

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2017

Chair Ron Pagel called the regular meeting of the Dover-Eyota Board of Education, District #533, to order at 7:01 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, Student School Board Member Kalli Schaefer, and Superintendent Mike Carolan. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Principal Todd Rowekamp, Curriculum Director Jane Johnson, Activities Director John Ostrowski, Business Manager Gary Betcher, Administrative Assistant Chris Berg, Matthew Allen, Brooke Ferrier, Tom Flaig, Jenny Gunter, Nathan Gunter, Brayden Hart, Makenna Hart, John Pittenger, Stephanie Porter, Anna Sachs, Judi Teed, and Heidi Uthke.

Approve the Agenda

Chair Pagel advised of these agenda changes: move recognitions up after Agenda Approval, add Closed Session before the Adjournment, add 6th Grade Fundraiser Request to New Business, and consider a Leave of Absence Request.

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

Recognitions

Principal Rowekamp introduced FFA Advisor/Ag Instructor Stephanie Porter who had brought several FFA members to the meeting. Makenna Hart placed gold in Equine Science Placement proficiency and advances to state. Anna Sachs placed third and will be going to state in Extemporaneous Speaking. Anna Sachs, Brayden Hart and Matthew Allen explained what they had accomplished in order to obtain their degrees, which they will receive in April.

Mr. Rowekamp introduced Nathaniel Gunter who was a National Merit Finalist. The merit system recognizes students throughout the country who have achieved high academic status. There were 16,000 semi-finalists and, as a finalist, Nathaniel is guaranteed a \$130,000 scholarship. He plans to attend the University of Oklahoma to major in chemistry, physics and biology.

Visitors to Address the Board

The guardian of a student involved in the recent lockdown at the high school came before the Board. She appealed to them to consider allowing her child to return to the school after the suspension and give the child another chance.

Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve January 9, 2017 Organizational School Board Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve January 9, 2017 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve January 23, 2017 School Board Mini-Retreat Minutes.

Regular District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$107,488.25.

Special District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the payment of the Special District Bills totaling \$109,613.63.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$3,353,628.12 and the January electronic transfers.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

Middle School Principal – John Ostrowski shared information about “BUGS” (Bring Up Grades), a program to assist students in raising their grades.

High School Principal – Mr. Todd Rowekamp shared the following: 1) Relayed that, over the next months, Professional Learning Team members would be coming to the Board to report; 2) He talked about the Growth Mindset workshop he had attended with several teachers at the Southeast Service Cooperative and the ACT State Conference he and School Counselor Ryan McRae had attended; 4) Shared Dover-Eyota information from the Minnesota Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDS) data base; 5) Brooke Ferrier came before the Board to share that the English Department had been working on the English Common Core Standards during their Wednesday morning Professional Learning Team time; 6) Mr. Rowekamp talked about the extended lockdown and said his overall assessment was that they accomplished their goal of keeping students safe. In the process, there were things that could have been done better, from which they will learn.

Elementary Principal – Dr. Svobodny shared the following: 1) A team of teachers attended “Childhood Trauma” training at the Hiawatha Valley Education District, presented by a therapist who specializes in helping children and families who have experienced this type of trauma; 2) She, Supt. Carolan, Dan Lecheler, Mr. Rowekamp, and Katie Johnson attended a meeting to discuss the possibility of housing a mental health therapist in our school next year which would be funded by several mental health agencies in Olmsted County; 3) Publicly thanked Doug Zars, who facilitated a training for the paraprofessionals on proactive crisis prevention strategies; 4) Six preschool students have been awarded scholarships through the state Families First Pathway I scholarship program. If we are awarded Pathways II funds, they may provide additional preschool scholarships.

District Feedback Forms

No forms had been received; however, Supt. Carolan shared that he had received contacts of support and complaints/concerns about the recent lockdown.

STUDENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Student School Board Member Representative Kalli Schaefer reported the following: 1) Snoball Coronation was held on Mon., January 30 at 2:30 pm. The activities that week had improved school spirit and included a dodgeball tournament that was well attended. The dance had a good DJ and was also well attended. The pepfest went well with a lot of fun games; 2) As a high school leader, she attended the 9th grade retreat and noted the differences in the retreat from when she attended in 9th grade. The staff from Youth Frontiers were “great” and reached a lot of students with their message; 3) She and four other DE students attended the Mayo Clinic Celebration Research day with a science teacher. The students, who were interested in research as their career paths, toured three different labs; 4) The Pennies for Patients fundraising event was held the previous week; 5) Talked about activities that the Peer Helpers would be doing Kindness Week; 6) Overall, the lockdown was a positive experience for students. She was in a class of eight really different people who were able to connect during that time. Because the students had their phones with them, they were able to reassure their parents that they were okay. Kalli indicated that it might have been more difficult for some middle school students who couldn't have their phones with them. She felt the students had “moved past” the event and, to her knowledge, no one suffered detrimental trauma.

