

The La Harpe school board held a hearing regarding the question of reduction in force Tuesday, March 16, 2010 in the district library. Pres. Cindy Wear called the hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll Call was answered by Cindy Wear, Dan Horton, Pam Campbell, Rex Huston, Darren Spangler, Mark Irish, and Deanna Stambaugh. Also present were Supt. Jo Campbell, Prin. Lila McKeown, Jeanne Clayton and the following visitors in order of sign-in: Deb Phlasterer, Arlynn Hitz, Joyce Crim, Jodelle Eddington, Joanna Wright, Sally Boyle, Kathi Rogers, Sherry Beals, Madena Stauffer-Chuvala, Carrie Faul, Carrie Finch, Angela Spiker, Stephanie Mencil, Melissa Johnson, Laurie Myers, Kristin Palmer, Brenda Sparrow, Cathy Jones, Todd Porter, Laurena Hunter, Linda Hughes, Janet McKoon, Cindy Pollock, Jamey Powelson, Kathy Kendall, Barry Wright, and David Anderson. Pres. Wear welcomed all in attendance.

Supt. Campbell gave information about the hearing's purpose of discussing the question of reduction in force due to the unprecedented state financial crisis and opened the floor to those who wished to be heard.

Joyce Crim presented the board with a letter from the La Harpe Education Association expressing appreciation of the board's ongoing support of the teaching personnel and concern for the impact reductions may have on students. The LEA also respectfully suggested items for the board to consider in planning for the coming years and providing children with a quality education.

Kristin Palmer thanked the board for the opportunity to teach in La Harpe District and articulated her view of the reduction process and the positive possibilities of call-backs.

Kathi Rogers presented a letter from the paraprofessionals which outlined the many ways they and the classroom teachers work together as a team to facilitate successful learning environments, and thanked the board for their support and for the opportunity to work in the La Harpe School District.

Angela Spiker and Carrie Finch spoke to the board promoting the at-risk, early childhood and special ed. preschool programs, the potential for full classes with a waiting list again next year, and the value of early intervention as it relates to later educational success. Joyce Crim added her support of the preschool program in light of increasing curriculum demands for Kindergarten and the vital role preschool plays for working parents. Deb Phlasterer and Jamie Powelson mentioned specific ways their children have benefitted from the preschool program and while they expressed understanding of the financial problems education is facing, both spoke with conviction about the importance of continuing the preschool program. Janet McKoon addressed the board on the significance of early identification in the one-to-one speech, occupational, and physical therapy aspects of Pre-K as being foundational in order for students to reach their potential as adults.

Supt. Campbell emphasized that the RIF action is a preliminary, not final, action until the board knows what the state will do with education funding. Pres. Wear thanked all for their valuable input and adjourned the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

The Board of Education of La Harpe Community School District #347 held a regular meeting March 16, 2010 in the school district library. President Cindy Wear called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Roll Call was answered by Pres. Cindy Wear, V.P. Dan Horton, Pam Campbell, Rex Huston, Mark Irish, Deanna Stambaugh, and Darren Spangler. Also present were Supt. Jo Campbell, Prin. Lila McKeown, Jeanne Clayton, and the following visitors in order of sign-in: Arlynn Hitz, Joyce Crim, Sherry Beals, Madena Stauffer-Chuvala, Carrie Faul, Carrie Finch, Angela Spiker, Melissa Johnson,

Laurie Myers, Kristin Palmer, Brenda Sparrow, Todd Porter, Laurena Hunter, Cindy Pollock, Barry Wright, and David Anderson.

A motion was made by Irish with second by Stambaugh to approve the minutes from the open and closed sessions of February 16, 2010 regular meeting of LCSD #347 as presented. Roll Call: Wear, yes; Horton, yes; Irish, yes; Huston, yes; Campbell, yes; Spangler, yes; Stambaugh, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Supt. Campbell gave the Financial Report and presented the district bills.

A motion was made by Horton with second by Huston to approve the financial report and payment of bills with addition of check #81889 for \$269.56 for gravel to the bus barn parking lot. Roll Call: Huston, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes; Campbell, yes; Irish, yes; Horton, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

No public presentation was given.

Board Committee Reports:

Policy Committee: Policy update #71 has been received from Press and will be available for the April board meeting.

Facilities Committee met with architect Dan Johnson, who is working on drawings for renovation and addition options with the number and types of rooms requested. The state school construction program is in place and funding is supposed to be coming for that purpose.

No other committee reports were given.

