



COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Regular Meeting

November 23, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, Community School District, Fort Dodge, Iowa, was called to order by President Cochrane at 6:05 PM in the Library in Cooper Elementary.

Members present : Mr. Cochrane, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Kent, Ms. Shimkat, and Mr. Wagner.

Members absent : Ms. Tracy and Mr. Springer.

Others present : Superintendent Van Zyl, Assistant Superintendent/Board Secretary Hughes, Director of Financial Services Hansel, Director of Athletics and Activities Elsbecker, Director of Communications Lane, Director of Education Services Cole, Principal Hartley, one mass media representative, and 18 other interested parties.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Kent, seconded by Wagner, to approve the Board agenda as presented. All five present voting aye, no nays, two absent, motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Wagner, seconded by Forsythe, to approve the following consent agenda items: 3.1) approval of the minutes from the November 9, 2015 Regular Meeting and the November 16, 2015 Special Meeting; 3.2) approval of personnel; 3.3) approval of open enrollment requests from Debra Sorenson, for Jordan Owen (requests open enrollment from the Fort Dodge Community School District to the Prairie Valley Community School District for the 2015-2016 school year); from Seth and Cara Bockes, for Jake Bockes and Nora Bockes (requests open enrollment from the South Calhoun Community Schools to the Fort Dodge Community Schools for the 2015-2016 school year), and denied Jeff Sanford and Wanda Hoover for Jadan Sanford (requests open enrollment from the Fort Dodge Community Schools to the Manson Northwest Webster Community Schools for the 2015-2016 school year); 3.4) approval of contracts with Cedar Falls Community School District, Humboldt Community School District, Independence Community School District, Woodward Granger Community School District, Little Lambs Preschool, Saint Edmond's Preschool, Dodger Preschool, Community Christian School District, Prince of Peace Preschool, Mason City Community School District, and Allers Associates Architects, PC, of Fort Dodge, Iowa; 3.5) approval of the FCCLA fundraiser; and 3.6) allowed for the payment of the attached listing of bills from the general, management, physical plant equipment, capital projects, activity, and nutrition funds. All five present voting aye, no nays, two absent, motion carried.

Communications/Announcements

Comments from the public: Parent Wanda Hoover expressed concerns about transportation issues.

Recognition/Awards

President Cochrane called on Athletic and Activities Director Elsbecker to assist with recognition of the 2015 fall band, choir, and drama activities.

Senior High Music Instructor Al Paulson recognized Hankel Haldin, Annie Laird, and Brandon Lee in Drum Major Roles, Natalie Cravens as the Percussion Section Leader, Ali Paulson as the Saxophone Leader, and Amber Harrison and Mackenzie Oberhelman for Color Guard.

Vocal Music Instructors Matt Drees and Kimberly Wankum introduced All-State participants: Hannah Amhof, Bekah Henkelman, Lucas Durand, Dartagnan Dohrn, Nick Sanford, and Andrea Blocker.

Drama Instructor Lindey Krug presented the seniors who participated in the 2015 Fall play "Emma": Hankel Haldin, Rebekah Henkelman, Carlie Shing-Hon, Taylor Bratland, Rhiannon Peterson, Mila King, and Michaela Schnetter.

Action Items/Presentations/Discussions

President Cochrane introduced Copper Principal Bruce Hartley to welcome teachers Jeanna Gronbach, Brenda Angstrom, and Lindsay Schreff. The teachers shared their process of using a website to help manage their class behavior and learning strategies. This class communication webpage is set up with many features for teachers, parents, and students. Parents and teachers can communicate through the instant messaging feature and check into their children's class. The teachers highlighted a point system that has been successful in building positive attitudes and establishing appropriate behaviors.

Dr. Van Zyl described the use of the architecture group ISG, Inc. of Mankato, Minnesota, for the building of the new Duncombe Elementary building. The AIA Document B101-2007 Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and ISG, Inc. was reviewed by legal counsel and accepted. All five present voting aye, no nays, two absent, motion carried

Director of Financial Services Hansel presented the monthly financial reports for September 30, 2015 through October 31, 2015. All five present voting aye, no nays, two absent, motion carried.

Communications/Updates

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Van Zyl shared information about the following: (1) acknowledged and offered the District's perspective on transportation concerns; 2) petitions are being circulated for signatures to approve the bond language; 3) professional development for the teaching staff on November 23 and 24, 2015 will focus on cooperative learning; and 4) review of the Iowa Association of School Boards Convention that the Board attended on November 18 and 19, 2015.

Board Update and Committee Reports:Board Committees:

Health and Safety/Policy: No report.

Long Range Planning/Finance: No report.

Capital Projects: No report.

Negotiations: No report.

Communications: No report.

Board Representation on a Committee:

Foundation: Next meeting will be held on November 30, 2015.

Comprehensive School Improvement/Equity: Attended a presentation on Growth Mindset by Trevor Ragan on November 19, 2015. Members commented on the effectiveness and importance of the material.

Adjournment

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Wagner, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. All five present voting aye, no nays, two absent, motion carried.

Robert L. Hughes
Board Secretary

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER