

Attendees - voting members

Kecia Hickman	President
Susan Rensink	Vice President
Mark Brown	Board Member
Glen Goedken	Board Member
Randy Merley	Board Member

I. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

At 6:00 PM, Board President Kecia Hickman called the meeting to order with the following members present: Susan Rensink, Glen Goedken, Randy Merley, Mark Brown and Kecia Hickman.

Superintendent Robin Spears and Board Secretary LaDonn Hartzell were present. Administrators present: Cindy Barwick, Middle School Principal; Matt Meendering, High School Principal; Jason Groendyke, Elementary Principal; Justin Albers, Activities Director.

Members of the Press: Mark Mahoney

Visitors: Marlys Gaston, Donna Kruger, State Auditor's Office; Eric Maassen, Kent De Zeeuw

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Superintendent Spears requested the board add two items for discussion only.

- 1) Board Member Reports--January 13, 2015 IASB District Meeting Highlights
- 2) Superintendent Reports--IAEP Rebate

Agenda was approved with the addition of these discussion items.

Motion made by: Glen Goedken

Motion seconded by: Randy Merley

Voting

Unanimously Approved

III. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Citizens, Organization(s) in Attendance

1. Public Comment

None.

2. Recognition

a. Student

Board members received student recognition lists in their board packets. Administration had no additional students.

b. Presentation - High School

All those present were invited to Mr. Maassen's classroom to hear and participate in a "Plickers" presentation.

B. Correspondence

1. "The Board" Publication

a. The Board, "When Conflict Becomes Personal," Vol. 38, Number 17

b. The Board, "Whose Voice Is Not Being Heard?," Vol. 38, Number 18

2. NW AEA Board Meeting Minutes - December Board Meeting

3. Receipt of "Thank You" Cards

None.

Board President called for a motion to accept all correspondence.

Motion made by: Susan Rensink

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

Voting

Unanimously Approved

C. Board Member Reports

1. IASB District Meeting

Superintendent Spears and board members shared highlights of the IASB District Meeting, held in Sheldon on Tuesday, January 13, 2015. Kecia Hickman, Susan Rensink, Glen Goedken and Mark Brown attended this meeting, along with Superintendent Spears.

Superintendent Spears shared correspondence received from IASB regarding the Governor's School Aid Recommendation for FY16 and FY17. Board members agreed how important it is to contact legislators regarding future supplemental state aid for school districts.

2. Other

Board members discussed procedures for bus breakdowns during winter weather.

Board members also discussed a district-wide surveillance program.

IV. APPROVAL OF:

A. Minutes of Past Meeting(s)

Board members reviewed the minutes of 12.10.13 regular school board meeting.

Motion made by: Mark Brown

Motion seconded by: Susan Rensink

Voting

Unanimously Approved

B. Approve Bills, Bank Reconciliations, Payroll, Financial Reports

Mark Brown reviewed bills, bank statements, payroll, and financial reports for the month.

Motion made by: Mark Brown

Motion seconded by: Randy Merley

Voting

Unanimously Approved

V. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

None.

VI. REPORTS

A. Committee

None.

B. Special

1. FY14 Independent Audit

Marlys Gaston and Donna Kruger, managers with the State Auditor's Office, were present to review the 2013-14 Audit Report. Ms. Gaston reviewed total General Fund expenditures of \$10,811,704 and revenue totaling \$10,531,811 for year ending 06.30.14.

Ms. Gaston reviewed specific financial statements. She also highlighted official comments/findings by the State Auditor's Office, as well as the district responses. She mentioned how GASB 27 will play a part in the FY15 audit, which will require school district audits to reflect additional pension/IPERS liabilities.

Ms. Gaston referred to a conflict of interest, in accordance with Chapter 279.7A of the Code of Iowa in regard to board member, Susan Rensink and the fact that the district has entered into a contract with Perspective Insurance for property and liability insurance. She also referred to the district response that there will be an attempt to do competitive bidding in the future.

The audit managers were available for questions and commented the transition to Grant Wood software made the audit go more smoothly.

C. Administration

1. Elementary School Principal

Jason Groendyke, Elementary Principal provided a written report for board members, and was available for questions.

2. Middle School Principal

Cindy Barwick, Middle School Principal, provided a written report for board members, reviewed the Critical Skills Summary for "Tutorial Time" and was available for questions.

3. High School Principal

Matt Meendering, High School Principal presented a written report for board members and highlighted activities covered during "Intervention Time" since students do not need the intervention this early in the semester. Students have heard specific presentations about college readiness, respect and other positive topics. Mr. Meendering was available for questions.

4. Activities Director

Justin Albers, Activities Director provided a written report for board members, and was available for questions.

5. Superintendent

a. East Elementary Building/Renovation Project Update

Superintendent Spears updated the board on the Elementary building project. Heating and cooling issues are being addressed. Furniture and miscellaneous fixtures continue to arrive and the final punch lists will be completed soon. The Board and staff are anxious to showcase the building to the public with an Open House to be scheduled.

b. School District Website

Board members were invited to preview the new school district website, still under construction. The website will be available to the public once everything is in place.

c. 2015-16 School Calendar

Superintendent Spears shared *Des Moines Register* articles regarding the 2015 School Start Date, as well as correspondence from the Department of Education. Iowa Governor Terry Brandstad has informed Department of Education Director Brad Buck that school districts may not have the opportunity to request a school start waiver, but will be required to start the school year during the week of September 1. The criteria for waiver applications will soon be available.

