

# SHELDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 11, 2009

President Dan Van Gorp welcomed the guests, media, administration and the Board.

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – At 6:00 p.m., President Dan Van Gorp called the meeting to order. Members present: Dan Van Gorp, Gary Ihnen, Glen Goedken, Kecia Hickman, Randy Merley, Robin Spears and Bill Borchers. Absent: None. Visitors: Matt Meendering, Cindy Barwick, Jenni McCrory, Darrell Sneiderman, Justin Albers, Diann Merley and Lindsay Hoepfner.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Glen Goedken to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

### **III. COMMUNICATIONS**

#### A. Citizens, Organization(s) in Attendance

1. Public Comment – None
2. Recognition

a. Students – **Middle School:** Jazz Band Solo Awards (received at NW Iowa Bandmasters Association Jazz Fest) Katherine Bomgaars, Hannah Hickman, Gage Karolczak, Sara Stephens, Jessica Van Beek, Brian Vander Berg and Brennan Vote. **High School:** The Mock Trial Team went to Morningside College in Sioux City to attend the regional competition. Sebastian Sciegienka and Mandy Klein were nominated for Outstanding Witness and Erin Abele and Kurtis Van Gent were nominated for Outstanding Attorneys. The following students have shown the most improvement in their grade point average. This comparison was from the 2nd semester of the 2007-08 school year to the 1st semester of the 2008-09 school year: Jared Bernhardt, Kristine Boone, Daniel Brehe, Keri Mosier, Amanda Roush, Aaron Beenken, Nick Lambirth, Tyler Martin, Matt Schoneman, Sara Thompson, Cody Bucher, Daniel Cabrera, Sheila Christ, Ryan Dodge, and Kris Vander Bush. The following students received a I rating at District Individual Speech on February 28, 2009: Sam Albers, Kristine Arnold, Anne Bomgaars, Chris DeVries, Mason Gustafson, Oliver Hickman, Nathan Holles, Reid Juelsgaard, Cassie Lukkes, Cameron McGuire, Chelsey Olson, Travis Paquette, Jordan Rector, Amanda Roush, Sebastian Sciegienka, Graeme St. Clair, Kurtis Van Gent, Nathan Vos, Ashley Wagner, Corbin Weaver, Nick Youngers, Kaitlin Dagel, Alesha Pulscher, and Dana Wolthuizen. The following students received an II rating at District Individual Speech on February 28, 2009: Alex Dykstra, Mason Gustafson, Kelley McCarty, Chelsey Olson, Taylor Zoelle, Erin Abele, Shelby Burns, Kaitlin Dagel, Adam Gustafson, Venesa Heddle, Emily Jansen, and Alesha Pulscher.

The following students were named to All-Conference in basketball: Girls; 1<sup>st</sup> Team – Brittany Boerhave (Unanimous), Alexis Bart; 2<sup>nd</sup> Team – Becca Fischer. Boys: 1<sup>st</sup> Team – Andy Dykstra (Unanimous); 2<sup>nd</sup> Team – Taylor Zeutenhorst. FFA NW Sub-District Results: Joe Feekes - AG Sales – Bronze; Reid Juelsgaard - AG Radio Broadcasting – Silver; Carlee McGuire - FFA Creed Speaking - Participation. Greenhand Quiz: Chelsea Hakeneis – Silver;

Sheila Christ – Gold; Meranda Schwarz - Bronze and Shelby Houtsma - Silver.  
Conduct of Meetings: Amber Groen, Alyssa Jensen, Shelby Houtsma, Meranda Schwarz, Connor Lindahl, Katie Vander Plaats, Sheila Christ) - GOLD.

**B. Correspondence**

1. The Board

- a. “Four Messages The Community Wants To Hear From You,” Volume 32, Number 20 was included in the Board Packet.
  - b. “Transparent Decision-Making,” Volume 32, Number 21 was included in the Board Packet.
2. Northwest AEA Board Briefs - Minutes from the February 16, 2009 meeting.
  3. Thank You Cards - The District has received a Thank You card from Nadine Philips, a speech contest judge, commenting on how well run the contest was, and how immaculate the building was. This was from the Speech Contest held at the Sheldon Middle School on Saturday, February 28, 2009.

**C. Board Member Reports -**

1. Dan Van Gorp said that he had the opportunity to talk to Councilman Seehusen concerning the placing of a stop sign at the corner of 19th Avenue and East Sixth Street. Councilman Seehusen said that the City Council was willing to listen to the homeowners along the street. The placing of a stop sign at that corner should be on either the March or April City Council Agenda. Superintendent Spears said that he had also talked to Councilman Rensink about the same issue.

