

OSKALOOSA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

APRIL 11, 2017

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The Board of Directors of the Oskaloosa Community School District met in regular session at 7:00PM on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, in the Administration Board Room, 1800 North 3rd Street, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Present were Board members Tom Richardson, Shelly Herr, Carl Drost, Erik Edgren, Amanda McGraw, Sharma Parlett, and Kraig Van Hulzen.

OTHERS PRESENT

Also present were Superintendent Mr. Russell Reiter, Dr. Joy Prothero, Bill Almond, Hillary Gingerich, Joyce Eveland, Mark Scholes, Stacy Bandy, Jolene Liebl, Andy Hotek, Ginger Allsup, Mike Dursky, Mary Hersom, Blaine Vos, Esther Lwakabamba, Heidi Scholes, Dave Bower, Brett Doud, Angie Holland, Tim Veiseth, Mike Goudy, Amy Meyer, Eduardo Zamarripa, Lynette Stream, Jane Bambrook, Dawn Anderson, and Chad Vink.

AGENDA

President Richardson called the meeting to order. Herr moved to approve the Agenda. Parlett seconded and all voted in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Blaine Vos, 2346 Patriot Avenue, Oskaloosa, came forward to express his gratitude for the cooperation among the District, the local Farmers' Market, and the Summer Lunch Program run by the United Way.

BOARD REPORTS

Drost expressed his concern over both the results communicated in the Iowa School Report Card and that Board members have not been informed about the data. He added that Board members and the Superintendent seem to accept mediocrity and that the District needs a new educational leader. Van Hulzen responded that Iowa Assessments aren't accurately measuring what is required to be taught by Iowa Core Curriculum, and that other measures are showing gaps being closed.

Van Hulzen reported that he met with individuals regarding the current softball field and addressing the safety issues there. He noted that recommendations for both the current and future softball fields will be offered at a future meeting.

Richardson reported that he traveled with the High School Band on their trip to Florida, and was very impressed at how well the band represented Oskaloosa.

BUILDING REPORTS

Amy Meyer of the United Way was in attendance to convey that they would again be providing lunch during the summer at the Elementary School.

Board members inquired about projected Kindergarten enrollment, summer reading program enrollment, Elementary School handbook changes, the overuse of pledges and vows, and recognition of the High School Student Council.

CURRICULUM DIRECTOR REPORT

None in addition to the written report.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Reiter took the floor to inform the Board on events and activities in the District. He began by saying that the gymnasium committee would meet on April 25 to discuss the options and next steps. Mr. Reiter continued by noting his upcoming meetings on collective bargaining and developing the District employee handbook. He concluded by stating that he has never accepted mediocre, that he is pleased that the students and staff in the District have made good improvement, and that he is offended that he would be considered to accept average. The Board thanked Mr. Reiter for his report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, ABSTRACT, AND FINANCIALS

After questions about buying local and citing reimbursements on the abstract, Parlett moved to approve the revised Minutes, Financial Statements, and Abstract of Claims as presented, including additional invoices of \$1,149.00 from Ben Shinn Trucking, Inc. and \$4,673.50 from Shinn Brokerage, Inc. Van Hulzen seconded and all voted in favor.

PRESENTATION ON GLOBAL RELATIONSHIPS & AWARENESS PROGRAM

Heidi Scholes and Esther Lwakabamba from William Penn University came forward to present on the Global Relationships and Awareness Student Program (GRASP). They detailed how WPU is partnering with the District and community to implement cross-cultural experiences, awareness, and leadership. They conveyed the core values of the program, its mission and purpose, its sub-programs, and testimonials from those involved. The Board thanked them for the presentation.

PRESENTATION ON CONSTRUCTION TRADES PROGRAM

Dave Bower, Construction Trades Teacher, was in attendance to inform the Board on the current project as well as probable sites for future projects. He also invited the Board and public to the open house on May 17 from 3:00PM to 5:30PM. Board members asked about internships and restorations in place of new construction, which Bower noted were both difficult to purchase and difficult to abate lead and asbestos. The Board thanked Bower for the information.

CONSIDER SCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARING ON SALE OF STUDENT HOUSE

Vink noted that the first step to selling the Construction Trades house is to conduct a hearing, and he recommended the May regular meeting.

Van Hulzen moved to schedule a public hearing regarding the sale of the 2017 student-constructed house for Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 7PM and publish notice of same in a local newspaper of general circulation. Herr seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DISTRICT MATH CURRICULUM

Dr. Joy Prothero, Curriculum Director, and several faculty members took the floor to recommend the purchase and implementation of new curricula for mathematics. Dr. Prothero detailed the history of the process and the intended professional development for the year to come. Faculty members then conveyed their perspectives, experiences, and examples on the programs included in the pilot. Board members then inquired about required internet access, transitions from one curriculum to the next, curricula in area schools, parent notification, professional development, the limited number of teachers piloting alternative programs, fidelity among programs, and costs. The Board thanked the staff for their presentation and their work on the pilot.

Drost moved to approve the purchase and implementation of Everyday Math as the K-5 mathematics curriculum and enVision as the 6-12 mathematics curriculum beginning with the 2017-2018 school year at a cost not to exceed \$300,000. Edgren seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER EXTENSION OF CONTRACTS WITH TWIN CEDARS CSD

Mr. Reiter introduced contracts to continue sharing operations with Twin Cedars Schools. Vink noted that the contracts were the same as the previous year other than removing annual deadlines. The Board indicated they wanted to restrict the agreement to two years.

Herr moved to approve the agreements with Twin Cedars Community School District for a shared Maintenance Director and shared Transportation Director as presented and revised for a biennial review. McGraw seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AEA PURCHASING AGREEMENT 2017-2018

Mr. Reiter and Vink presented the agreement to use the food service co-op for 2017-2018.

Van Hulzen moved to approve the AEA Purchasing Agreement 2017-2018 with AEA Purchasing as presented. Parlett seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF OEA TENTATIVE AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENTS

Mr. Reiter informed the Board that a Tentative Agreement with the Oskaloosa Education Association had not yet been reached.

CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING 2017-2018 CERTIFIED BUDGET

Vink introduced the need for the Board to conduct a public hearing prior to acting on the proposed Certified Budget. Richardson opened the floor for anyone wishing to speak regarding the proposed 2017-2018 Certified Budget. Hearing no one after three announcements, Richardson closed the hearing.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2017-2018 CERTIFIED BUDGET

Vink presented the Board with the proposed budget recently published in the Oskaloosa Herald. Drost cited that the District levies 16.19% more in taxes due to outgoing open enrollment. Richardson stated that additional costs would also be incurred if open

enrolled students were attending the Oskaloosa district. McGraw inquired if the budget was sufficient to cover new costs, and Mr. Reiter said that it was indeed sufficient.

Parlett moved to adopt the 2017-2018 Certified Budget and Taxes as presented with a property tax rate of \$14.21582. Van Hulzen seconded and all voted in favor except Drost, who voted against.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT AND NOTICE FOR PUBLISHING

Vink took the floor to recommend an adjustment to the current year's Certified Budget amounts, noting that the increase recognizes the large final debt service payments to the City and County that occurred when the remaining bonds matured.

Herr moved to approve the publishing of the 2016-2017 Amendment of Current Budget as presented and schedule a hearing on the same for Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 7:00PM. Drost seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REVISED POLICY SERIES 100 - FIRST READING

Mr. Reiter presented various updates/revisions to the 100 Series. Parlett conveyed thoughts on communication about the District 504 contact as well as proper training regarding bullying and harassment.

Herr moved to approve, for the first reading, revised Board Policy Series 100 – Educational Philosophy as presented. Parlett seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SALARY STRUCTURE FOR HSAP INSTRUCTOR

Richardson and Mr. Reiter summarized the Board's discussion from the April 6 Board meeting and recommended the salary structure for the new Home School Assistance Program Instructor.

Drost moved to approve the salary structure for the Home School Assistance Program Instructor position, including a \$20,000 minimum and additional \$1,000 per student above 20 students and up to the maximum, as presented. Edgren seconded and all voted in favor.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Reiter provided the Board with five resignations, one retirement, and one appointment. Board members inquired about exit interviews and the resume of the recommended Curriculum Director.

Herr moved to accept the resignations of Bret Spurgin, Jen Groenenboom, Abby Peterson, Joe Rohlfen, and Ben Chestnut effective at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. Parlett seconded and all voted in favor.

Van Hulzen moved to accept the retirement of Marty Stowell effective at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. Herr seconded and all voted in favor.

Herr moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of the appointment of Stephanie Wilson as Curriculum Director starting with the 2017-2018 school year at a salary of \$102,500.00. Van Hulzen seconded and all voted in favor.

REVIEW SUBSEQUENT MEETING DATE

It was agreed to next meet on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 6PM to discuss and act on the draft employee handbook, softball field progress, the OEA Tentative Agreement, the High School Gymnasium Project, and Personnel.

ADJOURNMENT

President Richardson adjourned the meeting at 10:08PM.

Chad M. Vink, Board Secretary