d. Teacher Leadership and Compensation Grant

Superintendent Spears reported the Sheldon School District received notification from the Department of Education that we will not receive a TLC Grant for the 2015-16 school year. However, the district did obtain enough points on the grant for automatic approval for 2016-17. The district will receive additional information regarding our TLC Grant from the DE. The District Leadership Team, Building Leadership Teams, district teaching staff, and Board of Education will review that information for possible improvements or changes prior to implementation for 2016-17.

e. Sheldon Comprehensive Plan Survey

Board members received a Sheldon Comprehensive Plan Survey to be completed and returned to the City of Sheldon by January 23, 2015.

f. Health Insurance

Superintendent Spears began conversation regarding health insurance options. He has met with an agent who administers a consortium of 19 school districts. Board members were provided with comparison information received from Iowa Star Schools, which initially illustrates substantial cost savings for the district. Board members agreed that Perspective Insurance should be given opportunity to make comparisons between the current plan and potentially a new plan. Superintendent noted that changing plans would require the school district to name a new Agent of Record and then remain with that Agent for one year. A work session will be scheduled with the Iowa Star Schools agent making a presentation for our district.

g. IAEP Food Program Rebate

Superintendent reported the school district received an IAEP Food Program Rebate in the amount of \$895.82 from 2013-14.

h. Nurse's Report

The December Nurse's Report was received for information.

i. Transportation Report

The December Transportation Report was received for information.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. High School 2014-15 Registration Booklet (2nd Reading)

Board members considered the second reading of the 2015-16 High School Registration Booklet. High School Principal Matt Meendering referred to minor language changes and recommended the registration booklet for approval.

Motion made by: Mark Brown

Motion seconded by: Susan Rensink

Voting

Unanimously Approved

B. Board Policy Review (2nd Reading)

Board members considered second reading of Board Policy 402.5 through 403.6R2.

Motion made by: Randy Merley

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

Voting

Unanimously Approved

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Open Enrollment Application(s)**
None.
- B. Resignation(s)**
None.
- C. Contracts**
None.
- D. Consider Supplemental Educational Services Contracts**
Superintendent Spears recommended the Board approve Sylvan Learning Center of Iowa, Tutorial Services and Eduwizard, Inc., to provide supplemental educational services for the SINA program.
Motion made by: Randy Merley
Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken
Voting
Unanimously Approved
- E. Consider Contracted Services for Regulation Education**
Superintendent Spears recommended the Board approve an education services contract for a school district resident student (T.F.) receiving educational services in the Sioux City Community School District.
Motion made by: Susan Rensink
Motion seconded by: Mark Brown
Voting
Unanimously Approved
- F. Approve Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with State of Minnesota for Purchase of Microsoft Products**
Superintendent Spears recommended the Board approve a Cooperative Agreement with the State of Minnesota for the purchase of Microsoft products directly from Microsoft.
Motion made by: Susan Rensink
Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken
Voting
Unanimously Approved
- G. Consider Agreement for Student Teaching and other Field Experiences between the Sheldon Community School District and The University of South Dakota**
Superintendent Spears recommended the Board approve an agreement for Field Experiences and Student Teaching for second semester 2014-15, between the Sheldon Community School District and the University of South Dakota.
Motion made by: Randy Merley
Motion seconded by: Mark Brown
Voting
Unanimously Approved
- H. Approve East Elementary Project Change Order**
Superintendent Spears presented a Change Order for East Elementary Construction Project, resulting in a contract decrease of \$44,391.00 for Wiltgen Construction.
Motion made by: Glen Goedken
Motion seconded by: Randy Merley
Voting
Unanimously Approved
- I. Consider Purchase School Bus**

Superintendent Spears recommended the Board award the 2015-16 bus bid to School Bus Sales for the purchase of a 64-passenger Blue Bird bus at the net cost of \$80,487, with delivery anticipated after July 1, 2015.

Bids were as follows:

School Bus Sales -- \$80,487.00

Thomas Bus Sales -- \$81,688.00

Hogland Bus Sales -- \$86,000.00

Motion made by: Susan Rensink

Motion seconded by: Randy Merley

Voting

Unanimously Approved

J. Designate FY15 Independent Auditor

Superintendent Spears asked the Board to consider the designation of an independent auditor following the completion of the 2014-15 fiscal year. Following discussion, board members agreed to conduct a Request For Proposal (RFP) process, including the State Auditor's Office.

K. Consider Board/Administrative Worksession

Board members agreed to schedule a Board/Administrative work session for Wednesday, February 4 at 5:00 PM in the board room. Superintendent Spears will contact the Iowa Star Schools health insurance representative to join in the work session to share information about the consortium. Other topics of discussion for the evening could include financial long-range planning, future staffing needs, technology, and Grant Wood Software Financial Reports.

Board President Kecia Hickman and Vice-President Susan Rensink offered to assist Superintendent Spears to prepare information for the work session.

L. Board Policy Review (1st Reading)

Board members considered first reading of Board Policy No. 403.6E1 through 406.3.

Motion made by: Glen Goedken

Motion seconded by: Mark Brown

Voting

Unanimously Approved

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. IASB Legislative Conference

Superintendent Spears encouraged board members to consider attending the IASB Legislative Conference scheduled for Monday, January 26 in DesMoines.

X. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Board President Kecia Hickman called for a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM.

Board members held an Exempt Session for the purpose of negotiations discussion following the Initial Proposal received from the Sheldon Education Association prior to this regular meeting.

The Exempt Session ended at 9:00 PM.

Motion made by: Randy Merley

Motion seconded by: Susan Rensink

Voting

Unanimously Approved

Chairperson

Secretary

