



COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Regular Meeting

April 1, 2013

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 Room.

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

Members absent : None.

Others present : Superintendent Van Zyl, Assistant Superintendent/ Director of Human Resources/Board Secretary Hughes, Director of Financial Services Hansel, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Wood, Director of Buildings and Grounds Filloon, Owner Construction Representative Albrecht, Communications Director Lane, Fort Dodge Senior High School Principal Keane, Fort Dodge Senior High School Assistant Principal Astor, TAHER Food Service Director Brenda Janssen, two mass media representatives, and nineteen other interested parties.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Peterson, to approve the board agenda as presented. Seven voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Consent Agenda

President Cochrane acknowledged concern from board members related to agenda item 3.2, open enrollment requests, that included transportation. This item was pulled from the consent agenda to offer the Board the opportunity to discuss and vote separately on the item.

Moved by Merz, seconded by Peterson, to approve the following consent agenda items: 3.1) approval of personnel; 3.3) approval of fundraisers to be conducted by the Fort Dodge Senior High Band and Orchestra Boosters and the Fort Dodge Senior High Understanding Social Systems class. Seven voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Moved by Rogers, seconded by Merz, to approve agenda item 3.2, the open enrollment requests, without transportation obligations. Families requesting transportation from Fort Dodge Community School District will need to find their own means to commute to the schools at which they intend to open enroll. Approval of open enrollment requests (without Fort Dodge Community School District transportation): from Sarah J. Brandrup for Taylor Brandrup, to the Manson Northwest Webster Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; from Sarah Brandrup for Rian Wisthoff, to the Manson Northwest Webster Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; from Mindy Cardenas for A.J. Cardenas, to the Manson Northwest Webster Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; from Mindy Cardenas for Keegan Pritchard, to the Manson Northwest Webster School for the 2013-2014 school year; from Mindy Cardenas for Shatasha Pritchard, to the Manson Northwest Webster Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; from Sarah Craven for Chase

Craven, to the Humboldt Community Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; from Katie and Scott Underberg for Makayla McMannus, to the Humboldt Community Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; from Katie and Scott Underberg for Alivia Underberg, to the Humboldt Community Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; from Sarah Pate for Brady Pate, to the Humboldt Community Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; from Heidi and Josh Smith for Sawyer Smith, to the Humboldt Community Schools for the 2013-2014 school year; and from Shannon Sorenson for Ethan Sorenson, to the Manson Northwest Webster Schools for the 2013-2014 school year. Seven voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Communications

Comments from the public: Butler School Librarian Jan Krass offered her perspectives on potential staff reductions and the importance of library and media skills.

Parent Jim Seward shared his concern for potential reductions in the area of nursing staff members.

Nurses K.C. Williams and Lisa Hall offered their insights and thoughts related to potential reductions in the area of nursing staff members.

Parent Candice Ott offered her support and appreciation for the nursing services her children receive at the Fort Dodge Community Schools. She also stressed her concern for potential reductions in nursing staff.

Shane Albrecht offered an update on the New Middle School Project.

Public Hearings

President Cochrane called on Director of Finance Hansel to share an overview of the proposed budget and tax levy rates for the 2013-2014 school year. Public input and comment were sought. No comments were offered by the public.

Action Items/Presentations/Discussions

Moved by Wagner, seconded by Kent, to approve the 2013-2014 Certified Budget. Seven voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Moved by Rogers, seconded by Wagner, to accept the Milan C. Macek Scholarship. Seven voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Moved by Wagner, seconded by Forsythe, to approve the district to solicit bids for an irrigation system for the new middle school football field. Seven voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

President Cochrane called on Superintendent Van Zyl to introduce TAHER Food Service representatives Brenda Janssen and Jayme Sundby. The representatives offered a presentation on the Fort Dodge Community School District food service. Board members asked questions and shared in discussions related to the update.

Moved by Wagner, seconded by Merz, to accept the recommendations for budget reductions, excluding the nurse reduction. Three voting aye, four voting nay, motion failed.

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Rogers, to accept the recommendations as proposed by the administration. Seven voting aye, no nays, motion carried.

Communications/Updates

Superintendent's Update: (1) Superintendent Van Zyl welcomed everyone back from spring break; (2) Dr. Van Zyl extended his congratulations to Fort Dodge Senior High School Principal Keane on his nomination for Secondary Principal of the Year; (3) the 2013–2014 school calendar will be completed soon and presented to the Board of Education for their approval; and (4) next Board of Education meeting will be April 8, 2013.

Board Update and Committee Reports:Board Committees:

Health and Safety/Policy: will be meeting April 2, 2013.

Long Range Planning/Finance: met on March 27, 2013, to discuss insurance issues.

Capital Projects: to meet – no report.

Negotiations: settled with teachers and have a meeting with TABU on April 11, 2013.

Communications: scheduled to meet on April 11, 2013.

Board Representation on a Committee:

Foundation: a meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2013; will be reviewing more foundation requests and better defining mission and commitments for support.

Comprehensive School Improvement: the next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2013.

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Advisory Committee: the next meeting is scheduled for April, 2013.

Moved by Forsythe, seconded by Wagner, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Robert L. Hughes
Board Secretary