

OSKALOOSA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DECEMBER 8, 2015

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The Board of Directors of the Oskaloosa Community School District met in regular session at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 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, Nicholas Hansen, Sharma Parlett, and Kraig Van Hulzen.

OTHERS PRESENT

Also present were Superintendent Mr. Russell Reiter, Dr. Mary Cooksley, Jacie White, Anna Gritters, Dave Bower, Ginger Allsup, Carrie Van Mersbergen, Stacy Bandy, Jolene Liebl, Andy Hotek, Mike Dursky, Efrain Garcia, Kim Gile, Michael Comfort, Kristen Bandy, Bret Spurgin, Todd Warnecke, Tim Veiseth, Ken Allsup, Beverly Jenkinson, and Chad Vink.

AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD REPORTS

Richardson encouraged the Board members to comment on their experiences at the IASB Convention.

Herr noted her time with the Delegate Assembly, finance class, statewide assessment update, and strategic plan training.

Parlett expressed some thoughts on her sessions on finance, special education, and the proper Board focus on student learning.

Richardson commented on a tool to evaluate Board meetings.

Edgren mentioned his experience in the finance class as well as the session on the successes of online learning. He added that he recently attended a Jazz class and was impressed and enjoyed it thoroughly.

BUILDING REPORTS

Drost inquired about, and stated appreciation for, the Student Council Veterans Program. He said that it was a great program and he was pleased by the respect of the students.

CURRICULUM DIRECTOR REPORT

Drost inquired about the progress of Instructional Coaches. Cooksley responded that the structure was working very well and that the coaches were even busier than expected. She said that data would be collected in both January and May.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Reiter took the floor to inform the Board on events and activities in the District. He began by updating the Board on solar energy grants and his intentions to recommend a solar energy project. He also noted that he would continue to attend meetings regarding the Recreation and Childcare Center, that the High School Report Card project is complete, and that they would be addressing leaks at the High School Gymnasium with an upcoming roof project. The Board thanked Mr. Reiter for his report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Parlett moved to approve the Minutes from November 2015 as presented. Drost seconded and all voted in favor.

ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIALS

Van Hulzen moved to approve the Financials from November 2015 as presented. Herr seconded and all voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACTS

Van Hulzen moved to approve the Abstracts for December 2015 as presented. Hansen seconded and all voted in favor.

PRESENTATION BY DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Members of the District Leadership Team were in attendance to update the Board on their recent conversations and actions. They noted discussions on the mindset of standards-based grading when using the Tool for Improvement, possible changes to the action plan, and John Hattie's report on effect sizes. The Board thanked them for their presentation.

PRESENTATION BY PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

The Career and Technical Education faculty came forward to present their recent PLC work. They summarized the skills focus for each of the disciplines as well as their use of peer review. The Board thanked the faculty for the information.

The High School Math faculty presented information on their PLC work. They identified their SMART goal and use of data walls, mastery checks, assessments, projects, and rubrics. The Board thanked them for the update.

PRESENTATION ON HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORTING SUCCESS PROGRAM

Todd Warnecke and Anna Gritters took the floor to recommend a new Supporting Success Program. They noted the learning goal of the program and how it would create a homeroom time for students to work on individual performance. They presented a sample parental notification letter and provided evidence of program success found elsewhere. The Board inquired about teacher overloads, student qualification, length of trial period, and intended targets. The Board thanked Warnecke and Gritters for the report.

CONSIDER CASTING VOTE FOR IASB BOARD DISTRICT #9 REPRESENTATIVE

Herr introduced the need to vote for a representative for the IASB Board, and recommended one of the two candidates.

Drost moved to cast the vote for Iowa Association of School Boards Board of Directors District 9 Representative for Tim Bower and submit the ballot stating same. Edgren seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN ISL

Mr. Reiter presented the Board with a draft resolution that would allow the District to participate in the Instructional Support Program. Vink noted that the language in the draft would allow the Board to choose to assess part of the levy as an income surtax.

Drost moved to adopt the Resolution of Intent to Participate in Instructional Support Program as presented and schedule a hearing on the same for Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 7PM. Parlett seconded the motion. Those that voted in favor when the roll was called were Drost, Edgren, Hansen, Herr, Parlett, Richardson, and Van Hulzen.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REVISED BOARD POLICY SERIES 700

Mr. Reiter introduced revisions to the Board policies in series 700 and highlighted his recommended changes. Drost said that he would like to see preference language to buy goods and services locally.

Van Hulzen moved to approve, for the first reading, revised Board Policy Series 700 – Auxiliary Services as presented. Herr seconded and all voted in favor.

CONSIDER CREATION AND APPOINTMENT OF BOARD COMMITTEES

Van Hulzen took the floor and encouraged Board members to consider setting up committees to concentrate on various areas such as properties, budget, and student learning. Discussion ensued regarding decision-making, gathering information, member familiarity, meeting frequency and length, and perhaps merely identifying a contact person for each subject. The consensus was to generate a potential committee list for future consideration.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Reiter presented the Board with one appointment.

Drost moved to accept the Superintendent's recommendation of the appointment of William Almond as Operations Director starting December 21, 2015. Van Hulzen seconded and all voted in favor.

REVIEW SUBSEQUENT MEETING DATE

It was agreed to next meet on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, but to begin at 6PM with a worksession to discuss budgetary issues.

ADJOURNMENT

President Richardson adjourned the meeting at 9:23PM.

Chad M. Vink, Board Secretary