By Amy Straub

The Wauneta Breeze

The change may only be one word, but that one word defines how staff members feel working towards their goals of teaching students to be better prepared for the rest of their lives. Instead of “learn the knowledge” the new mission statement will say “gain the knowledge” which ultimately is what the staff wants them to do. If they just learn the knowledge needed at the time they don’t always retain it for life. If they gain the knowledge then it stays with them so they can use it later.

Also discussed were the goals for reading and writing the staff wrote as part of their Continuous Improvement Process. One of the goals for writing is that all students will improve writing skills in all content areas. Strategies to be used include implementing the “Write Tools” in all grades, to provide “Write Tools,” training for all teaching staff, and to research core Language Arts programs that align to the state standards with intentions of adopting. The reading goal is that all students will increase reading skills in all content areas. Strategies to achieve this are the selection of a core reading program that meets the needs of the student population, to use differentiated teaching techniques, and implement a Title 1 school-wide program.

Other topics discussed were that the building and grounds committee has interviewed two representatives, one from Siemens and the other from Trane. The committee will report their recommendations for the next steps in developing short and long term plans for improvements to the building’s heating and air conditioning units.

The board voted to appoint an ad hoc committee to review board policy 5103, which would ultimately decide if drug and alcohol counselling is an option for the district or not.

Passed by the board was the second reading approval of amendment to board policy 5001, which changes the age for admission to kindergarten to being 5 on or before Oct. 15 to be 5 on or before July 31.

The board also passed a revision to the official 2011-12 school calander which will make March 13, 2012, a regular full day of school for students and staff and on March 19, 2012 there will be no school for students.

Approved was the sale of surplus items such as helmets and sideline jackets. Anyone wanting memorbilia from high school is encouraged to check these items out. Helmets will be sold for $10 and jackets for $5.

The board agreed to support the purchase of a new suburban to replace one of the big vans which will not be legal to haul students in the near future.

Mr. Holmberg also reported that the NSA had the HS enrollment listed much higher then the actual 42 students enrolled at Wauneta - Palisade. Holmberg stated that the NSA has made the necessary corrections. Holmberg also reported that there are now 14 schools with six man football teams including the Wauneta - Palisade team. This is a little lower number then expected due to increased enrollment at a couple of schools in Nebraska.

The Nov. 26 Jamboree held in Wauneta netted a total of $230 for the NSAA Hall of Fame.

The next scheduled school board meeting is slated for Monday, Jan. 9 at 7:00 p.m. MT /8:00 p.m. CT at the Wauneta Attendance Center.