

OSKALOOSA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DECEMBER 12, 2017

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The Board of Directors of the Oskaloosa Community School District met in regular session at 6:00PM on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, in the Administration Board Room, 1800 North 3rd Street, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Also present were Superintendent Mr. Russell Reiter, Steph Wilson, Bill Almond, Rozy Warder, Jolene Liebl, Andy Hotek, Alice Bowling, Stacy Bandy, Mike Dursky, Ginger Allsup, Nick Drost, Mark Scholes, Angie Holland, Tim Veiseth, Miranda Keeler, Betsy Luck, and Chad Vink.

AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD REPORTS

Parlett conveyed her experience serving as the Board's delegate for the IASB Delegate Assembly. She said that it was a positive experience, and that they added legislative priorities regarding teacher license reciprocity with other states and adequate funding for Special Education programs. McGraw promoted the upcoming swim team event hosted by the District. Edgren stated that he had intentions to resign due to family and health issues, but decided to wait until some issues currently facing the Board were resolved. Stream offered congratulations to several activity teams and events for the exemplary results over the last few months. Drost noted a tragic school bus accident that happened recently, and hoped that the District would review procedures and equipment after learning of the causes of the accident.

BUILDING REPORTS

McGraw made special mention that 95% of Middle School students have had one or fewer referrals to the school office in discipline cases.

CURRICULUM DIRECTOR REPORT

Drost commended Wilson on the brevity of her report.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Reiter took the floor to inform the Board on events and activities in the District. He began by noting the work being done on the field at Community Stadium, and that they would likely wait until spring to act on a contractor to regrade the surface. He continued by commenting on the High School Gym Project, the recent meeting with Jeff Krausman and Tim Oswald, an upcoming Home School Assistance Program presentation, and that he invited staff to recommend uses for the proceeds from the timber sale. Drost conveyed, and other members agreed, that the proceeds should be used for a project or asset that will serve the District for several years. The Board thanked Mr. Reiter for his report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, ABSTRACT, AND FINANCIALS

After a few Board questions, Van Hulzen moved to approve the Minutes, Financials, and Abstract of Claims as presented. McGraw seconded and all voted in favor.

PRESENTATION ON POTENTIAL ADJUSTMENTS TO AGRICULTURAL COURSES

Alice Bowling, Agricultural Sciences Instructor, was in attendance to present proposed changes to the curriculum of the agricultural sciences program. She noted that standards have changed in the last few years, and that the new curriculum and sequence being recommended addresses those changes. The Board then asked about the nature of some of the courses and how exemptions would be applied. Mr. Reiter noted that he will recommend approval at the January meeting. The Board thanked Bowling 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 commented on the social-emotional intervention teams and their progression to Level II interventions, as well as the start of mental health case reviews at the Elementary School. Mark Scholes, Middle School Associate Principal, also came forward to convey PBIS data for Middle School students. Drost inquired about the number of students with zero office referrals so far this year. The Board thanked Warder and Scholes for their reports.

CONSIDER REVISION TO SOFTBALL FIELD PROJECT CONCESSION STAND

Mr. Reiter introduced an opportunity for the Board to amend the plans for the construction of the new softball field concession stand to become a masonry structure. Van Hulzen presented the pros and cons to changing away from a wood structure, and it was agreed that, due to some of the maintenance issues that could arise in the bathroom area, a masonry structure would be best.

Van Hulzen moved to revise plans for the Softball Field Project to a masonry restroom and concession stand and to solicit bids for the same. McGraw seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 603.6 – PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Stephanie Wilson, Curriculum Director, and Mr. Reiter provided information to the Board regarding the standards and requirements for physical education and physical activity found in Iowa Code Chapter 20 and the Healthy Kids Act. After discussion on current

discretionary exemptions, work release, grading PE class, improving other academic courses, and the hiring of future coaches, it was agreed by consensus to develop some options for the Board to consider at their January meeting.

CONSIDER APPLICATION TO SBRC FOR DROPOUT PREVENTION SUPPLEMENT

Mr. Reiter and Chad Vink, School Business Official, provided information regarding the budget for the dropout prevention and at-risk programs and the associated request for a Modified Supplemental Amount. Drost conveyed his displeasure with the extent of property tax used to fund supplemental growth, and Parlett asked about reducing those requests.

Van Hulzen moved to approve the At-Risk/Dropout Prevention budget in the amount of \$603,484 and request the School Budget Review Committee for Modified Supplemental Amount for Dropout Prevention in the amount of \$385,620. Parlett seconded and all voted in favor except Drost and Edgren, who voted against.

CONSIDER REVISED BOARD POLICY 202.4 – VACANCIES

Mr. Reiter introduced a revised Board policy to match the law's requirement to allow for a special election petition when Director vacancies occur.

Drost moved to approve, for the first reading, revised Board Policy 202.4 – Vacancies as presented. Edgren seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER REVISED POLICY 207 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. Reiter recommended adding the Board President to the list of officials authorized to contact District legal counsel directly. Board members spoke in agreement and thought it was prudent.

Van Hulzen moved to approve, for the first reading, revised Board Policy 207 – Board of Directors' Legal Counsel as presented, giving the Board President authority to contact legal counsel. Drost seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER REVISED BOARD POLICY SERIES 300 – FIRST READING

Mr. Reiter asked the Board to review policy series 300 and recommended changes to policies 302.2, 303.3, and 306. Edgren commented that he didn't want the language in policy 301.1 to suppress dissension among the Board and Administration. Herr said that she would like to examine the evaluation tool for Administrators mentioned in policy 303.6. Edgren also inquired about the extent of required community involvement for Administrators.

McGraw moved to approve revised Board Policy Series 300 – Administration as presented. Drost seconded and all voted in favor.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT – TRAITS OF EFFECTIVE SCHOOL BOARDS

Herr opened the floor for discussion on an article identifying the eight traits of effective school boards, which she conveyed was a tool used at New Board Member Orientation sessions. Board members noted the strengths of the Board to be high expectations, data-driven decisions, promoting differentiated instruction, and use of detailed agendas. They

also identified specific areas of which to be cautious, including micro-managing and not providing clarity in communication. The Board concluded by agreeing that an occasional self-assessment may be useful.

REVIEW SUBSEQUENT MEETING DATE

It was agreed to next meet on Tuesday, January 9, at 6PM for the regular meeting.

CLOSED SESSION – LITIGATION

Parlett moved that the Board of Directors of the Oskaloosa Community School District hold a closed session to discuss matters that are currently in litigation or where litigation may be imminent as provided in Section 21.5(1)(c) of the Iowa Code. McGraw seconded the motion. Those that voted in favor when the roll was called were Drost, Edgren, Herr, McGraw, Parlett, Stream, and Van Hulzen.

The Board entered closed session at 8:36PM.

The Board exited closed session at 10:08PM.

ADJOURNMENT

President Herr adjourned the meeting at 10:08PM.

Chad M. Vink, Board Secretary