

SUN PRAIRIE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SUN PRAIRIE WI 53590

ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2011  
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order, Affirmation of Notice, Recognition**
  - 1.01 School Board President John Whalen called the Annual Meeting of the Sun Prairie Area School District to order at 7:00 p.m.
  - 1.02 President Whalen read the official notice of the budget hearing and annual meeting.
  - 1.03 Recognition of School Board members and citizen committee members leaving office  
The following individuals were recognized for their service to the District as elected School Board members or as appointed representatives on committees:
    - David Stackhouse – School Board member
    - Chad Brown – Citizen representative to Human Resources Committee
    - Betty Collier – Citizen representative to Human Resources Committee
    - Patrick Anderson – Citizen representative to Facilities, Technology & Transportation Committee
    - Paige Butler – Student representative to Education & Policy Committee
    - Amy Oliver – Teacher representative to Education & Policy Committee
    - Christina Klawitter – Citizen representative to Education & Policy Committee
    - Harold Rayford – Citizen representative to Finance Committee
    - Tom Weber – Citizen representative to Finance Committee
2. **Review Procedures**
  - 2.01 School District's attorney reviews procedures under which the meeting will be conducted and qualifications for voting  
Attorney Mike Julka attended the meeting as parliamentarian and to act as counsel, if needed. He explained that the Annual Meeting is provided for by statute. It will be conducted under the guidelines of *Robert's Rules of Order*. Anyone wishing to speak should step to a microphone, wait to be recognized by the Chair, and state his or her full name and address.

Those who vote must be electors of the school district, a citizen 18 years of age or older, and a resident in the District for at least 28 consecutive days.

There is a challenge procedure if anyone believes someone voted who is not eligible.

(See page ii for details on who can vote.)

**3. Elect Chairperson**

3.01 Election of Chairperson to conduct the budget hearing and the annual meeting

- John Whalen was nominated by Mary Ellen Havel-Lang, 710 Hanley Dr., Sun Prairie

As no other nominations were made, John Whalen was elected chairperson

**4. Budget Summary Report**

4.01 2011-2012 Budget Summary report by Phil Frei, Deputy District Administrator-Business and Operations, and Jim McCourt, School Board Treasurer

Phil Frei gave the 2011-2012 Budget Summary report. A copy of his Power Point presentation is attached to the minutes.

**5. Public Hearing and Review of Budget**

5.01 Public hearing and review of the 2011–2012 budget by District Treasurer Jim McCourt and Deputy District Administrator-Business and Operations Phil Frei

- Kent Johnson, 1227 McMahan Dr., Sun Prairie, asked if the district would consider enhancing the HVAC infrastructure to support the construction of classroom walls at Royal Oaks. Will the district solicit a quote?
- Kelly Daniels, 213 N. Thompson Rd., Sun Prairie, commented that they like no walls at Royal Oaks.
- Audrey Pendergast, 924 Sunfield St., Sun Prairie, is concerned about the loss in state aid. The information only gave percentages and she would like more specific dollar amounts. Phil Frei suggested she look on page 33, lines 211 and 212. She also asked where donation money goes. Phil responded that donations for naming rights all go to the Sun Prairie Education Foundation.
- Father Mike Tess, 124 Dewey St., Sun Prairie, asked if the STEP program is available to teachers and staff who qualify. Answer: There are salary limits in the program.

- Jan Fournier, 2563 Prairie Dog Dr., Sun Prairie, supports the school district proposal to increase the tax levy. Wisconsin has quality schools and she doesn't want to see them deteriorate.
- Mark Brehmer, 475 Sherbrooke Dr., Sun Prairie, asked if we vote to fund the six initiatives, or any of them, is that for the school year? Tim Culver responded in the affirmative.
- Heather Dubois Bourenane, 681 Broadway Dr., Sun Prairie, supports the initiatives addressing diversity needs and supports approving the levy at a higher amount.
- William Collins, 405 S. Bird St., Sun Prairie, has kids at Creekside. When will we have more teachers so they can cover all kids without so much parent help? Tim Culver replied that we didn't reduce staffing formulas this year, but will probably never reach a point where we can fund everything everyone would like.
- Joe Chase, 923 Broadway Dr., Sun Prairie asked how Schools of Hope addresses initiative 2. Tim Culver responded that volunteers work with students in needed areas, but trained professionals would work with students with higher needs.
- Pastor Harold Rayford, 1300 School St., Sun Prairie, commended this Board in making sure we have an excellent school district. Asked what we would have to add to the motion to make sure all six initiatives are included. Phil Frei stated we would need a tax levy set at \$47,354,483.
- Mike Koltes, 3027 Providence St., Sun Prairie, gave credit to the School Board for putting the budget together. The Board went above and beyond in getting information out to the public and getting input from the public. He supports a tax levy of \$47,354,483 in order to fund the school district's budget and the six initiatives that the School Board identified as the highest needs.
- Deborah Kozol, 1117 Beech St., Sun Prairie, wondered about the sports travel funding and, if field trips are paid for, then why are they canceled due to lack of funds? She also asked if the budget covers the state SAGE decrease. Answer: it does.
- Brianne Pitts, 605 Woodview Dr., Sun Prairie, is a new resident and educator in Sun Prairie. She came to Sun Prairie because of its good schools. She has never seen such a well-put-together district.

End of public hearing at 8:19 p.m.

**6. Treasurer's Report**

- 6.01 Treasurer's Report by Jim McCourt  
The audit is completed and School Board will review. It should be available at the District Office on or about October 21.

**7. New Business**

- 7.01 Set annual salaries of School Board members for 2011-2012  
Motion by Mike Krachey, 6655 Tartan Tr., Sun Prairie, second by Erich Huemoeller, 3058 Saddle Brook Tr., Sun Prairie, to set the 2011-2012 salary for the school board president at \$3,225 and for other members at \$3,135. Motion carried.

- 7.02 Reimbursement of School Board Members' Expenses  
Motion by Gary Douglas, 1173 Dolan Dr., Sun Prairie, second by Warren Brown, 130 Greenbriar Dr., Sun Prairie, to authorize payment of actual and necessary expenses of a school board member when traveling in the performance of duties. Motion carried

- 7.03 Set property tax levy for the 2011-2012 school year  
Motion by Pastor Harold Rayford, 1300 School St., Sun Prairie, second by Mike Gomoll, 933 Norridge Dr., Sun Prairie, to approve the tax levy in the amount of forty seven million, three hundred fifty four thousand, four hundred eighty three dollars (\$47,354,483) upon all taxable property in the Sun Prairie Area School District for the purpose of operating and maintaining the district schools and for paying for debt for school projects.

Motion by Mark Brehmer, 475 Sherbrooke Dr., Sun Prairie, second by Al Slane, 5003 Creek Haven Rd., Cottage Grove, to amend the motion and set the tax levy at \$46,917,483.

Discussion on motion and amendment:

Mary Ellen Havel-Lang, 710 Hanley Dr., Sun Prairie – opposed the amendment

Al Slane, 5003 Creek Haven Rd., Cottage Grove – supported the amendment

Brad Lutes, 1940 Colorado Ave., Sun Prairie – opposed the amendment

Tim McCarthy, 2888 Country Dr., Sun Prairie – supported the amendment

Warren Brown, 130 Greenbriar Dr., Sun Prairie – opposed the amendment

Julie Schwellenbach, 3118 Katy Ida Ln., Sun Prairie – opposed the amendment

Mark Brehmer – 475 Sherbrooke Dr., Sun Prairie – explained why he made the motion to amend

Steve Schroeder, 1300 Fitness Run, Sun Prairie – asked for a vote

Motion to amend and set the tax levy at \$46,917,483. Motion failed

Original motion to approve the tax levy at \$47,354,483. Motion carried.

7.04 Dispose of surplus property  
Motion by Audrey Pendergast, 924 Sunfield St., Sun Prairie, second by Brad Lutes, 1940 Colorado Ave., Sun Prairie, that the Sun Prairie Area School District School Board be authorized to discard, sell, and/or donate miscellaneous and obsolete property (chairs, desks, tables, etc.), excluding real estate, belonging to and not needed by the school district. Motion carried.

7.05 Set date and time for 2012-2013 Annual Meeting or authorize School Board to set the date and time  
Motion by Mary Ellen Havel-Lang, 710 Hanley Dr., Sun Prairie, second by Brad Lutes, 1940 Colorado Ave., Sun Prairie, that the date of the 2012-2013 Annual Meeting be set for Monday, October 15, 2012, and the time of the Annual Meeting be set at 7 p.m. in the High School Performing Arts Center. Motion carried.

