



COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Regular Meeting

October 26, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, Community School District, Fort Dodge, Iowa, was called to order by President Cochrane at 6:00 PM in the Art Room at Duncombe Elementary.

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

Members absent : None.

Others present Superintendent Van Zyl, Assistant Superintendent/Board Secretary Hughes, Director of Financial Services Hansel, one mass media representative, and 23 other interested parties.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Shimkat, seconded by Forsythe, to approve the Board agenda as presented. All seven present voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Shimkat, to approve the following consent agenda items: 3.1) approval of the minutes from the October 12th, 2015 Regular Meeting; 3.2) approval of personnel; 3.3) approval of the open enrollment requests from Freddi and Kate Cadenas, for Celia Cadenas, Ellie Cadenas, Emma Cadenas, and Travis Cadenas (requests open enrollment from the Eagle Grove Community Schools to the Fort Dodge Community Schools for the 2015-2016 school year); and denied Tina Andrade for David Ramos (requests open enrollment from the Fort Dodge Community Schools to the Southeast Webster Grand Community Schools for the 2015-2016 school year) 3.4) approval of contracts with Dubuque Community School District, Iowa Falls Community School District, Mason City Community School District, College Community School District, and Cherokee Community School District; 3.5) approval of out of state travel requests for the Professional Learning Community Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, on November 4-6, 2015; 3.6) approval of fundraisers; 3.7) allow for the payment of bills; and 3.8) approval of the architect's agreement for pre-referendum services. All seven present voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Communications/Announcements

None.

Recognition/Awards

None.

Action Items/Presentations/Discussions

Principal Reding introduced five reading staff members to share an introduction of the Jan Richardson Model of Guided Reading. Staff members included Duncombe Teachers: Trish Dorn, Janice Peterson, Kirstie Ron, Theresa Decoursey, and Susan Kane. The guided reading model has maximized literacy time in a collaborative space in Duncombe Elementary. A video of students involved in the program was shared. Board Members asked questions and offered appreciation to the teachers.

Moved by Wagner, seconded by Springer, to approve a fundraiser to support Civitan International Research Center for Rett Syndrome research. High School students, Hankel Haldin and Jennifer Curtis, offered proposal and informative presentation. All seven present voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Moved by Shimkat, seconded by Tracy, to approve the Early Retirement Incentive. The early retirement offering is \$1000, and the amount of the individual's severance will be paid into a non-elective 403(b) account. The District would pay the initial incentive, payable to the employee upon board approval of resignation and acceptance of the Early Retirement Package prior to December 11, 2015. All seven present voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Moved by Wagner, seconded by Kent, to approve the Fall 2015 SBRC Application for Increasing Enrollment, Open Enrollment Out for \$234,269, and LEP Instruction Beyond 5 Years for \$15,665. Director of Financial Services Brandon Hansel presented information about the application. All seven present voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Wagner, to accept the monthly financial reports for August 31, 2015 through September 30, 2015. All seven present voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Superintendent Van Zyl introduced and reviewed the community-wide facility plan forums. A timeline for a potential February 2016 Bond election was reviewed. Board Members shared in discussion on the timeline and general parameters of the plan. Feedback from the public forums was shared along with the history of the district's tax status.

Communications/Updates

Superintendent's Update: Dr. Van Zyl shared information about the following: (1) student enrollment has remained stable; (2) a biannual report was offered by CBIZ, Inc., reviewing insurance policies and current status on Thursday, October 15, 2015; (3) communication contact requirements of the Board members were reviewed; (4) fall school activities were highlighted; (5) a status report on Fort Dodge Senior High operations was shared; and (6) Board members asked questions and shared in discussion regarding future facility planning work sessions.

Board Update and Committee Reports:Board Committees:

Health and Safety/Policy: Next meeting will be held in November.

Long Range Planning/Finance: Met October 26, 2015 to discuss the Bond Issue timeline.

Capital Projects: Next meeting will be held October 27, 2015.

Negotiations: No report.

Communications: No report.

Board Representation on a Committee:

Foundation: Next fall meeting will be held in November.

Comprehensive School Improvement/Equity: Next meeting will be held on November 19, 2015. A presentation on the Gear Up Grant will be shared.

Adjournment

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Wagner to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 PM. All seven present voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Robert L. Hughes
Board Secretary

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER