



COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Regular Meeting

April 8, 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 (arrived at 6:05 p.m.), Mr. Kent, Mrs. Merz, Mrs. 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, a mass media representative, and three other interested parties.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

Moved by Kent, seconded by Merz, to approve the following consent agenda items: 3.1) approval of the minutes of the March 13, 2013, and the April 1, 2013, regular meetings and the March 18, 2013, April 1, 2013 (5:30 p.m.), and April 1, 2013 (7:00 p.m.) special meetings; 3.2) allow payment of the attached listing of bills from the general, management, physical plant and equipment, capital projects, activity, and nutrition funds; 3.3) approval of personnel; and 3.4) approval of open enrollment requests: from Gary Young and Jennifer Brennan for Ashlynn Young and Logan Young, requesting open enrollment from Manson North Webster for the 2012-2013 school year. All present voting aye, one absent, motion carried.

Communications

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

Steve Bennett of CSI offered an update on the New Middle School Project.

(Board Member Brian Forsythe enters meeting at 6:05 p.m.)

Action Items/Presentations/Discussions

Moved by Merz, seconded by Forsythe, to approve the continuation of the agreement with School Specialty Supply Company for purchase of school supplies and equipment. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Moved by Merz, seconded by Kent, to approve the attached list of 2013-2014 student fees. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Superintendent Van Zyl requested that discussion and approval of the 2013-2014 school calendar be tabled until a future board meeting.

President Cochrane acknowledged the first reading of the following board policies:

- 201.2 Legal Status of the Board
- 201.3 General Powers and Responsibilities
- 201.4 Elections
- 201.5 Membership Qualifications
- 201.6 Board Vacancies
- 201.7 Oath of Office
- 202.1 Code of Ethics
- 202.2 President
- 202.3 Vice President
- 202.4 Secretary/Director of Financial Services
- 202.6 Individual Board Members
- 202.7 Board-Superintendent Relationship

Communications/Updates

Superintendent's Update: (1) acknowledged progress at the new middle school and offered a clarification regarding authority on this project, namely, that RDG operates under the direction of the school district; (2) many events and recognition ceremonies occurring at the high school level were shared; (3) concern has been offered related to maintaining an administrative presence in each of the school buildings--an administrative assistant is being sought to be partnered with a lead elementary principal; (4) early retirements offered some cost savings, and considerations are being made related to educational priorities; (5) an update was offered related to legislative activity and politics; (6) required limitation of number of school days following graduation has necessitated additional review and alteration of the proposed school calendar. The proposed school calendar will be presented at the April 22, 2013, board of education meeting.

Board Update and Committee Reports:

Board Committees:

Health and Safety/Policy: scheduled to meet on April 17, 2013, regarding preparation and discussion of proposed policies.

Long Range Planning/Finance: met on April 8, 2013.

Capital Projects: scheduled to meet on April 11, 2013.

Communications: the next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11, 2013.

Negotiations: an exempt session will be held at the end of tonight's regular school board meeting.

Board Representation on a Committee:

Foundation: no new report.

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

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Advisory Committee: the next meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2013.

Exempt Session:

At 6:24 p.m. the Board entered into exempt session under Code of Iowa Chapter 20.17(3) to discuss negotiations strategy with organized bargaining units. The board returned to open session at 6:58 p.m.

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

Moved by Rogers, seconded by Peterson, to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. All present voting aye, motion carried.

Robert L. Hughes
Board Secretary