

**Sheldon Community School District
Meeting Minutes**

**Regular Board Meeting
3/12/2014 6:00:00 PM
High School Library**

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: Tanya Langholdt, Elementary Principal; Cindy Barwick, Middle School Principal, Matt Meendering, High School Principal; Justin Albers, Activities Director

Members of the Press: Tom Traughber and Mark Mahoney.

Visitors included Kent DeZeeuw, as well as many third grade students, their parents and third grade teachers.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Superintendent Spears reported no changes to the agenda.

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 lists from HS and MS for student recognition. The lists are attached to these minutes.

- b. Student Presentation - East Elementary 3rd Grade

Third grade students and their teachers were present to demonstrate their reading/inquiry projects. Board members were invited to visit with the students and listen to them explain their projects.

B. Correspondence

1. "The Board" Publication

- a. The Board "The Price of Holding a Grudge," Vol. 37, Number 21

- b. The Board "Do You Follow Public Opinion Or Shape It?," Vol. 37, Number 22

2. NW AEA Board Meeting Minutes - February Board Meeting

3. Receipt of "Thank You" Cards

None.

C. Board Member Reports

1. IASB District Meeting

Susan Rensink shared highlights of the IASB District Meeting she attended on March 3, 2014.

2. At the Board Table - What Can We Do?
Board members participated in the IASB activity, *At The Board Table--What Can We Do?*, which focused this time on communicating with state legislators.

IV. APPROVAL OF:

- A. Minutes of Past Meeting(s)
Board members reviewed minutes of February 17, 2014 regular meeting and the work session of February 24, 2014.
Motion made by: Glen Goedken
Motion seconded by: Mark Brown
Voting
Unanimously Approved
- B. Summary List of Bills
Mark Brown reviewed the bills this month and recommended the board approve all bills for payment.
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
None.
- C. Administration
 1. Elementary School Principal
Tanya Langholdt, Elementary Principal, addressed the board on professional development, technology, teacher evaluation process, FY15 kindergarten registration, and other happenings at the elementary level.
 2. Middle School Principal
Middle School Principal, Cindy Barwick, addressed the board regarding STAR data, student achievement, technology, MS student activities and recent student accomplishments.
 3. High School Principal
High School Principal, Matt Meendering, addressed the board regarding Parent-Teacher Conferences, the scheduling process using Infinite Campus, technology, student activities, PLC/staff in-service activities and instructional rounds.
 4. Activities Director
Justin Albers, Activities Director, addressed the board regarding student activities, achievements and accolades.
Board members applauded Mr. Albers for his participation in hosting the various tournament basketball games/district wrestling and bringing other teams/towns to Sheldon.
 5. Superintendent
Board members took a ten-minute break at 7:45 PM, before proceeding.
 - a. East Elementary Building/Renovation Project Update
Superintendent Spears updated the board on the East Elementary Construction Project, sharing minutes from the February 10 construction meeting and the current construction timeline. He also reported on the March 12 construction meeting and how the project has progressed rapidly in recent weeks. The

asbestos abatement procedure is currently a concern, since the contractor will not be able to proceed until the boiler can be shut off. With current below normal temperatures, the boiler cannot be shut off.

Ms. Langholdt shared a rough draft drawing of the completed project.

Superintendent Spears referred to the possibility of two teacher work days at the end of May. Part of the first day could be used to assist the elementary staff in moving boxes and furniture before the summer construction begins.

b. 2014-15 School Calendar

Superintendent Spears provided a considerable amount of information for board members to consider when discussing the 2014-15 school calendar. Much of the information was centered around professional development, professional learning communities and providing the best possible education for students. Mr. Spears provided data regarding the possibility of a late start every Wednesday for the purpose of professional development. He also provided a draft 2014-15 school calendar, showing the late start each Wednesday of the school year. The draft calendar showed August 18, 2014 as the first day of school and May 20, 2015 as the final day, resulting in 185 days in the classroom and a 194-day contract for the teaching staff.

The calendar committee has agreed on the draft calendar and the idea of late starts every Wednesday. Parents of elementary students, the private schools in the district, as well as the four-year-old preschools appear to be less in favor of the late starts.

The Board president expressed concern for making this change all in one year. She agreed the collaboration and professional development is important, but it may be too much of a change. The board needs to clearly illustrate to the public why the late start is a more feasible option than the early dismissal.

