

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2017

Chair Ron Pagel called the regular meeting of the Dover-Eyota Board of Education, District #533, to order at 7:00 PM in the Dover-Eyota High School Media Center. Other Board members present: Don Andring, Julie Austinson, Andrea Lehnertz, Linda Nelson, Todd Peterson, Matt Wrubel, and Superintendent Mike Carolan. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Principal Todd Rowekamp, Assistant Principal/Activities Director John Ostrowski, Assistant to the Curriculum Director Nick Truxal, Business Manager Gary Betcher, Administrative Assistant Chris Berg, Tom Flaig, Anthony Foss, and Ryan Pike.

Approve the Amended Agenda

Chair Pagel advised of this addition: Band Frozen Food Fundraiser

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

Visitors to Address the Board

No visitors wished to address the Board.

Consent - Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Wrubel, and carried unanimously to approve the August 14, 2017 Regular Board Minutes.

Consent – Approve Regular Bills and Special Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Wrubel, and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$111,454.37, and the Special District bills totaling \$96,737.77.

Approve the Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$5,071,952.73 and the August electronic transfers.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

Elementary Principal – Dr. Svobodny shared the following: 1) Talked about the success of the elementary conference/ assessment days and shared the itinerary distributed to parents with various stations they could visit. The intent of the conferences was to complete assessments before schools started, and to have parents meet individually with teachers so that they could share concerns, information, etc. in private; 2) The New Teacher Week was “fabulous” and the two inservice presenters were “outstanding;” 3) School-based Mental Health Therapist Moriah Mueller was on board and participated in all of the workshops. Mrs. Svobodny felt that she would be a tremendous asset to our students and families; 4) A student flu clinic would be held the morning of Monday, September 18.

Assistant Principal/Activities Director – Mr. John Ostrowski shared the following: 1) At the Sixth Grade Open House, he talked to students about proper behavior, and a video was presented by Katie Johnson; 2) The turf had been repaired, and the track would be repaired by the end of the week; 3) Dr. Cindra Kamphoff, author of “Beyond Grit” had given a presentation to the high school/middle school staff during their workshop.

High School Principal – Mr. Todd Rowekamp shared the following: 1) “It was a good start of the year and a lot of fun with the new teachers. They are a good group;” 2) The state had changed the ACT procedures and, this year, all schools were required to offer a college entrance exam. The state would only pay for students on free/reduced lunches; the district must either pay for the others or charge the students. The ACT was scheduled for February 27; 3) It had been a smooth start to the first semester of Spanish III with Mundo Learning. Students log on to their account and navigate through the online system. Licensed teacher Stephanie Holliday was the room monitor; 4) This year, the Open House was held after school on the only day in September on which another event was not being held. He would seek input from parents about holding the event after school started; 5) Licensed business teacher Stephanie Holliday had been hired for several hours each day to get the district's Job Shadow Program “off the ground.”

District Feedback Forms

Supt. Carolan shared the compliment made to School-Age Child Care students and staff.

REPORTS

Eyota Mountain Bike Trails Proposal

Ryan Pike and Anthony Foss brought forth a proposal for a mountain bike trail in the school woods. They indicated the 1-mile trail would be 2.5 feet wide, one-way track for fat biking. It would be minimally invasive, not contain any big jumps, and would be a fun spot for kids and adults, getting them off the roadway. They would remove invasive species (i.e., buckthorn) and were working with Greg Smith of Greenwood Agency to obtain liability insurance while the trail was built.

The question was brought up about who would be liable if someone was hurt on the trail. Supt. Carolan advised that no matter what, the school could always be liable for any injuries in the woods, or on any part of district property.

The discussion included the fact that the elementary physical education program could use the trail for their bike program. If the trails are wet or muddy, they are closed until they become dry again. Mr. Pike and Mr. Foss would be forming a local mountain bike club to help kids and adults become interested in fat biking, and develop a healthy lifestyle.

The Board felt it was a proposal worth looking into after getting input from the elementary staff regarding use of the woods in this manner. Supt. Carolan would be in contact with Mr. Pike and Mr. Foss.

Information on the Proposed 2017 Payable 2018 Levy

Supt. Carolan advised that there would be a meeting at the Southeast Service Cooperative with Tom Melcher of the Minnesota Department of Education to find out more about the school district's levy. He relayed that the preliminary maximum levy amount shows a .99% reduction. There would be increases in some areas, and decreases in others.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve the Hiawatha Valley Education District Long-Term Facility Maintenance Plan

Supt. Carolan explained that the Hiawatha Valley Education District must submit a Long-Term Facility Maintenance Plan. School districts get LTFM money through levy and aid. The source of LTFM funds for HVED would be from their member districts. They are seeking permission to submit their LTFM plan to the state. There would be no money attached to it at this time. If HVED decides to proceed with some of the projects in the future, each district would need to approve contributing some of their LTFM funds to HVED.

