

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 10, 2022

Chair Ron Pagel called the regular meeting of the Dover-Eyota Board of Education, District #533, to order at 6:04 PM in the Dover-Eyota High School Media Center. Other Board members present: Tamara DeMuth, James Johnson, Shawna Seaquist and Superintendent Mike Carolan. Absent: Heather Duellman and Jessica McFarlan. Also in attendance were High School Principal Todd Rowekamp, Elementary Principal Dr. Jeanne Svobodny, Teaching & Learning Director Heather Lyke, Business Manager Gary Betcher, and Administrative Assistant Tara Dabelstein.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve the Amended Agenda

A motion was made by Member DeMuth, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda.

Visitors to Address the Board

Alexis Batzel addressed the board sharing her questions regarding the Dover-Eyota Covid-19 Dashboard compared to Rochester, Plainview-Elgin-Millville, and Byron's dashboards. She shared that she finds it unique that Dover-Eyota shows the highest number of cases when Dover-Eyota and Rochester are the only schools with the mandatory masks policy. She also shared her concern regarding masks breaks for the students when it is cold outside. She does not believe that the students are getting quality masks breaks during the winter due to cold weather. She was also wondering about Dover-Eyota's vaccination number and why we do not have it on our Covid-19 Dashboard.

Consent – Approve Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Member DeMuth, seconded by Member Seaquist, and carried unanimously to approve the December 13, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Consent – Approve Regular District Bills and Special District Bills

With Member Johnson abstaining, a motion was made by Member Seaquist, seconded by Member DeMuth, and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$26,606.08, and the Special District Bills totaling \$207,027.08.

Approve the Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Seaquist, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$5,785,261.86 and the December electronic transfers.

RECOGNITIONS

Superintendent Carolan recognized the hard-working nurses, Ms. Chris Eck and Ms. Nicole Pochron. Stating that they have been working extra hours to go through everything that is involved with the increase of COVID-19 cases. He also recognized the extra work the principals have been putting in as well.

Teaching & Learning Director Heather Lyke recognized 6th grade teacher Mr. Damon Hammel who took a Dover-Eyota Math Wizards team to their first meet in many years and had a very successful time. The 6th grade team received 1st place. She also shared that Dover-Eyota will be hosting a Math Wizards Tournament a few weeks.

Elementary Principal Dr. Jeanne Svobodny recognized Elementary Music teacher Ms. Katie Kabes. Sharing that in December Ms. Kabes had quite a few programs that she taught and prepared the students for. Dr. Svobodny wanted to recognize her for all her hard work in preparing and presenting these programs. Elementary Behavior Interventionist Ms. Bobbi Waters was also recognized by Dr. Svobodny for all of her hard work and extra dedication as the Elementary Student Council Advisor. This is her first year being the advisor, and she has been busy with helping the students with the food drive and end of quarter party, as well as planning spirit days. Dr. Svobodny wanted to thank her for her hard work and all she does for the students.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

Assistant Principal – John Ostrowski shared the following: 1) They are back to holding the Middle School Meetings, similar to before the pandemic started. However, they now split the students up into two groups. Mr. Ostrowski stated that the meeting went really well and that this last meeting was about change.

Teaching & Learning Department – Heather Lyke shared the following: 1) She is excited about some of the professional development sessions coming up. She is looking forward to helping support the elementary literacy, and helping the secondary level on positive communication to students on expectations and helping to provide the students with positive routes to meet the expectations.

Elementary School Principal – Dr. Jeanne Svobodny shared the following: 1) Media Center Specialist Ms. Tami Rhea has been teaching a class after school, Coding for Girls. This class is held once a week and is enjoyed by students. 2) She shared that she had to send out roughly 70 letters today to families letting them know that their child was more than likely exposed to a positive case of COVID-19.

High School Principal – Todd Rowekamp shared the following: 1) He shared that as of now there were 34 students out with positive cases of COVID-19 and 24 students out as close contacts. 2) He also wanted to recognize the teachers and thank them for their perseverance, flexibility, and efforts to be positive this year. Stating that they are amazing, and doing the best they can during these challenging times.

REPORTS

Nexus Update - Dr. Dave Thompson and his team from Nexus shared a slide presentation with the board discussing the strategic plan update, which included staff survey results, facility condition and assessment, educational adequacy, and the anticipated timeline of this project.

COVID 19 Updates- Superintendent Carolan shared that both buildings have seen quite a large number of students who are testing positive with COVID-19. We are believed to be entering the spike that should be subsiding in a couple weeks. He also shared that the district is looking at the 5-day quarantine that the CDC has put out, but the district is waiting on Minnesota Department of Health to put out their guidance on this subject before we make our changes. Superintendent Carolan also shared that the district will be looking at stopping the quarantine of close contacts and potentially switching to only quarantining the students/staff with positive COVID-19 results. He also shared that due to this increase in cases, the mask mandates are going to have to continue for a while. He shared that he did not have an updated number on how many students/staff have been vaccinated, due to the nurses being so busy with the other COVID-19 duties, there has not been time to look up the numbers. Dr. Svobodny commented on the struggle with cold weather mask breaks. Stating that there are breaks for snacks and meals, but teachers do struggle with the cold weather. She shared that when we have such frigid weather it does makes it really difficult for these breaks, but the staff does try to be sure there are at least small break with the snacks and meals.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve the Resolution Awarding the Sale of General Obligation Tax Abatement Bonds (Attachment A)

A motion was made by Member DeMuth, seconded by Member Seaquist, and carried unanimously to approve the Resolution Awarding the Sale of General Obligation Tax Abatement Bonds. A roll call vote was taken with the following voting in favor: DeMuth, Johnson, Pagel, Seaquist. Those voting against the same: none. The resolution carried unanimously.

Adopt Post-Issuance Compliance Policy

A motion was made by Member Seaquist, seconded by Member DeMuth, and carried unanimously to adopt Post-Issuance Compliance Policy. (Attachment B)

Adopt Post-Issuance Debt Compliance Policy for Tax-exempt and Tax-advantaged Government Bonds Resolution.

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member DeMuth, and carried unanimously to Adopt Post-Issuance Debt Compliance Policy for Tax-exempt and Tax-advantaged Government Bonds Resolution. A roll call vote was taken with the following voting in favor: DeMuth, Johnson, Pagel, Seaquist. Those voting against the same: none. The resolution carried unanimously.

Approval of MSBA Policy 491-Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination or Testing and Face Coverings

A motion was made by Member Seaquist, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to adopt Policy 491-Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccine or Testing and Face Coverings.

Appoint Interim Board Member

No action was taken on this item.

Approve the Pay Equity Report

Business Manager Gary Betcher relayed that how the figures for the various pay groups were calculated. Once submitted, the district would be advised if there were any pay equity violations. A motion was made by Member, seconded by Member, and carried unanimously to approve the Pay Equity Report.

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member DeMuth, and carried unanimously to approve the Pay Equity Report

Superintendent Search Discussion and Potential Approval of MSBA Proposal

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member DeMuth, and carried unanimously to approve the MSBA Proposal for Superintendent search.

Consent – Accept Resignations and Hires and Donation

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member DeMuth, and carried unanimously to accept the:

Resignations: KATIE KAHN as Elementary Paraprofessional

Hires: LUKE CORNELL as SACC Student Aide, SYDNEY SCHOTT as JV Softball Coach

Donations MARK & RENEE STANCHFIELD \$100 for the Sharing Tree, ROBERT & MARY LOVEJOY \$600 for multiple Dover-Eyota activities, CHAD & HEATHER DUELLMAN \$1,000 for Football, Wrestling, and Girls Basketball, KEVIN HAMMEL \$1,000 for BYOD & Angel Fund Account, DOVER-EYOTA EAGLES FOUNDATION \$7,000 for Fitness Center Equipment, EMILY PORCHER MEMORIAL \$1,000 for Dover-Eyota Band & Choir

HEARING OF REPORTS

Supt. Carolan relayed the following: 1) The second session of the vaccine clinic put on by Olmsted County Health happened. There is not another one planned at this time. 2) He gave a brief summary on CDC 5-day quarantine proposal. 3) He shared that the new testing kits that were ordered had arrived. Sharing that they are different than the BinaxNOW at home test which are the ones the district is currently using. The new at home tests require a cell phone or tablet to get results. 4) The COVID Advisory Council has been meeting, and the district will need to get past this rise in cases before they are able to look at the end game. Member Seaquist suggested the possibility of having Olmsted County come in to provide a booster clinic those who are eligible and interested in getting the booster shot.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

DeMuth – None

Duellman – Absent

Johnson – Nothing new. He was part of the Covid Advisory Committee Meeting and shared that there was covered Brief conversation on mask type.

McFarlen – Absent

Seaquist – None

Pagei – Shared that he and Superintendent Carolan are going to attend the MSBA Leadership Conference on January 13 – 14, 2022 and that Food & Nutrition Director Carrie Frank will be presenting during the conference this year.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Seaquist, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Heather Duellman, Clerk
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