

**Teutopolis Community Unit No. 50
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
March 17, 2008**

President Martin Siemer called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All board members were present, except Maureen Kastl.

Dan Niemerg opened the regular meeting with a prayer, and Martin Siemer led the group in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ACTION ITEM NO. 3935 – Approve February board meeting minutes

Randy Bloemer moved and Mike Funneman seconded a motion to approve the February board meeting minutes. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman-yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ACTION ITEM NO. 3936 – Approve February treasurer’s report, financial report, and payment of bills

Hank Koester moved and Ron Repking seconded a motion to approve the February treasurer’s report, financial report, and payment of bills. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman-yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Recognize persons who wish to speak on agenda items - No one was present.

Item H - Approve roofing work at Teutopolis Grade School was tabled pending additional information.

ACTION ITEM NO. 3937 – Approve board business consent agenda items

Mike Funneman moved and Gene Niemerg seconded a motion to approve the board business consent agenda items as follows:

- Accept Kevin Ruholl’s resignation as boys’ assistant high school baseball coach for this spring.
- Accept Mike Walsh’s resignation as Spanish teacher at the end of the 2007-08 school year and advertise the position.
- Release Tom Niemerg as a part-time high school math teacher at the end of the 2007-08 school year.
- Hire Gary Calvert as the boys’ assistant high school baseball coach for this spring.
- Hire Alex Thoele as the assistant high school track coach for this spring.
- Hire Tim Bower as a high school math teacher for the 2008-09 school year.
- Allow Amy Simons to student teach this fall with Mrs. Trigg in special education and with Mrs. Lindvahl in kindergarten.
- Approve the summer library program that will be open each Tuesday in June and July. It will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Grade School and 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the Junior High.
- Approve a summer school program called “Reading Camp 2008” that runs from July 14 to August 1 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. with a ½ hour extra for teacher planning.
- Agree to a standard diploma for all high school graduates.
- Approve the April 23 senior class trip to Chicago.
- Approve the board meeting dates for May 2008 through April 2009.

Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman-yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ACTION ITEM NO. 3938 – Approve resolution for dismissal of teacher

Randy Bloemer moved and Ron Repking seconded a motion to approve a resolution for the honorable dismissal of the certified employee/teacher Jennifer Gergeni at the conclusion of the 2007-08 school term. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman-yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ACTION ITEM NO. 3939 – Approve resolution for dismissal of educational support staff

Mike Funneman moved and Ron Repking seconded a motion to approve a resolution for the honorable dismissal of Larry Mietzner at the conclusion of the 2007-08 school term. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman—yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ACTION ITEM NO. 3940 – Appoint workmen’s compensation occupational medical provider

Gene Niemerg moved and Hank Koester seconded a motion to appoint Bonutti Clinic as our occupational medical provider and to provide the services needed for work-related injuries. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman—yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Because the district used so many snow days, graduation dates need to be reset. High School Graduation will be held Tuesday evening, May 20, at 8:00 p.m. Junior High Promotion will be held on Thursday evening, May 22, at 7:30 p.m.

ACTION ITEM NO. 3941 – Set graduation dates

Ron Repking moved and Mike Funneman seconded a motion to set high school graduation for May 20, 2008 at 8:00 p.m., and junior high promotion for May 22, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman—yes. Motion carried 6-0.

ACTION ITEM NO. 3942 – Approve resolution for 2008-2009 SEPCO agreement

Randy Bloemer moved and Hank Koester seconded a motion to approve an annual resolution to continue with the South East Purchasing Cooperative in the amount of \$100. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman—yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Reports:

