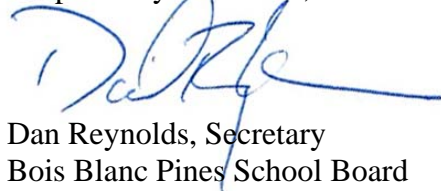
Other Business

C. Riker stated that she had been contacted by Sarah Sims. Ms. Sims asked C. Riker to publicly announce that she had requested information on signing up to become one of the substitute teachers for the Bois Blanc Pines School.

C. Riker publicly announced that Ms. Sims had requested information on becoming a substitute. Information will be forwarded to Ms. Sims by C. Riker within the next day or two.

Meeting adjourned at 4:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dan Reynolds', is written over a horizontal line.

Dan Reynolds, Secretary
Bois Blanc Pines School Board