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to grant approval to the Hiawatha Valley Education District to submit their Long-Term Facility Maintenance Plan to the State of Minnesota.

Approve the 2017-2019 Dover-Eyota Education Association Contract

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the 2017-2019 Dover-Eyota Education Association Contract.

FFA Student Trip to National Convention

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Wrubel, and carried unanimously to grant tentative approval for the FFA student trip to their national convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 24-28, 2017.

Consent - Fundraiser Requests

A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Wrubel, and carried unanimously to approve the Class of 2024 sweet rolls fundraiser in March 2018, and the Band food sales October 2-16, 2017 and March 26-April 19, 2018.

Consent - Leave of Absence Requests

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to approve the leave of absence request of KIMBERLY SCHLUETER for October 24, 2017 through January 1, 2018 and the leave of absence request of NIKITA ALBRECHT for eleven weeks beginning November 30, 2017.

Consent – Accept Resignations, Approve New Hires, Accept Donations

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Wrubel, and carried unanimously to:

Accept resignations of BARB BANITT, BRIDGET CORCORAN, and PAM SIEGENTHALER as Instructional Assistants and TIM ANDRING as School Patrol Advisor;

Approve New Hires CHRISTINE PETERSON as part-time Special Education Clerical (replaces Heather Wobschall); Instructional Assistants TAYLOR SCHERBRING, STEPHANIE HOLLIDAY, PEYTON GRUMMONS, and SHLENA NEPPL; STEPHANIE HOLLIDAY as Job Shadow Program Coordinator; GILBERT RAMIREZ as Jr High Boys' Soccer Coach; and SARAH MARTINAK as Sub Caller.

Accept Donations of \$115.38 from MICHELLE WILLIAMS and matched by WELLS FARGO; \$250 from BREMER BANK for sports calendars.

HEARING OF REPORTS

Supt. Carolan relayed the following: 1) The Dover building sale was complete. Due to the need to survey the area by the bus garage, closing costs came in significantly higher. As a gesture of good will, the district paid \$1,018 of the \$5,018 closing costs; 2) Transportation continues to be a challenge because the district doesn't have enough drivers. Mr. Carolan felt that the district has one of the best contracts in the area; however, it takes a unique individual to make the time frame work. Member Lehnertz indicated she had heard many positive comments about the new bus routes; 3) The handicapped van needed to be replaced before May 31. He and Transportation Director Dustin Pagel were searching for solutions; 4) The Transportation Advisory Committee would soon meet to evaluate needs (i.e., sidewalks, etc.); 5) Mr. Carolan told the Board about the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast on Sat., September 16 at the elementary, with the proceeds going to the Angel Account or preschool scholarships; 6) The Dover-Eyota Eagles Foundation has obtained another eagle to be placed in the elementary; 7) Only two 9th graders have selected the One-to-One program this year. Many families purchased computers and some didn't seek the \$100 rebate from the school district; 8) The Building & Grounds Committee discussed LTFM and other needs (i.e., ball diamond updates); 9) Business Manager Gary Betcher would be busy with the auditors this week; 10) The Superintendent relayed upcoming events; 11) The Calendar Committee would meet the following day. He relayed that, when the Common Inservice was discontinued, the district never added back a student day, and he recommended taking them back up to 175.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Andring – Publically thanked Bremer Bank for the tailgate party. Supt. Carolan would prepare a thank you letter. Regarding the ten-year LTFM plan, he relayed that the Building & Grounds Committee would meet again on September 20. Mr. Andring received “good reports” from his children about the elementary conferences. He had attended Supt. Carolan's back-to-school message with staff and added, “The puzzle pieces all fit.”

Nelson – Member Nelson indicated she was glad to hear that there was a positive start at DE.

Austinson – She would be unable to attend an upcoming legislative meeting. Mrs. Austinson relayed she also would be unable to attend the next World's Best Workforce meeting. Board members wishing to cast their vote for her as a Minnesota School Board Association Delegate needed to do so soon. She had read in the high school announcements that the Student Council had met and she was hoping they had chosen a member to be on the School Board.

Peterson – Mr. Peterson had no meetings.

Lehnertz – Member Lehnertz would be attending the upcoming Calendar Committee meeting. She relayed that her freshman son had good feedback about the Bring Your Own Device program, and that he was using the computer in all of his classes. Mrs. Lehnertz had attended the 6th Grade Open House, and ended her report by saying, “I have heard good things about the elementary school.”

Wrubel – Mr. Wrubel had also attended the 6th Grade Open House and said it “was great.” He added that his daughter had transitioned into middle school with no problems.

Pagel – The Hiawatha Valley Education District was working on negotiations and their LTFM plan.

ADJOURMENT

A motion was made by Member Wrubel, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 PM.

Julie Austinson, Clerk
Cb