7.06 Acquisition and Sale of Real Estate for the Home Construction Program  
Motion by Brad Lutes, 1940 Colorado Ave., Sun Prairie, second by Father Mike Tess, 124 Dewey St., Sun Prairie, to approve the following resolution for the acquisition and sale of land:

WHEREAS, in order to provide students of the School District with education and practical experience in the building trades, the electors of the District wish to authorize the acquisition of a parcel of real estate to serve as the site upon which students might participate in the construction of a residential structure; and

WHEREAS, the electors of the District further wish to authorize the sale of the same building site following completion of such construction work (or at such earlier time as the School Board may determine),

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sun Prairie Area School District be authorized to acquire real estate necessary for School District purposes, to wit, the parcel of vacant land situated at Lot 50 of the Scenic Point Subdivision, in the City of Sun Prairie, Dane County. The School Board shall have the authority to determine the terms and conditions of such acquisition, and to take all other appropriate action to accomplish the acquisition of such property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, upon completion of the building to be constructed thereon, or at such earlier time as the School Board may determine, the School District be authorized to sell property belonging to and not needed by the School District, to wit: the same parcel of land situated at Lot 50 of the Scenic Point Subdivision, in the City of Sun Prairie, Dane County. The School Board shall have the authority to determine the terms and conditions of such sale, and to take all other appropriate action to accomplish the sale of such property.

Motion carried

7.07 Resolutions on District Leases

Motion by Brad Lutes, 1940 Colorado Ave., Sun Prairie, second by Nathan Rosin, 1166 Crossing Ridge Tr., Sun Prairie, that the School Board of the Sun Prairie Area School District be authorized to lease real estate owned by the School District but not presently needed for school purposes, to wit: approximately 57 acres of cropland located at 3559 State Road 19 and situated in the East ½ of Section 2, Town of Burke, Dane County, Wisconsin. The School Board shall have the authority to determine the terms and conditions of such lease, and to subsequently renew any lease and/or re-lease of such real estate for one or more consecutive terms, provided every such lease shall be for a reasonable rental. Motion carried.

**8. Other Business**

Other business as permitted at an annual meeting

A. Khader Abu-Al-Eis, 208 N. Musket Ridge Dr., Sun Prairie, wanted his kids to ride on a bus that goes by their house if space is available. Mary Ellen Havel-Lang, 710 Hanley Dr., Sun Prairie, suggested he fill out a space available form for busing.

B. Motion by Mark Brehmer, 475 Sherbrook Dr., Sun Prairie, second by Denetrice Sercye, 2750 Hazelnut Tr., Sun Prairie, to change busing for grades 6 and 7 from 2 miles to 1.5 miles.

Discussion on motion:

Tom Bernard, 1225 Cardinal Crest Dr., Sun Prairie, asked what the costs would be to move from 2 to 1.5 miles.

Kevin Freeman, 549 N. Heatherstone Dr., Sun Prairie, is in favor of the motion.

Eric Huemoeller, 3058 Saddle Brook Tr., Sun Prairie, commented that if the amendment is approved it will take away from the initiatives that were just supported with the tax levy increase

Tom Bernard, 1225 Cardinal Crest Dr., Sun Prairie asked how many children this will affect. Answer: Not known at this time.

Mike Krachey, 6655 Tartan Tr., Sun Prairie, referred to the minutes from last year.

Brad Lutes, 1940 Colorado Ave., Sun Prairie, asked if this has been discussed with the City of Sun Prairie as to the safety issues, etc. Is it a safe route? Answer: Yes.

Randy Bouzek, 230 Tower Dr., Sun Prairie, stated that we have already voted on the tax levy and now some want to take away some of the money because people can't walk.

Roger Fetterly, 5356 Betlach Rd., Sun Prairie, referred to last year's minutes. Parliamentarian Attorney Mike Julka assured him this was an appropriate discussion and motion for an annual meeting.

Motion failed.

**9. Adjournment**

9.01 Motion to adjourn

Motion at 9:16 p.m. by Tim Culver, 5437 Patriot Dr., Madison, second by Mike Krachey, 6655 Tartan Tr., Sun Prairie, to adjourn. Motion carried.