



COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Regular Meeting

November 12, 2012

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, Community School District, Fort Dodge, Iowa, was called to order by President Cochrane at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Office.

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

Members absent : Mrs. Merz.

Others present : Assistant Superintendent/Director of Human Resources/ Board Secretary Hughes, Director of Financial Services Hansel, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Wood, Technology Director Pearson, Director of Buildings and Grounds Filloon, Owner Construction Representative Albrecht, Student Services Director Harms, Communications Director Lane, Fort Dodge Senior High School Principal Keane, Athletic Director Kinseth, two mass media representatives, and thirty-two other interested parties.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Wagner, to approve the following consent agenda items: 3.1) approval of the minutes of the October 22, 2012, regular meeting and the November 5, 2012, special meeting; 3.2) approval of personnel; 3.3) approval of the open enrollment requests from Breanna McCray-Cass for Hero Wilson-McCray to attend the Webster City Community School District for the 2012-2013 school year, from Breanna McCray-Cass for Jason McCray to attend the Webster City Community School District for the 2012-2013 school year, from Mike Willer for Cassandra Willer to attend the Webster City Community School District for the 2012-2013 school year, and from Mike Willer for Taylor Willer to attend the Webster City Community School District for the 2012-2013 school year; 3.4) approval of fundraisers to be conducted by the Fort Dodge Senior High boys' swim team, boys' basketball team, girls' basketball team, and the wrestling team. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Communications

No comments from the public were offered.

Superintendent Van Zyl called on Owner Construction Representative Albrecht to share progress on the new middle school project.

Recognition/Awards

President Cochrane called on Athletic/Activities Director Kinseth to recognize Bella Chou, a junior at Senior High School, for All-State Band. Fort Dodge Senior High Band Instructor Mike Richardson offered recognition for this honor.

Mr. Kinseth introduced Fort Dodge Senior High Choral Instructor Joe Svendsen, who recognized Senior High School students for All-State Choir. Eleven students will participate in All-State Choir activities.

Mr. Kinseth acknowledged the success of the 2012 State Cross Country Meet that was held at Kennedy Park in Fort Dodge. A contract has been signed to host the event for the next three years. Cross Country Coaches Tim Hanson and Karine Feddersen recognized Senior High School Student Alex Jackson as a Cross Country State Qualifier.

Fort Dodge Senior High Football Coach Matt Miller recognized the Fort Dodge Senior High School football players as State Play-off Qualifiers. Two of the student football captains, Austin Anderson and Tommy Halligan, were present to receive the certificate from Board President Stu Cochrane.

KC Williams and Juli Springer, Cheerleader Coaches, recognized forty-four Senior High School students for State Cheerleader participation, team and individual honors. The cheerleaders were State Champions. Four of the cheerleaders earned a place on the elite cheer squad.

Action Items/Presentations/Discussions

Moved by Kent, seconded by Wagner, to approve performance-based commissioning services from SystemWorks LLC, for the fee of \$34,600. Services will include Construction Phase, Functional Testing, Systems to be Commissioned, and Warranty Phase Scopes. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Superintendent Van Zyl introduced Student Services Director Harms, who shared an overview of the student services staff, funding sources, and brief descriptions of responsibilities. Board members asked questions following the presentation.

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Kent, to approve initiation of an early retirement offering to all employee groups of the Fort Dodge Community school District. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Kent, to approve the compensation form of early retirement offering; administrators would receive a tax sheltered annuity, and all other employee groups would receive a health insurance plan account contribution. All ayes, no nays, motion carried.

Superintendent Van Zyl offered an explanation of board policies 503.3, Wellness Policy, and 800.14, Tobacco Free Environment. This was the first reading of these policy revisions.

Moved by Kent, seconded by Rogers, to approve the purchase of three server hosts and supporting equipment as part of a server virtualization project. The total cost of the technology investment is \$147,904.23. The equipment will be secured from Vital Support Systems of the Western States Contracting Alliance, of which the State of Iowa is a member. All voting aye, motion carried.

Moved by Wagner, seconded by Peterson, to approve the attached "Fall 2012 SBRC Application for Increasing Enrollment, Open Enrollment Out, and LEP Instruction Beyond 4 Years" request for modified allowable growth and supplementary aid with the School Budget Review Committee. The amount of the request is \$347,213. All present voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Communications/Updates

No comments from the public were offered.

Superintendent's Update: 1) welcomed and introduced Joe McCarthy of Three Eagles Communication; 2) highlighted the FDSH presentation for the Urban Educational Network Banquet on Wednesday, November 14, 2012, in Des Moines, Iowa; 3) the District is celebrating American Education Week, November 11-15, 2012; 4) the FDSH Leadership class was commended for conducting an American Red Cross Storm Sandy fundraiser; 5) Dr. Van Zyl and Assistant Superintendent Hughes will be hosting "Coffee Conversations" to increase opportunities for communications; 6) the community has offered support and partnership in implementing the "Rachel's Challenge" positive behavior initiative; 7) the first quarter at the elementary and middle schools along with the first trimester for FDSH comes to an end; and 8) processes, preparation, and awareness of winter weather dismissal or shortened school days were discussed.

Board Update and Committee Reports:

Board Committees:

Health and Safety/Policy: to meet November 20, 2012.

Long Range Planning/Finance: met on November 11, 2012, to discuss early retirement issues.

Capital Projects: meeting to be held November 16, 2012.

Negotiations: processes will begin in mid-December.

Communications: meeting to be set up.

Board Representation on a Committee:

Foundation: the fundraiser was a success, and projects are being funded.

Comprehensive School Improvement: next meeting will be in April, 2013

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Advisory Committee: a meeting was held on November 5, 2012; Committee had good attendance; Smarter Balance assessments were shared; assessments will be administered 2014-2015.

At 8:05 p.m. the board entered into an exempt session under Code of Iowa Chapter 20.17 (3) to discuss negotiation strategy with organized bargaining units. They returned to open session at 9:04 p.m.

Moved by Rogers, seconded by Peterson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Robert L. Hughes
Board Secretary