REPORTS

Elementary Back-to-School Conference Assessment Days Proposal

Dr. Jeanne Svobodny relayed that several area schools have been doing conference assessment days at the beginning of the school year. She shared a document listing the advantages of the proposal including better connections between the teacher/student/parent, interventionists could begin teaching students earlier since assessments were already done, and there were less interruptions to instructional programs since vision/hearing/speech assessments were done. The challenges would be communicating the change with parents, setting up an online sign-up system, and working out other logistics.

This concept was originally provided to the school board at their January Mini-Retreat and the Board did not have any concerns about the proposal. A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Wrubel, and carried unanimously to approve the Elementary Back-to-School Conference Assessment Days on September 5 and 6, 2017.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve a Baseball Coop Request from Victory Christian Academy of Rochester

Activities Director John Ostrowski explained the request from Victory Christian Academy to enter into a baseball coop with Dover-Eyota.

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to approve a fair share baseball coop with Victory Christian Academy of Rochester.

Grant Tentative Approval for the Student Trip to Washington, DC

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to grant tentative approval to the student trip to Washington, DC April 1-6, 2017.

Grant Tentative Approval for the Band Trip to New York City

A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to grant tentative approval for the Band Trip to New York City June 26 through July 2, 2017.

Approve the Senior Class Cruise

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the seniors' LaCrosse Queen Cruise on May 19, 2017.

6th Grade Fundraiser

A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the 6th grade fundraiser to be held February 15-28, 2017.

Leave of Absence Request

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the leave of absence of Deb Vosler for six weeks beginning March 1, 2017.

Consent – Accept Resignations

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of TAYLOR SCHERBRING as Adult SACC Worker and as Instructional Assistant, TOM MILLER as Head Softball Coach, and MARTIN OLSEN as Assistant Golf Coach.

Consent - New Hires

A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to hire TAYLOR SCHERBRING as Footsteps Instructional Assistant, and JAMES MCKAY as Junior High Baseball Coach.

Consent Accept Donations

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to accept the \$1,700 from DE Traveling Baseball Association of Eyota for the batting cage, and \$1,000 from the Hiawatha Sno Seekers for trap shooting.

HEARING OF REPORTS

Supt. Carolan relayed the following: 1) Meet and Confer that evening had been a great dialog between the teachers and Board members; 2) The Dover City Council had apparently met and agreed to purchase the Dover building. A purchase price still needed to be determined. He relayed that a Rochester attorney might be used for the transfer of the property; 3) He had attended the Minnesota School Board Association Negotiations Seminar with Member Peterson; 4) Julie Austinson and he had attended the legislative breakfast that had a high attendance of legislators, with area superintendents explaining their financial and resource struggles; 5) He talked about the problems they had during the lockdown and basic things that could be fixed (i.e., some cameras), and the need for a better communication process. The Crisis Team would be working on improving the procedures; 6) Katie

Johnson and he had attended ACE's training (Advertise Childhood Experiences Study) at the Southeast Service Cooperative; 7) The Town Hall strategic planning session was scheduled for Mon., February 20 beginning at 6:00 PM.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Austinson – She had attended the Meet & Confer that evening and the legislative breakfast.

Peterson – He had attended the MSBA Negotiations seminar and would be using that knowledge in the upcoming negotiations with teachers. Mr. Peterson said that the captain of the Olmsted County Sheriff's Department's detective division wanted him to relay that, in all the dealings with other school districts, Supt. Carolan was by far the best to work with during a major incident.

Lehnertz – Mrs. Lehnertz had attended the Meet & Confer that evening.

Wrubel – Mr. Wrubel had also attended the Meet & Confer.

Pagel – Mr. Pagel relayed that he had a bag of gloves, mittens and caps that the Hiawatha Valley Education District had collected for each school. He also shared information he had learned at a leadership conference in Las Vegas.

A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously at 9:10 PM to take a short break before going into closed session.

Closed session

A closed session began at 9:21 PM.

ADJOURMENT

A motion was made by Member Lehnertz, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 PM.

Julie Austinson, Clerk
Cb