

WALDRON AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

A regular meeting of the Waldron Area School Board of Education was held on January 13, 2003, and was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by president, Richard Storehalder. Members present were B. Leininger, T. Schaedler, R. Storehalder, M. Baker, D. Oates, S. Knapp, and H. Emens. Members of the audience joined the board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mrs. Sandra Schantl, Elementary Principal, presented the Elementary Report. Mr. Scott Merfeld, Secondary Principal, presented the High School/Middle School Report.

Motion by member, B. Leininger, seconded by member T. Schaedler that the Board of Education approve the agenda items as submitted by the superintendent. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Motion by member H. Emens, seconded by member B. Leininger that the Board of Education waive the reading of the minutes and approve the Waldron Area District Board of Education December 9, 2002, Regular Meeting minutes and January 6, 2002, Special Meeting minutes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Dr. Thomas D. Gay, Superintendent, announced that January had been designated as School Board appreciation Month and presented certificates of appreciation to each Board of Education member.

Motion by member M. Baker, seconded by member H. Emens to approve and pay general fund bills covered by checks #19367 through #19410 and #15695 through #15699. Motion carried 6 – 1.

Motion by member D. Oates, seconded by member H. Emens that the Board of Education approve the amendments to the Waldron Area School Benefit Plan as presented by Rehmann Consulting. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Motion by member S. Knapp, seconded by member T. Schaedler that the following individuals be employed during the 2002-2003 school year for the following coaching positions:

- Kathy and Barry Lockwood, Girl's Softball, Head Coach
- Steve Masters and Mathew Emens, Boy's Baseball, Head Coach
- Scott Bertram, Middle School and High School Track, Head Coach
- Kirk Brackelman, Middle School and High School Track, Assistant Coach

Motion carried 7 – 0.

Motion by member M. Baker, seconded by H. Emens that the Board of Education approve the following fiscal and budgetary recommendations:

- 1 Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education immediately create an exploratory sub-committee to investigate the feasibility of school consolidation.
- 2 Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education inform the Waldron Education Association in writing of the Board's interest in opening discussions relative to negotiated provisions of the current Master Agreement.
- 3 Superintendent recommends that the Superintendent make contact with other district superintendents, the Michigan Association of School Administrators, and the Michigan Department of Education to investigate the possibility and feasibility of sharing one superintendent between the two districts for the 2003-2004 school year.

- 4 Superintendent recommends that the Waldron Area School District Board of Education enter into discussions with the Hillsdale County Intermediate School District Board of Education to investigate the feasibility of increasing the current countywide special education levy for a future election ballot.
- 5 Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education authorize the superintendent and building and grounds committee the authority to prepare a need list for a 5 year, 1 mill, sinking fund ballot issue for the June 9, 2003, election and prepare a resolution for board action.
- 6 Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education authorize the superintendent and secondary principal to negotiate with the athletic boosters to run 50/50 drawings and concession stands with the proceeds going to help fund district athletic programs.
- 7 Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education authorize the superintendent to immediately eliminate all overtime work that could result in overtime and/or comp. Time reimbursement unless prior approval is given in writing by the superintendent of schools to provide such services over and beyond the normal workday.
- 8 Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education form a committee to investigate the feasibility of placing a bond issue on an election ballot in calendar year 2003.
- 9 Superintendent recommends the elimination of Board of Education paid lunches for any and all employees effective January 14, 2003.
- 10 Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education form a committee to review and restructure, if needed, compensation issues for support staff, and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Education for action.
- 11 Lay-off one building principal for 2003-2004 school year.
- 12 Create one all day, every day kindergarten class for the 2003-2004 school year; layoff one teacher for 2003-2004 school year.
- 13 Eliminate the 4/5 grade split for 2003-2004 school year; layoff one teacher for 2003-2004 school year.
- 14 Discontinue the elementary and secondary Educable Mentally Impaired (EMI) program for 2003-2004 school year; layoff two teachers for 2003-2004 school year.
- 15 Superintendent's office assumes responsibility for all internal and athletic accounts with current staff.
- 16 Layoff one custodian effective February 3, 2003.
- 17 Enhance the responsibilities of the Supervisor of Transportation to include Buildings and Grounds.
- 18 Decrease the athletic director's yearly compensation from \$16,000 to \$8,000 per year.
- 19 Discontinue membership in the following organizations, effective at the conclusion of the current membership year:
  - Legislative Liaison
  - North Central Association of Schools and Colleges
  - REAP-National Schools Application Network
  - Michigan Elementary Middle School Principals Association
  - Hillsdale County Chamber of Commerce
- 20 Discontinue paying insurance deductible for support staff.

Roll call vote. Members voting yes: M. Baker, H. Emens, B. Leininger. Members voting no: D. Oates, S. Knapp, T. Schaedler, and R. Storehalder. Motion failed 4 – 3.

Motion by member B. Leininger, seconded by member M. Baker to adopt recommendations 1 through 10 as stated above. Motion carried 6 – 1.

Motion by Member S. Knapp, seconded by member M. Baker that the Board of Education approve the following fiscal and budgetary recommendations:

- 11 Effective January 27, 2003, place the Elementary Principal in the EMI classroom as a substitute teacher and utilize the Superintendent as K – 5 principal pending review by legal counsel, and Lay-off one building principal for 2003-2004 school year.
- 12 Create one all day, every day kindergarten class for the 2003-2004 school year; layoff one teacher for 2003-2004 school year.
- 13 Eliminate the 4/5 grade split for 2003-2004 school year; layoff one teacher for 2003-2004 school year.
- 15 Superintendent's office assumes responsibility for all internal and athletic accounts with current staff.
- 17 Layoff one custodian for the 2003-2004 school year and enhance the responsibilities of the Supervisor of Transportation to include Buildings and Grounds.
- 18 Reduce the Athletic Fund budget by \$6,000.
- 19 Discontinue membership in the following organizations, effective at the conclusion of the current membership year:
  - Legislative Liaison
  - North Central Association of Schools and Colleges
  - REAP-National Schools Application Network
  - Michigan Elementary Middle School Principals Association
  - Hillsdale County Chamber of Commerce
- 20 Discontinue paying insurance deductible for support staff.

Motion carried 7 – 0.

Member S. Knapp requested approval from the Board of Education to attend the "No Child Left Behind Act: Implications for Michigan Schools" conference sponsored by MEIM. General consensus from the board was that any Board of Education member wanting to attend may do so.

Motion by member T. Schaedler, seconded by member M. Baker to adjourn at 11:13 p.m.  
Motion carried 7 – 0.

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Bonnie Leininger, Secretary