

OSKALOOSA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AUGUST 8, 2017

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The Board of Directors of the Oskaloosa Community School District met in regular session at 7:00PM on Tuesday, August 8, 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, Stephanie Wilson, Bill Almond, Beverly Jenkinson, Jan Palmer, Stacy Bandy, Jolene Liebl, Andy Hotek, Ginger Allsup, Mike Dursky, Tyler Riley, Rozy Warder, Angie Holland, Tim Veiseth, Lynette Stream, 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

None.

BOARD REPORTS

None.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Reiter took the floor to inform the Board on events and activities in the District. He began detailing some of the recent renovations to the George Daily Auditorium in anticipation of the commemoration of its 20th year. He continued by noting that he has been working with Emergency Management and the Sheriff's Office regarding the Crisis Plan, that facility preparation for the school year has gone well, that he is investigating opportunities to use solar power in the District, and that he intends on having a presentation on Physical Education credits at the September meeting. He also reminded the Board and public about the dates of upcoming events in the community. The Board thanked Mr. Reiter for his report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, ABSTRACT, AND FINANCIALS

After Drost noted that the data distributed by Richardson at the July meeting was actually from a website, Van Hulzen moved to approve the Minutes, Financials, and Abstract of Claims as presented. McGraw seconded and all voted in favor.

PRESENTATION ON TAKE-A-LONG BACKPACK PROGRAM

Jan Palmer was in attendance to update the Board on the results and intentions of the backpack food initiative at the Elementary School. She noted that donations, use, and cooperation have all gone well, and that they intend to continue it for the upcoming year. McGraw also updated the Board on the status and intentions of the program at the Middle School, particularly thanking Hy-Vee Food Store for their help and contributions. The Board thanked Palmer and McGraw for the updates.

PRESENTATION ON READING AND MATH SCREENING PROGRAMS

Stephanie Wilson, Curriculum Director, came forward to provide information on the Balanced Assessment System approach. She detailed the uses of AimsWeb and FAST screeners and recommended phasing out the AimsWeb software. After questions about screener use at other schools, the cost savings, the integrity of assessments with new curriculum, training, and measuring behavior, the Board thanked Wilson for her presentation.

PRESENTATION BY TAKE ACTION CONSULTING

Rozy Warder from Take Action Consulting informed the Board on recent activities for behavioral supports in the buildings. She noted that Administrators and certain teachers recently attended a boot camp training on care and programming for affected students. She also noted interactions with Mahaska County Mental Health as well as continued development of PBIS fidelity. The Board thanked Warder for her report.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF GYM SPECIFICATIONS AND TO SOLICIT BIDS

Tyler Riley of FEH Design took the floor to provide initial plans and specifications for the High School gymnasium renovation project. Discussion ensued regarding the HVAC system, air controls, and insulation. Drost recommended waiting to approve until after he has had a chance to review the specifications book. It was agreed by consensus to wait until August 28 to approve the specifications, but to approve the plan to install an ERV system for the project.

McGraw moved to approve the use of an ERV system for the High School Gymnasium Renovation Project. Drost seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER REVISED BOARD POLICIES

Mr. Reiter presented a series of Board Policies that are to be removed as a result of changes to Iowa Code. Parlett inquired about whether impending court cases might affect these policies, and Mr. Reiter noted that they would not.

Drost moved, for the first reading, to remove Board Policy 406.1 – Licensed Employee Salary Schedule, Board Policy 406.2 – Licensed Employee Salary Schedule Advancement, Board Policy 406.3 – Licensed Employee Continued Education Credit, Board Policy 406.4 – Licensed Employee Compensation for Extra Duty, Board Policy 406.6 – Licensed Employee Tax Shelter Programs, Board Policy 412.4 – Classified Employee Tax Shelter Programs, and Board Policy 706.2 – Payroll Deductions as prompted by changes in the Code of the State of Iowa. McGraw seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW OF BOARD GOALS

Richardson introduced the need for the Board to assess progress on Board goals from the previous year, and invited Board members to provide their comments.

Herr conveyed her thoughts, noting the need for high quality professional development, accurate measurements, goals that are collaborative and accountable, programming for graduates that make them fully prepared, and the desire for better development, long-range plans, and performance monitoring.

Drost said he wished to emphasize proper assessments to take into account the new math and reading curriculums and get scores above the State average.

Parlett said that she hoped the Board works with the new Curriculum Director to develop the best measurements possible, and also wanted a renewed focus on the climate and culture in the schools.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Reiter provided the Board with one appointment for a one-year contract. Discussion followed regarding the limited options for appointments so close to the start of the school year.

Van Hulzen moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of sharing the responsibilities of Andrea Taylor as Elementary School Music Teacher for the 2017-2018 school year and reimbursing Pella Community School District for the proportion of time served. Drost seconded and all voted in favor except McGraw, who voted against.

REVIEW SUBSEQUENT MEETING DATE

It was agreed to next meet on Monday, August 28, 2017, at 5:15PM to consider approving the specifications for the gym renovation project.

ADJOURNMENT

President Richardson adjourned the meeting at 8:47PM.

Chad M. Vink, Board Secretary