- Principal Bill Fritcher discussed building updates at the Junior High. A lot of activity has been going on with moving the track announcer’s booth to the baseball diamond. Individuals have offered cabinets for concessions. Hodges Fencing started on the discus netting; they know they are working under a time crunch. Waiting on better weather for lights in new parking lot. Checking on another speaker for the track. Congratulations to Dominic Vahling who was chosen as the winner of the Scholar Attitude Award—due to good teachers and good students. Mr. Fritcher took Michelle Esker and her parents, Jim & Cindy Esker, to the Student Recognition Dinner/Banquet where Butch Lockley (Survivor participant) presented; his presentation was good for the students to hear. Recognized Dylan Niemeyer for achieving 4th place in an archery competition of 1500 participants; Dylan advances to the next competition in Las Vegas. Eighth graders will attend the Pathways to Excellence program at TGS—half of them on April 8-9 and the other half on April 10-11.
- Principal Greg Beck discussed building updates at the High School. A leak was discovered over the assembly; Midstate Roofing was here to patch it.
- Principal Angie Sheehan discussed building updates at Lillyville Grade School. A part broke in the furnace last week, and they had to fix it.
- THS Athletic Director Angie Sheehan reported she is in the process of seeing what we need to do for our P.E./baseball diamond east of the school. Getting prices for fencing. THS Pomerettes received a 3rd place trophy at state.
- Principal Norma Fisher discussed building updates at the Grade School. The GS had a successful spelling season; Eddie Siemer tied for 4th place at Decatur. ISAT is ready to be sent out. In need of more playground equipment for 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grades on south side of the school—focusing on pull-up equipment. Box Top account has \$4,000; plus, we will get \$2,000 more—will have \$6,000 to buy things. Wanting district to pay for balance of playground equipment that Box Top account doesn’t have; and Box Top account will pay the district back in coming years.
- This year’s Relay for Life event will be held at the Junior High on July 11-12. It will be cut back to a 12-hour event (instead of a 24-hour event).
- Discussed 403(b)s and American Fidelity. The district must have a plan in place by January, 2009. The Trust asked American Fidelity to come up with a way to help all of its member schools. AF will not charge the district for the plan document and will only charge each employee \$1 /mo. fee. American Fidelity would require that they administer our cafeteria plan

as part of the arrangement. The district needs to make a decision in April or May.

Reports (continued):

- Discussed high school students and Lake Land classes. Do we want to continue doing this— sending our students off campus. It takes kids away from our classes here, and then our numbers may be too low to have the same class here. Teachers at the High School are concerned and want to keep the kids here.
- Reported that at the last Unit Curriculum Committee meeting we approved a science textbook adoption and started the internal review process.
- Discussed district lunch prices and reviewed survey done by Effingham of local districts' lunch prices. With the cost of food and supplies going up, we should consider raising lunch prices.
- Film Festival is March 31. Each board member will be given a ticket to attend.
- The deadline for kindergarten registration was February 29. We have 79 students registered at this time; that number includes 17 that would attend at Lillyville and 62 that would attend TGS. We think there are 4 Sigel kids that are going to Sigel kindergarten.

Correspondence:

- Mrs. Fisher had some high school Student Council members read to the elementary students for the Dr. Seuss program. Some were dressed up like Dr. Seuss.
- Denise Willenborg from the Soil & Water Conservation Dept came to speak to the kids at TGS.

Reviewed correspondence regarding:

- Janice Ochs' e-mail about Catholic Charities
- Bushue Human Resources about background screening
- Angie Hartke about School Reach System
- Al Church about a letter about his book
- Vision 20/20 about Celebration of Excellence Breakfast
- State School News Service/Jim Broadway info
- Monsanto Letter from Shannon Schultz

Recognize persons who wish to speak on non-agenda items. No one was present to speak on non-agenda items.

Motion to go into Executive Session

Mike Funneman moved and Gene Niemerg seconded a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss: a) student discipline; b) appointment, employment, compensation of employees; and c) purchase or lease of real property for the use of the district. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman—yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion to come out of Executive Session

Mike Funneman moved and Hank Koester seconded a motion to come out of Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman—yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Teutopolis Grade School Lease Agreement - The school district has been discussing an extension to the current Teutopolis Grade School Lease with St. Francis Church. A possible lease extension of more than 30 years is in the works.

Motion to Adjourn

Mike Funneman moved and Randy Bloemer seconded a motion to adjourn. Roll call vote as follows: Martin Siemer-yes; Randy Bloemer-yes; Hank Koester-yes; Gene Niemerg-yes; Ron Repking-yes; and Mike Funneman—yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Board of Education President, Martin Siemer

Board of Education Secretary, Ronald Repking