Supt. Campbell reported that Arnold Brothers is working on a safety system for the rooftop blower, stated that utilities to the Corry property have been disconnected, and compared utility costs from before and after the 1928 building was shut down. Supt. Campbell announced upcoming IASB Dinner Meetings and IASA Spring Superintendents Conference, the FFA Banquet scheduled at Dallas City for April 16, and David Pistorius will be at the May 18 board meeting. Supt. Campbell gave an update from the recent IWHS Curriculum meeting and mentioned the repairs needed to the pipes in the northwest section of the new addition.

Principal McKeown reported \$6016 was raised by students for Jump Rope for Heart, volleyball season has ended and 34 students are participating in track, 18 Kindergarten and 28 Preschool children were screened for next year, ISAT testing is complete, a severe weather drill was carried out, and spring pictures have been taken.

Business Items:

FY2011 Preliminary Calendar: A motion was made by Spangler with second by Stambaugh to accept the FY2011 preliminary school calendar as presented. Roll Call: Horton, yes; Irish, yes; Campbell, yes; Wear, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Spangler, yes; Huston, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Bus Communication Device: Due to imminent changes in HB 5120 allowing for cell phone use by drivers, a motion was made by Irish with second by Campbell to rescind the bus communication device bid with Verizon Wireless that was approved at the February 16, 2010 regular school board meeting. Roll Call: Spangler, yes; Huston, yes; Campbell, yes; Horton, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Irish, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Consider Additional Employee Sick Leave Contributions: A motion was made by Campbell with second by Wear to approve the use of 17 additional sick days donated by employees to Doug Jones for the school year 2010 as amended. Roll Call: Wear, yes; Horton, yes; Irish, yes; Campbell, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Spangler, yes, Huston, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Pam Campbell thanked all of the La Harpe staff present for their evident support for one another.

A motion was made by Stambaugh with second by Campbell to enter into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific personnel, and discipline of specific students at 7:46 p.m. Roll Call: Horton, yes; Wear, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Campbell, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Spangler, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Closed session discussion was held.

A motion was made by Irish with second by Horton to return to open session at 11:11 p.m. Voice Vote response returned all in favor. Motion carried.

Personnel:

Reduction in Force Resolutions:

A motion was made by Stambaugh with second by Irish to adopt the Resolution of Non-Reemployment of Certified Staff for Ryan Kitch, Kristin Palmer, and Madena Stauffer-Chuvala for the fiscal year 2011 as presented. Roll Call: Huston, yes; Wear, yes; Spangler, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Campbell, yes; Irish, yes; Horton, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Horton with second by Huston to adopt the Resolution Regarding Reduction in Force of Support Staff for Non Certified Employees: Dede Beachy, Sally Boyle, Jill Dunham, Denise Kost, Kathi Rogers, Valerie Van Fleet, Bonnie Yocum, Aaron Baker, and Lynn Ward for the fiscal year 2011 as presented. Roll Call: Wear, yes; Horton, yes; Irish, yes; Campbell, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Spangler, yes, Huston, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Spangler with second by Stambaugh to adopt the Resolution Regarding Reduction in Time of Support Staff for Non Certified Employee: Joanna Wright for the fiscal year 2011 as presented. Roll Call: Wear, yes; Horton, yes; Irish, yes; Huston, yes; Campbell, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Spangler, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Huston with second by Irish to adopt the Resolution for Non-Reemployment of Support Staff Member: Renato Sturlic for the fiscal year 2011 as presented. Roll Call: Wear, yes; Horton, yes; Irish, yes; Huston, yes; Campbell, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Spangler, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Retirements:

A motion was made by Irish with second by Horton to accept with regrets the letter of retirement at the end of the 2010-11 school year submitted by Edna Collins. Roll Call: Spangler, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Campbell, yes; Horton, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Huston with second by Stambaugh to accept with regrets the letter of intent to retire at the end of the school year 2010-11 submitted by Joyce Crim. Roll Call: Spangler, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Campbell, yes; Horton, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Spangler with second by Stambaugh to accept with regrets the letter of retirement at the end of the 2010-11 school year submitted by Dixie Bollin. Roll Call: Spangler, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Campbell, yes; Horton, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0

Verbatim Closed Session Recordings: A motion was made by Huston with second by Horton to approve the deletion of verbatim closed session recordings made at least 18 months prior to the regular March 16, 2009 board meeting, per board policy 2:220. Roll Call: Huston, yes; Wear, yes; Spangler, yes; Stambaugh, yes; Campbell, yes; Irish, yes; Horton, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Campbell with second by Spangler to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 p.m. The Voice Vote response was all in favor. The meeting adjourned.

President

Secretary