Motion by Kecia Hickman and seconded by Randy Merley to accept the communications as part of the official Board minutes. Roll call vote: Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

**IV. APPROVAL OF**

- A. Minutes of Past Meetings – Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Randy Merley to approve. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.
- B. Financial Report – Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Glen Goedken to approve. There was discussion on uses of the MS-Construction Fund. Roll call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.
- C. Summary List of Bills – Dan Van Gorp reviewed the bills. Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Randy Merley to approve the bills for payment. Roll Call vote: Glen Goedken, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

**V. PUBLIC HEARING – None**

**VI. REPORTS**

- A. Committee - None
- B. Special -
  1. School District Library Report - Noreen Vande Weerd reported on each building's library, who the workers were, and how the library was used by the students.
- C. Administration
  1. Elementary School – Mrs. McCrory reviewed her report, and said that they are working on the screening process for kindergarten and transitional kindergarten. The students enjoyed the presentations by the Show Choir.
  2. Middle School – Mrs. Barwick reviewed her report, and said that the Middle School Science Fair will be held tomorrow. The solos contest is coming up, and Sheldon

will host the Sine Nomine contest. The students enjoyed the performances from the All State Speech Contest groups.

3. High School - Mr. Meendering reviewed his report, and said there would be finals for the next two days at the High School. The SLT will be having a program on April 4, 2009 in the auditorium.
4. Activities Director – Mr. Sneiderman reviewed his report, and said that the State Speech Contest would be held at Ft. Dodge on the ICCC campus. He said that this is the largest number of #1's that Sheldon is sending to State.

At 8:02 p.m. President Dan Van Gorp said that there would be a short recess.

At 8:15 p.m. President Dan Van Gorp reconvened the meeting.

5. Superintendent -
  - a. 2008-09 Budget Reductions - Superintendent Spears updated the Board on the proposed savings that the District would have with the Administrators and Classified Staff going to the \$750 deduction plan for the health insurance. The Board can decide on paying the NSBA dues at the April or May Board Meetings.
  - b. Preliminary FY10 Budget Information - Still don't know what amount the State is going to fund. The Revenue Estimating Committee meets on March 20, 2009, and that should help the State decide their funding. The Superintendent recommends publishing the budget at about 47-50 mill increase, as the Board can lower the tax rate at the public hearing, but it cannot increase it.
  - c. Status of 2009-10 Teacher Contract Settlement - The Superintendent and the SEA are working on the insurance increase and a couple of co-curricular position payments.
  - d. Facility Projects Update - Waiting for notification on whether we received a safety grant for the Band & Choir Room outside exits. On the Weight Room/Locker Room, we are gathering information on the sewer line and if there needs to be a handicap accessible toilet. The District has received one quote on removal of the old Concession/Restroom/Half-Time Room. Another company will look at the project on Friday.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Board Policy Review - Policies 406.4 thru 409.3R1, Employees (2nd Reading) - Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Randy Merley to approve the policies. Roll Call vote: Glen Goedken, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.
- B. English As A Second Language Program Guide Review (2nd Reading) - Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Kecia Hickman to approve the guide. Roll Call vote: Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Open Enrollment Applications - The District has applications for Avery Zylstra to Open Enroll from the Sheldon District into the Sibley-Ocheyedan District; Evan Myers to Open Enroll from the Sheldon District into the Boyden-Hull District and Todd Tehen to Open Enroll from the Sheldon District into the Rock Valley District. These applications are for information only, and no action is needed.
- B. Resignations - None
- C. Contract(s) – None

- D. Set Date for FY10 Budget Hearing and Certification - Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Glen Goedken to have the Budget Hearing and Certification on April 8, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Library. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.
- E. Discuss Children's World - Bring back info on other schools that also have preschool. Children's World needs to complete their audit.
- F. Consider Fencing Project for Baseball/Softball Fields - Superintendent has received bids from American Fence for \$69,136 and Century Fence for \$79,806. Motion by Randy Merley and seconded by Glen Goedken to award the project to American Fence. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.
- G. Consider Stage Lighting for High School Auditorium - Table the issue.
- H. Board Policy Review – Policies 409.3R2 – 413.4, Employees (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) - Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Glen Goedken to approve these policies to their second reading. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

**IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. IASB School Law Conference, May 12, 2009
- B. IASB Human Resources Conference, June 12, 2009, Urbandale
- C. IASB Fiscal Management Conference, July 15, 2009, Ames
- D. IASB Human Relations Conference, September 25, 2009

**X. ADJOURN**

At 9:15 p.m., Motion by Gary Ihnen and seconded by Randy Merley to adjourn. Roll call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.