



COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Special Meeting

July 16, 2012

The Special Meeting of the Board of Directors, Community School District, Fort Dodge, Iowa, was called to order by President Cochrane at 3:10 p.m. in the Board Office, with Secretary Hughes present.

Members present : Mr. Cochrane, Mr. Forsythe (arrived at 6:12 p.m.),
Mr. Kent, Mrs. Merz, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Rogers,
Mr. Wagner.

Members absent : None.

Others present : Superintendent Van Zyl and Director of Financial
Services Hansel.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Kent, seconded by Rogers, to approve the board agenda as presented. All voting aye, motion carried.

Presentations/Discussions

President Cochrane called on Superintendent Van Zyl, who introduced Brandon Hansel, Director of Financial Services, who gave a presentation on the budget. Mr. Hansel discussed his financial management philosophy and observations related to the Fort Dodge Community School District. A variety of financial ratios and metric measurements were shared, evidencing past trends, current situations, and potential projections for the future. Timelines and the necessity for renewal of levies were shared. During and following the discussion, board members asked questions and made comments about the information presented.

Superintendent Van Zyl gave a presentation on facilities, with special emphasis on the new middle school project and the needs at the Senior High School building. Discussion was also held related to the stadium, elementary buildings, and maintenance of buildings and grounds in general. The Long Term Strategic Planning Committee has and will continue to offer recommendations. A strategic plan (including a timeline) will be defined.

The subject of Communications was highlighted by Superintendent Van Zyl as a District priority. Student survey results from the 2011 – 2012 school year were shared, and the Board carried out data analysis activities. Parent involvement and communications continue to be areas of emphasis.

The Board then reviewed the Mission, Vision, and Goal statements. Expectations and values were discussed. The Board would like administrative review and community input through a focused committee. School improvement committee alignment and delineated representation on a District advisory committee are priorities to offer efficiency and effectiveness. The Board asked questions and offered input related to goals and expectations.

President Cochrane called for further business, and there being none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Merz, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Robert L. Hughes
Board Secretary