Mr. Merley and Mr. Goedken agreed to proceed with the calendar, including the Wednesday late starts. If it works well for 2014-15, the following year can be scheduled in a similar manner. If changes need to be made, the following year will be the opportunity to do so.

Mrs. Rensink proposed the calendar committee meet once more and make their final recommendation for board approval.

Mr. Brown expressed his thoughts that the community is very much in favor of increased professional development, but the Wednesday morning time may not be the best for individual families.

Superintendent Spears summarized there is no perfect calendar which will satisfy the needs of all three building levels; there could be inconvenience for someone with every scenario.

Mr. Spears referenced Decorah Community School District, implementing a one-hour late start, beginning with the 2014-15 school year. He will contact them for additional information before the next meeting.

He proposed to conduct a public forum, communicate with the media and confirm the staff is on board with the possibility of the Wednesday late start. The plan is to present the final calendar to the board at the regular April board meeting.

Board members heard from each of the building principals regarding what they are hearing from parents.

Mrs. Rensink referred to productivity of the students, consistency of the calendar, and consistency of family routines, as the major concerns of those she has visited with.

- c. Preliminary FY15 Financial Information
Superintendent Spears reviewed the FY15 Aid & Levy Worksheet and presented the Proposed Tax Certificate for FY15, with a total tax levy rate of \$13.98661.

General Fund Tax Levy:	\$11.31640
Management Fund Tax Levy:	\$ 1.01021
Voted PPEL Levy:	\$ 1.33000
Regular PPEL Levy:	\$.33000

- d. 2014-15 Health Insurance Rates
Superintendent Spears reported 0% increase for health insurance rates for 2014-15.
- e. AdvancEd Membership
Superintendent Spears asked the board to consider whether or not the district should continue participation in the North Central Association. The cost to the district is approximately \$2000 per year.
- f. School Year 2014-15 Weighted Average Pricing Report
Superintendent Spears reported according to the SY2014-15 Weighted Average Pricing Report, that the Sheldon district will be required to increase the student lunch rate \$0.10 from \$2.25 to \$2.35.
- g. Nurse's Report
Superintendent shared the February nurse's report for information.
- h. Transportation Report
The February transportation report was received for information.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Board Policy Review (2nd Reading)
Board members reviewed the second reading of Board Policy No. 707.1-711.8. Superintendent noted minor language modifications in 707.2, regarding fund names.
Motion made by: Randy Merley
Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken
Voting
Unanimously Approved

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Open Enrollment Application(s)
 - 1. (c) Open Enrollment Applications
Superintendent Spears presented three Open Enrollment applications to include:
* two students from Sheldon to George Little Rock CSD for 2014-15
* one student from Sibley-Ocheyedan to Sheldon CSD for 2014-15.
Motion made by: Glen Goedken
Motion seconded by: Susan Rensink
Voting
Unanimously Approved
- B. Resignation(s)

Superintendent recommended the Board approve the resignation submitted by Ruth Vogel for her position of Varsity Assistant Volleyball Coach, contingent upon finding a suitable replacement for the 2014-15 school year.

Motion made by: Glen Goedken

Motion seconded by: Mark Brown

Voting

Unanimously Approved

C. Contracts

None.

D. Consider Purchase Request for FFA Farm Project

Superintendent recommended the Board approve the purchase request for equipment for the FFA Farm, including a Polaris Ranger 800 Utility Task Vehicle (\$10,785) and a portable irrigation system for the sweet corn project (\$8915). This purchase will be funded from the FFA Farm Account in the Activity Fund.

Motion made by: Randy Merley

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

Voting

Unanimously Approved

E. Approve Negotiated Contract Between Sheldon CSD and Sheldon Education Association

Superintendent Spears recommended the Board approve the 2014-15 Tentative Agreement/Master Contract changes as presented.

Details of the changes include: 1) a \$1,106 increase in the base salary from \$37,844 to \$38,950; 2) a \$15 increase in the increment from \$1,035 to \$1,050; 3) a \$139 increase in the co-curricular calculator from 3,288 to 3,427; 4) a \$00.00 increase in the district contribution towards health insurance to maintain the rate of \$7,876.88; and 5) and some minor contract language changes as indicated on the first page of the Tentative Agreement/Master Contract Document.

