

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 36
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2015**

Call to Order

Mr. Jost called the Special Board Meeting of Grass Lake School District #36 to order at 8:03 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Gembara, Mrs. Collins, Mr. Lobodzinski, Mrs. Fogel and Mr. Jost

Absent: Mrs. Caya and Mrs. Rietschel

Also Present: Terry O'Brien, Superintendent
Mary Capek, Administrative Assistant

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Jost led the Board and visitors in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion of Referendum

Dr. O'Brien and Mr. Jost discussed with the Board that BLDD Architects, PMA and Legal representation guided them to not go forward with the referendum on a 4-3 Board vote for the resolution. The Steering Committee directed the pricing for BLDD to go the route of a new school for 300 students.

Mrs. Rietschel entered the meeting at 8:06 a.m. Also, Mrs. Caya called in to the meeting via speakerphone.

Further discussion took place regarding the following:

- Mrs. Fogel – no discussion with the Board regarding the smaller square footage First time as a Board seeing the BLDD proposal for a new school to house 200 students.
- Mr. Lobodzinski – thought there should be a subcommittee back to the Board to talk about reducing the size of the school.
- Mr. Jost – Highlighted that every child has a certain amount of square footage planned for and does this fit the needs of the new school?

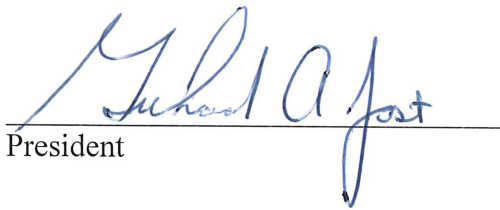
- Did we ask Tim McGraff for a conceptual drawing? Board requested a sheet showing the revised square footage for a new school with capacity of 200 students.
- Mrs. Caya via phone asked the purpose of this meeting and what are we trying to accomplish.
- Mr. Jost presented that the purpose of the meeting is to come to an understanding and agreement as a Board to the direction of the new facility. Discussion took place regarding the money needed for the new facility and how we can only take a portion of the money or not take the money at all if the referendum passed. Mr. Jost explained the history of previous referendums and building bonds from 1989 to 2015.
- Mrs. Caya asked about projected growth rate of the population at the school. Discussion took place about the declining of enrollment at the school.
- Mr. Gembara did not agree with building a school for 300 students. He did not believe that the enrollment would jump 20%.
- Mrs. Fogel requested a breakdown of the spending dollars for the new school. This needs to be shown to the community and as a Board we need to be able to answer specific questions. We need more positive voices and let's bring it to the community to see how they feel about the referendum.
- Mrs. Caya expressed that even though the referendum being on the ballot would stir public interest, she is not in a big hurry. Further discussion took place regarding the need for a possible Special Meeting on Tuesday night, January 27th (min. 48 hours public notice) if the Board was looking to change their decision made at the Tuesday, January 20th Regular Board Meeting to go forward with the referendum.
- Mrs. Collins talked about her preference being an advisory question on the ballot versus an approval for the referendum. Mrs. Fogel and Mr. Jost expressed their opinion of wanting a new school built. Discussion took place regarding the need for BLDD to show the facts on a sheet more understandable by the community. The Board asked Dr. O'Brien to have BLDD prepare a real feel drawing showing the exact square footage. Discussion took place regarding the drawing and the additional cost for this request.
- Mrs. Caya again reiterated that she is not comfortable moving forward and that the Board needs to have the facts together so that when the community asks questions we have the answers.
- Further discussion took place regarding the referendum and there was no need for a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 27th.

Adjournment

At 9:30 a.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Fogel and seconded by Mrs. Collins to adjourn the open meeting.

Motion was carried by roll call vote:

Ayes:	7	Mr. Gembara, Mrs. Caya (via phone), Mrs. Collins, Mr. Lobodzinski, Mrs. Rietschel, Mrs. Fogel and Mr. Jost
Nays:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Absent:	0	



President



Secretary