

Regular Meeting
Board of Education
August 12, 2019
7:00 PM

This regular meeting opened with roll call. Tory Bauder, Jennifer Jenson, Derek Knobloch, Scott Lee, and Justin Metzger were in attendance. Supt. Kreman and Principals Jiskoot and Snyder were also in attendance.

Motion # 2741

Moved by Bauder and seconded by Knobloch to approve the agenda with the addition of Discussion on Attendance and Policy. Motion carried, all members voting "yes".

Motion # 2742

Moved by Metzger and seconded by Jenson to approve the following consent items

- July Board Minutes
- Bills
- Financial Statements
- Resignation of Janet Feikema as secretary and Bruce Metzger as custodian.
- District Depositories for FY20 (American State Bank, ISJIT, Peoples Bank and Security Savings Bank with a limit of \$4,500,000.)

Motion carried, all member voting "yes".

Handbooks for FY20 were reviewed. Principal Snyder recommended a change in language to cover e-cigarettes and vaping. He also recommended language that sets forth policy for the use of cell phones in class or in expected areas of privacy. Principal Jiskoot recommended a change in the Excused Absences Policy. Supt. Kreman reported changes to the Classified Employee Handbook that included the addition of Family Medical Leave, changes to Personal Days, and dropping Critical Illness and Sick Child leave language.

Motion # 2743

Moved by Bauder and seconded by Metzger to approve the Elementary, Secondary and Classified Employee Handbooks for FY20 as presented. Motion carried, all members voting "yes".

Principal Jiskoot continued discussion from the Board Work Session on the topic of textbook purchases for college credit classes. Jiskoot recommended that the school have students pay for the books beginning in the second semester of the 2019-20 school year.

Motion #2744

Moved by Jenson and seconded by Bauder to approve that students who take college credit/dual enrollment courses should pay for their textbooks for these classes. Students who receive free/reduced price meals may submit a claim to the school for reimbursement of the costs for their books. Motion carried, all members voting "yes".

Supt. Kreman presented the current Board Policy on "Student Transfers In" # 501.8 as well as his recommendations for change to the Policy. Those changes would include limiting transfer credits to 16 from school that are not an accredited state institution. This policy change will be presented for approval in a coming meeting.

The Board spent substantial time discussing student attendance and ways to increase attendance through the use of Board Policy and administrative procedures. Principal Jiskoot noted, again, that attendance in FY19 had dropped to 94.8% and that teachers are frustrated with the number of times students are away from the classrooms. Jiskoot said that many of the absences are related to vacations being taken during the winter months. The administrative team discussed the possibility of having a "spring break", but doing so would most likely extend the school year into June. The administrative team was instructed to discuss this with teachers through the use of surveys. Discussion should also take place with students, parents, and the SIAC group. The importance of student attendance should be presented in communications going out to parents, as well. Implementation of a Policy would not take effect until the FY21 school year.

Supt. Kreman gave a follow up on the August 5th work session. Kreman felt that great progress and direction took place. He reviewed the Board and Superintendent Goal suggestions he received from the Board. Kreman said he will pare down the responses into a manageable number and resubmit them to the Board for approval in September.

Supt. Kreman said that Board Policy Series 500 and 800 will be presented for review and approval in the coming months.

The IASB state convention will be on November 20-21.

Kreman said that the WL workshop for employees will be on August 19th-22nd, with a Kick Off to be held on August 20th. Board members were invited to attend.

Motion # 2745

Moved by Bauder and seconded by Metzger to adjourn this regular meeting at 9:20 PM. The next regular meeting is set for September 9th at 7:00 PM.