Motion made by: Susan Rensink

Motion seconded by: Mark Brown

Voting

Unanimously Approved

F. Authorize Issuance of 2014-15 Teacher Contracts

Superintendent Spears recommended the Board authorize issuance of teacher contracts for the 2014-15 school year.

Motion made by: Randy Merley

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

Voting

Unanimously Approved

G. Authorize Issuance of 2014-15 Coaching Contracts

Superintendent Spears recommended the Board authorize issuance of certified staff co-curricular contracts for the 2014-15 school year.

Motion made by: Mark Brown

Motion seconded by: Susan Rensink

Voting

Unanimously Approved

H. Authorize Issuance of 2014-15 Non-District Teacher Co-Curricular Contracts

Superintendent Spears recommended the Board authorize issuance of non-teacher co-curricular contracts for the 2014-15 school year.

Motion made by: Susan Rensink

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

Voting

Unanimously Approved

I. Set Summer Driver Education Teacher Compensation

Superintendent recommended the Board approve an increase of \$4.00 per student (\$197 to \$201) for the Summer 2014 Drivers' Education program.

Motion made by: Randy Merley
Motion seconded by: Susan Rensink

Voting

Unanimously Approved

- J. Set Non-Resident 2014 Summer Driver Education Tuition
Recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board set a non-resident Summer Driver's Education Tuition fee of \$350 for the summer of 2014.

Motion made by: Mark Brown

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

Voting

Unanimously Approved

- K. Set 2014-15 Substitute Teacher Pay
Recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve an increase of \$5.00 in the substitute teacher pay for the 2014-15 school year from \$110/day to \$115/day.

Motion made by: Randy Merley

Motion seconded by: Mark Brown

Voting

Unanimously Approved

- L. Consider Annual Application For Renewal Of Cooperative Sponsorship Of An Activity (High School Wrestling Sharing Agreement With South O'Brien CSD)
The Superintendent recommended the Board authorize the District Administration to file the online application for the renewal of the cooperative sponsorship agreement between South O'Brien CSD and Sheldon CSD for sharing the high school wrestling program.

Motion made by: Randy Merley

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

Voting

Unanimously Approved

- M. Approve Cooperative Agreement For Student Teaching Between University Of Northern Iowa And Sheldon CSD

Recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the student teaching agreement between the Sheldon CSD and University of Northern Iowa.

Motion made by: Susan Rensink

Motion seconded by: Randy Merley

Voting

Unanimously Approved

- N. Consider East Elementary Project Change Order for Restroom Renovation
Superintendent Spears recommended the Board approve a change order for the East Elementary Construction/Renovation Project to include renovation of the boys' and girls' restrooms at a cost of \$61,093

The breakdown of the cost for this change order is:

- General Construction = \$29,720
- Mechanical = \$28,441
- Electrical = \$2,932

Motion made by: Mark Brown

Motion seconded by: Randy Merley

Voting

Unanimously Approved

- O. Approve Contracts for Students Receiving Educational Services in Another School District
Superintendent Spears recommended the Board approve the following educational service contracts for two school district resident students receiving educational services in another school district or care facility:

- Student "J.V." – Council Bluffs CSD, Council Bluffs, IA.
- Student "J.H." - Children's Home Society, Sioux Falls, SD.

Motion made by: Glen Goedken

Motion seconded by: Susan Rensink

Voting

Unanimously Approved

1. (c) Contracts

P. Set Date and Time for FY15 Budget Hearing and Certification

Board members agreed to schedule the 2014-15 Budget Hearing/Budget Certification for the regular April meeting date. The meeting is scheduled for 6:00 PM and the budget hearing will be scheduled for 6:30 PM.

Motion made by: Susan Rensink

Motion seconded by: Randy Merley

Q. Board Policy Review (1st Reading)

Board members considered first reading of Board Policy 800 through 804.4.

Motion made by: Mark Brown

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. IASB Safety Group Insurance Group Meeting, Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 9:00-11:45 a.m.

B. IASB Virtual Get-Togethers for Board Presidents, May 7, 2014, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

C. IASB School Law Conference, Thursday, May 15, 2014, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Altoona

X. ADJOURN

There being no further business, board president called for motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Motion made by: Randy Merley

Motion seconded by: Glen Goedken

Voting

Unanimously Approved

Chairperson

Secretary