

**BREMEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2012
Lion's Den—Bremen High School**

Bremen Public Schools Mission Statement

The Bremen Public School community works collaboratively to provide a safe, nurturing environment where students are empowered academically and socially to succeed in life.

I. OPENING OF MEETING

- A. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Stuckman. Those present included: Board members – Jill Hassel, Todd Stuckman, and Frankie Merritt; President Jack Jordan was absent; Superintendent Russ Mikel; staff members and patrons. A prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were offered by Russ Mikel.
- B. A motion was made by Jill Hassel to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2012 Regular Session Board meeting. The motion to approve was then seconded Chuck Klockow; motion carried.
- C. A motion was made by Frankie Merritt to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2012 Executive Session Board meeting. The motion to approve was then seconded Jill Hassel; motion carried.
- D. Chuck Klockow moved to approve claims 1 through 149 as presented. The motion was seconded by Frankie Merritt. Motion carried 4 – 0.
- E. Mr. Mikel presented the General Fund Comparison.
- F. Visitors were welcomed.
- G. There were no patrons with comments concerning the Agenda Items.

II. STAFF REPORTS

- A. Staff Reports—
 - 1. Mr. Larry Yelaska reported to the board that Monday February 6th marks the ISTEP+ Prep Kick-Off, this represents 20 instructional days until the ISTEP+ test window opens on March 5th. During this window the teachers and students will prepare for the high stake assessment and will build excitement in the school/community. The teachers have worked extremely hard in preparing their instructional calendars and assessments, as well as countless hours developing and delivering quality and rigorous lessons. In these last 20 days they will continue to prepare, review and motivate the students to do their best with hallway signs, countdown calendars, test talks, and parent emails and various other activities that will take place during this time. On Friday February 10th, the PTO will sponsor a Family Reading Night for all Kindergarten and 1st grade parents and students,

starting at 6:30 PM with our local guest author, Leann Miller, who will read two of her books to the audiences. The literacy coaches and administration will also provide parents with strategies to use at home to assist their children in becoming more successful readers. Family Reading Nights for grades 2nd thru 5th will take place in the months of March and April. BEMS will host their 2nd annual blood drive with the Red Cross on Saturday February 11th in the middle school gymnasium from 12:30 PM-4:30 PM. Bremen Public Schools attracts many visitors, there are many amazing things happening every day within the walls of BPS, and the word is starting to spread about our success and initiatives. There are going to be several visitors within our buildings during the month of February. On February 8th there will be administrators and teachers from the Wawasee School Corporation visiting Bremen to gather information on our experiences with the Teacher Evaluation Pilot program, this will more than likely be one of many corporations interested in our progress with the McRel evaluation tool. Also on February 15th Bethel College will bring 25 of their Foundations in Education students to spend the day observing in our classrooms. We are honored to have our staff showcase their classroom practices for future educators. Earlier in the year we had a group from Plymouth School Corporation come to discuss and observe our 8 Step Process initiative.

2. Mr. Bruce Jennings informed the board that the early winter End-of-Course Assessments in Algebra I and English 10 occurred for students who needed to re-take the graduation qualifying exams. On January 24th there was an 8th grade orientation held for all incoming Freshmen for the 2012/13 school year. The BHS Guidance Department held a Financial Aid Informational meeting for parents on January 30th. The Elkhart Area Career Center held an Open House on January 29th, and students were invited to a presentation in the Bowen Auditorium by representatives from the EACC on January 25th. There was a Junior class meeting on February 6th to explain the upcoming online COMPASS testing. The next End-of-Course Assessments window will begin Monday February 13th. On Friday February 17th BHS will host a blood drive with the South Bend Medical Foundation in The Lion Den. Mrs. Monesmith's Mass Media class developed and published the 1st Edition of the "Bremen Conservation Club Quarterly Magazine-Winter 2012 Edition." Doug Stanifer, President of the Bremen Conservation Club said, "we are grateful for their assistance and look forward to a long relationship."
3. The HS Special Needs & Student Services Departments reported on the use of technology within their departments.

III. PERSONNEL

1. Resignations –
Chuck Klockow moved to accept the following resignations as presented:
 - 1.1 Tina Halteman—Lunch Assistant
 - 1.2 Chris Pearish—Lunch Assistant
 - 1.3 Kindra Garey—Instructional Assistant
 - 1.4 Nicole Walter—Instructional Assistant
 - 1.5 Kacey Wright—MS Girls Assistant Track CoachJill Hassel seconded motion; motion carried.
2. Transfers – None
3. Reassignments – None
4. Change in Status – None

5. New Contracts –
Frankie Merritt moved to accept the following new contracts as presented:
 - 5.1 Betty Weldy—Lunch Assistant
 - 5.2 Kat Spencer—Lunch AssistantChuck Klockow seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0

Jill Hassel moved to accept the following new contracts as presented:
 - 5.3 Kacey Wright—MS Girls Track Head Coach
 - 5.4 Meredith Scott—MS Girls Track Assistant CoachFrankie Merritt seconded the motion; motion carried.
6. Leave Requests—None
7. Terminations—None
8. Retirement—
Frankie Merritt moved to accept the following new contracts as presented:
 - 8.1 Connie Newcomb—HS English TeacherThe Board would like to recognize Connie for her 41 years of service, 37 at Bremen Public School and 4 at another location.
Chuck Klockow seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0
9. Volunteer's—None

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Policy Waivers
 1. Policy 621—Extracurricular Field Trips
 - 1.1 A motion to waive Policy 621: for the HS Cheerleaders for a trip to Americheer Nationals was made by Jill Hassel, Frankie Merritt seconded the motion; motion carried.
 - 1.2 Chuck Klockow moved to waive Policy 621: for HS DECA Club to attend the State Career Development Conference, Frankie Merritt seconded motion; motion carried 4-0.

Chuck Klockow moved to accept the following Waiver Request as presented:
 - 1.3 Policy 621—HS Key Club to attend the District Convention.
 - 1.4 Policy 621—HS Key Club to attend Leader TrainingJill Hassel seconded the motion; motion carried.
 2. Policy 585—Facility Rental
Jill Hassel moved to accept the following Waiver Request as presented:
 - 2.1 Policy 585—Bremen Electric/Waste Water Treatment Departments
 - 2.2 Policy 585—Bremen Police & Fire DepartmentsChuck Klockow seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0
- B. Mr. Mikel gave a report of the Annual Performance Report of Bremen Public Schools, Bremen High School and Middle/Elem School.
- C. A motion to approve the Transfer Resolution as presented was made by Frankie Merritt, Chuck Klockow seconded the motion; motion carried.

- D. The Board recommended Chuck Klockow to be appointed to the Woodies' Scholarship Selection Committee, Jill Hassel moved to approve this recommendation, Frankie Merritt seconded motion; motion carried 4-0.

VI. OTHER MATTERS THAT CAME BEFORE THE BOARD

- A. Next Board Meeting—Tuesday February 21, 2012 at 7:00 PM
- B. Thank You card from the Holy Walk Board.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. There being no further business, Frankie Merritt moved for adjournment 9:10 PM. Chuck Klockow seconded the motion; motion carried.
- B. Upcoming Board Meetings

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on February 21, 2012.

Jack Jordan, President

Todd Stuckman, Vice President

Jill Hassel, Secretary

Frankie Merritt, Member

Chuck Klockow, Member

BREMEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS CORE VALUES

° MUTUAL RESPECT ° CARING SCHOOL COMMUNITY ° GREAT EXPECTATIONS