

# REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2015

Chair Pagel called the regular meeting of the Dover-Eyota Board of Education, District #533, to order at 7 PM in the Dover-Eyota High School Media Center. Board members present: Don Andring, Julie Austinson, Molly Hofschulte, Andrea Lehnertz, Linda Nelson, Todd Peterson, Emmy Buntrock, and Superintendent Mike Carolan. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Principal Todd Rowekamp, Assistant Principal/Activities Director John Ostrowski, Business Manager Gary Betcher, Administrative Assistant Chris Berg, Tyrel Clark, Bruce Klaehn, and Brian Todd.

## Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## Approve the Amended Agenda

Chair Pagel advised that there were four additions to the agenda: Student Board Member Communications, Fundraiser Request, resignation of JENNIFER GUNTER, and hire of EMMA HORMAN as Student SACC Worker.

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

## Visitors to Address the Board

There were no visitors to address the Board.

## Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to approve the August 10, 2015 Regular School Board Meeting minutes.

## Regular District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$887,830.92.

## Special District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the payment of the Special District Bills totaling \$316,587.61.

## Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling 8,587,233.41 and the August electronic transfers.

## **RECOGNITIONS**

There were no recognitions.

## **CABINET COMMUNICATIONS**

Elementary School Principal – Dr. Jeanne Svobodny shared these items: 1) The new teachers were eager to get started, were very positive, and have continued that high-energy level; 2) She commented on the children's expressions when they came to school the first day. One said, "Where did our school go?" She heard a lot of positive comments about the new art and music rooms; 3) It was nice having four days of inservice/work days before school started to prepare for the open house and for training of staff; 4) The school year was off to a positive start even though they were in the midst of construction; 5) The ADSIS end-of-the-year report for 2014-15 was due and Mrs. Svobodny thanked Interventionists Jill Magnuson, Tom Flaig, and Ben Mohs for helping to gather data needed for the report; 6) The math and reading assessments were moving to the STAR, which would be a new learning experience for us; 7) The students' flu clinic would be held the following day; 8) The Open House was well attended.

High School Principal – Principal Todd Rowekamp shared the following: 1) The school year was off to a busy but smooth start except for a few issues. The new computers for 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade were supposed to have 6-hour batteries, but were only lasting 90 minutes. Students do have access to electrical outlets during the school day. Bryan Berg had been in contact with Computers for Schools to find a solution. There have also been some connectivity problems, possibly due to a weather situation. It was hoped the problem would be solved once the units are reset; 2) Enrollment increased about 13 students from the end of last year; 3) The cell phone policy has not changed – teachers have always had the option to take cell phones from students if they are a disruption in class. He showed a cell phone caddy available in classrooms. He added, “We try to have school represent the real world, and in the real world, we have to learn how to responsibly use cell phones”; 4) Mr. Rowekamp talked about the Higher Learning Commission in Illinois that had issued new requirements for high school teachers to teach concurrent enrollment classes (college readiness classes). Effective in 2017, they must have a Master’s degree in the area they are teaching, or a Master’s and 18 credits in the area they are teaching. There is no option for teachers who have been successful to continue without meeting the new requirements. It would be a major setback for our students.

#### District Feedback Forms

Supt. Carolan relayed the complaint that had been received.

### **STUDENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS**

Student Board Member Emmy Buntrock shared the following: 1) The first week of school went very well. The students had really good attitudes, were respectful, and were eager to learn; 2) The Courage Retreat by Youth Frontiers was very beneficial for the 7<sup>th</sup> graders; 3) Even though students were complaining about their phones being confiscated and the new phone caddy, she felt that they were more focused and more respectful of their teachers; 4) She noted that the new computers have larger screens but that the batteries die faster; 5) The fall sports teams were all doing great; 6) The Student Council was prepping for Homecoming activities. Due to low participation and attendance, the Powderpuff Football Game normally held on Wednesday might be done during a pep fest instead. Coronation was moved from Sunday to Monday afternoon at 2:30 pm; 6) She had heard good things about the new athletic field from football players, students and families.

### **REPORTS**

#### Virtual Tour of the New Elementary Facilities

Supt. Carolan provided the Board with a virtual tour of the new elementary facilities and athletic field. Athletic field projects still to be completed included landscaping, main entrance work, field light adjustments, and fencing.

#### Construction Updates

Bruce Klaehn provided the following information:

- Athletic complex –
  - The track surface would be installed the first week in October, more landscaping would be done, and the goal posts would be installed the following day.
  - The eagle logo in the center of the field was provided by the Dover-Eyota Eagles Foundation (DEEF). He also complimented them on the paver entrance.
  - The construction schedule had been delayed and a significant penalty would be held back from the contractor.
  - The Grand Opening would be held on Friday, September 18 beginning at 6:40 pm.
- Elementary construction –
  - Adding the storage room at the elementary added 2 weeks to the project and the inclement weather had also somewhat hindered the progress.
  - There would be line painting changes in the elementary gym and the height of one folding door would need adjusting.
- Budget update
  - The budget was very positive.
  - He felt it was safe to say that the district would see a good size construction contingency. Use of the funds could possibly be used to retrofit some elementary lighting fixtures to LED for energy savings.
  - He also mentioned items that could be paid out of capital outlay funds such as contour work on the baseball field, new bleachers, fencing, etc.
  - Penalty funds could pay for temporary items purchased for the first couple of home football games.

### Football Field Rental Fee

Activities Director John Ostrowski advised that, during football playoffs, the championship games were played on turf and the district might be asked if our field could be used. He relayed that RCTC charges \$70 per hour for the field, \$10 per hour for use of lights, a cleanup fee of \$250, a cancellation fee of 20%, and requires a certificate of insurance. We would also charge supervision fees. Mr. Ostrowski sought input from the Board. The Board was in consensus that the district would rent out the field for playoffs. They directed Mr. Ostrowski to proceed with a rental contract to be brought back for Board approval.

Mr. Ostrowski suggested our athletic field flag be situated next to the new scoreboard. He also relayed his excitement that Tom Surprenant had determined how to put the Hall of Fame individual's photo on the scoreboard.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Presentation about Proposed 2015 Payable 2016 Levy

Supt. Carolan shared the following information:

- The Adjusted Net Tax Capacity (ANTC) of \$5,755,680 would be approximately 1.7 million dollars greater than last year. This would impact the district's general debt service levy by an additional \$126,740.
- The Local Optional Revenue would increase by \$315,670.
- The General Fund total would be \$10,362,429.
- The Long-Term Facility Maintenance revenue of \$261,437 would replace the old Health and Safety and Deferred Maintenance revenue.
- The maximum levy would result in a 15.35% increase over last year. The increase in ANTC resulted in an increase in the Debt Service levy due to higher property evaluations.

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to authorize the maximum levy for 2015 Payable 2016. The Board would continue the discussion at their September 22<sup>nd</sup> Retreat. They could still reduce it, if they so wished, at their December meeting when the final levy amount would be determined by the Board.

### Fundraiser Request

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Hofschulte, and carried unanimously to approve the Choir pizza fundraiser.

### Accept Resignation

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to accept the resignations of JAMIE MAUSKEMO and ROSEMARIE VEITH as Instructional Assistants, JENNY GUNTER as Academic Triathlon Coach, and TAMMY KREIDERMACHER as School Nurse.

### Consent - New Hires

A motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to hire JEANETTE PRIES as HS/MS Health Office Assistant; CASEY LARSON, KRISTINA JUDISCH and NICOLE POCHRON as Instructional Assistants; JORDAN DANIELSON and EMMA HORMAN as Student SACC Workers; SAM CALLAHAN and TAYLOR SCHERBRING as Adult SACC Workers; ANDREA BABCOCK as Speech & Language Pathologist; and CHRISTINE ECK and JOYCE PETERSON as job share School Nurse.

### Accept Donations

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to accept the donations of \$90 from MICHELLE WILLIAMS and \$90 from the WELLS FARGO FOUNDATION MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM to the elementary, and \$300 from the EYOTA AMERICAN LEGION for the Trap Shoot program and \$133.99 for the wreath set on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Band.

## **HEARING OF REPORTS**

Superintendent's Report & Communication -- Supt. Carolan relayed the following: 1) Beginning of the year activities included the week-long New Teacher Workshop ("high energy, eager to learn, and well engaged"); the Teacher Workshop Days where staff worked on developing learning goals and scales; open houses,

orientations, and retreats; 2) Attendance totals were: High School/Middle School at 611 (13 more than the Spring of 2015), Elementary at 523 (24 new), and Early Childhood at 71; 3) Mr. Carolan provided an itinerary of meetings/activities for the remainder of the month.

#### Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

**Andring** – Mr. Andring advised that he had spent quite a bit of time on the ballfield. He had been in the elementary building just before school started and was surprised when school started how many things had been accomplished in the meantime. Also, a massive amount of work had been done the week before the first home football game. In regard to the DEEF pavers he said, “Awesome! They have done a tremendous job including obtaining advertising for the scoreboard.” He ended his report by saying that the scoreboard salesman spent the first half of the first football game in crowd’s nest to make certain the scoreboard worked correctly.

**Nelson** – Mrs. Nelson would be attending the October 1 Policy Committee meeting and was waiting to hear that an Assessment Committee meeting had been set.

**Austinson** – Mrs. Austinson was teaching classes at Winona and advised that they would not interfere with School Board meetings.

**Peterson** – Member Peterson had attended negotiations sessions and advised that the one scheduled for that week might be changed to another date.

**Lehnertz** – Mrs. Lehnertz was proud of the athletic complex. She thanked the administration and staff for all of their hard work preparing for the first week of school.

**Hofschulte** – Mrs. Hofschulte indicated that Community Education was seeking a certified trap shooting instructor, that drivers’ education classes would begin in October, that Tae Kwon Do classes would be starting, and that storage space was a concern. She relayed, “The field is fantastic and I liked seeing Mike (Carolan) greet everyone as they came off the field.”

**Pagel** – Member Pagel had attended the Welcome Back Breakfast for employees and said everyone was excited to be back. Mr. Carolan did a good job of introducing himself to the staff. Mr. Pagel was looking forward to December when the elementary construction would be complete. He ended his report by saying that the school year was off to a great start.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 PM.

Julie Austinson, Clerk  
Cb