



**COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT DODGE, IOWA**  
**MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

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Regular Meeting

July 9, 2012

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, Community School District, Fort Dodge, Iowa, was called to order by President Cochrane at 5:45 p.m. in the Board Office.

Members present : Mr. Cochrane, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Kent, Mrs. Merz,  
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Wagner.

Members absent : None.

Others present : Assistant Superintendent/Director of Human Resources  
Hughes, Director of Financial Services Hansel, Director  
of Curriculum & Instruction Wood, Director of Special  
Needs and Riverside Early Childhood Principal Ristau,  
Supervisor of Information Technology Pearson, Senior  
High School Principal Keane, Senior High School  
Assistant Principal Birnbaum, Buildings & Grounds  
Director Filloon, Owner Construction Site Manager  
Albrecht, a mass media representative, and other  
interested parties.

Call to Order

President Cochrane announced the election of Robert L. Hughes as Board Secretary for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. On a roll call vote, the following voting aye: Cochrane, Forsythe, Kent, Merz, Peterson, Rogers, and Wagner. Voting nay: none. Motion carried. President Cochrane then administered the attached oath of office to Mr. Hughes.

President Cochrane announced the election of Brandon C. Hansel as Board Treasurer for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. On a roll call vote, the following voting aye: Forsythe, Kent, Merz, Peterson, Rogers, Wagner, and Cochrane. Voting nay: none. Motion carried. President Cochrane then administered the attached oath of office to Mr. Hansel.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Closed Session

President Cochrane announced that the board would be going into closed session under Chapter 21.5(1)c of the Code of Iowa "to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation." On a roll call vote, the following voting aye: Cochrane, Forsythe, Kent, Merz, Peterson, Rogers, and Wagner. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Time In : 5:51 p.m.  
Time Out : 6:08 p.m.  
Subject : Discussion on Severance Issue.

President Cochrane returned the meeting to open session at 6:08 p.m. and called for further business.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Wagner, to approve the following consent agenda items: 4.1) approval of the minutes of the June 25, 2012, regular meeting; 4.2) personnel; 4.3) (there were no open enrollment applications to approve); and 4.4) approve the Senior High Cross Country team fundraiser request. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Communications

Comments from the public: (there were no comments from the public).

Shane Albrecht, the district's owner construction representative, offered an update on the New Middle School Project.

Action Items/Presentations/Discussions

President Cochrane called on Special Education Director Lis Ristau, who presented on the renewal of the GRLS Program contract. Moved by Merz, seconded by Forsythe, to renew the contract for the period July 1, 2012, through July 1, 2013. All present voting aye, motion carried. A copy of said contract is attached to and becomes a part of these minutes.

President Cochrane called on Special Education Director Lis Ristau, who presented on the renewal of the Youth Shelter Day Treatment Center contract. It was discussed that negotiations are continuing to take place related to contract; therefore, the board was asked to table the contract until all issues are resolved.

Moved by Rogers, seconded by Peterson, to approve the board policy revisions for the following board policies. All present voting aye, motion carried.

- 401.1 – Substitute Teachers – Certified
- 401.2 – Nepotism
- 402.3 – Student Teachers – Certified
- 401.4 – Licensed Employee Individual Contracts
- 401.5 – Licensed Employee Probationary Status
- 401.6 – Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts
- 401.7 – Licensed Employee Publication or Creation of Materials
- 402.1 – Classified Employee Dismissal
- 402.2 – Classified Employee Wage and Overtime Compensation
- 402.3 – Compensation for Extra Duty
- 403 – Public Employers Rights
- 404 – Teacher Associates
- 405 – Use of Copyrighted Materials
- 406 – Employee Injury on the Job
- 407 – All Employees: Leave Without Pay
- 408 – Professional Support Employees

President Cochrane called on Assistant Superintendent Robert Hughes to discuss the 2012 – 2013 Calendar. Moved by Merz, seconded by Rogers, that the April 8, 2013, Professional Day be revised to be maintained as a full contact day of school and, students will attend school on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. All present voting aye, motion carried.

President Cochrane called on Supervisor of Technology Jeremy Pearson, who presented a request to accept the proposal from Vital Support Systems for purchase of a switch and network supports. Discussion followed. Moved by Kent, seconded by Peterson, that the board accept Mr. Pearson's recommendation to accept the quotation (copy attached) from Vital Support Systems in the amount of \$67,776.56 for a new switch and network supports. All present voting aye, motion carried.

#### Communications/Updates

Superintendent's Update — Superintendent Van Zyl updated the board on the following: 1) staffing update in hiring process reviewed; 2) recognition was offered for baseball and softball teams' success in making state tournament play; 3) acknowledgement of technology grant reception; 4) registration is currently in place for the 2012–2013 school year; 5) the Central Administrative Office building will be closed Friday, July 13, 2012, and administration and staff will be working in different locations on that day or compensate work time throughout pay period; 6) discussion was held on Senior High swimming pool maintenance; and 7) alternative funding sources are being sought for additional elective classes at Fort Dodge Senior High.

Board Update and Committee Reports:

#### Board Committees:

Health and Safety/Policy: no report.

Long Range Planning/Finance: met on July 9, 2012, and discussed various facility issues.

Capital Projects: no report.

Negotiations: no report.

#### Board Representation on a Committee:

Foundation: met on July 9, 2012.

Comprehensive School Improvement: no report.

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Advisory Committee: no report.

At 6:34 p.m. the board returned to closed session under Chapter 21.5(1)c of the Code of Iowa "to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation." The board returned to open session at 6:50 p.m.

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

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Wagner, to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Robert L. Hughes  
Board Secretary