

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 13, 2015

Chair 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. Board members present: Don Andring, Julie Austinson, Andrea Lehnertz, Linda Nelson, Ron Pagel, Todd Peterson, and Superintendent Bruce Klaehn. Absent: Molly Hofschulte and Student Board Member Emmy Buntrock. Also in attendance were Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Principal Todd Rowekamp, Curriculum Director Jane Johnson, Assistant Principal/Activities Director John Ostrowski, Business Manager Gary Betcher, Administrative Assistant Chris Berg, Eric Aeschlimann, Gwen Ahern, Mindy Boynton, Tyrel Clark, Nick Fink, Tim Hruska, Angie Johnson, Christine Kobs, John Pittenger, Darci Rice, and Brian Todd.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve the Agenda

Chair Pagel advised that the agenda would be amended to add the following:

- Approve Commissioning Agent for Construction Project
- Approve Contract Reduction
- Add retirement resignation of LINDA ZARLING at the end of the school year
- Add hire of DANIEL ARCHER as Cook

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

Visitors to Address the Board

Nick Fink addressed the School Board with some questions and concerns relating to boys' soccer.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Andring, and carried unanimously to approve the March 9, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the March 16, 2015 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

Regular District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$109,974.36.

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 \$93,998.74.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$10,580,433.36 and the March electronic transfers.

RECOGNITIONS

Supt. Klaehn noted the Girls' Basketball State Championship and the Mayoral proclamation presented by Eyota Mayor Tyrel Clark and Dover Mayor Pro Temp Matthew Elder. He also relayed that the Dover-Eyota Girls' Basketball championship banner was being displayed in the Target Center.

Principal Todd Rowekamp relayed that Knowledge Bowl participants had advanced to state competition. They included Greg Bowen, Mitchell Eckhart, Jacob Mulholland, Ben Reuss, and Nathaniel Gunter coached by Alberto Vera. This is the first time in several years that a Knowledge Bowl team has advanced to state, and this group finished 20 out of 24.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

High School Principal – Todd Rowekamp shared the following: 1) Open Campus for seniors was going well; 2) It has been an interesting year for testing and, so far, everything was going smoothly. On Wednesday, the juniors would take the 11th grade math test and then do the preliminary test for the ACT. The actual ACT test would be taken on April 28th; 3) Participation in Model United Nations continues to expand with 16 students participating this year; 4) Mr. Rowekamp had a productive meeting with the Hiawatha Valley Education District (HVED) data manager; 5) Several FFA teams have been successful this year.

Elementary Principal – Dr. Jeanne Svobodny shared the following: 1) Relayed that 75 families attended Kindergarten Registration and the 2014-15 class size was now around 85; 2) Thanked the Parents and Teachers Together (PATT) group for their generous \$14,000 donation to the elementary; 3) Thanked Linda Oesau, Harry Zeitler, Bob Potter, and Greg Blake for helping with the elementary staff move. She noted that Wayne Ellringer had been proactive and organized in directing the move. She also thanked the staff for their “very cooperative attitude;” 4) She mentioned the new drop-off/pick-up area at the elementary and thanked Supt. Klaehn, Deputy Tracey Pagel, and Transportation Director Dustin Pagel for directing traffic the first day of classes after break; 5) Mrs. Svobodny noted Linda Zarling’s retirement after 39 years at Dover-Eyota. She called her an “amazing professional” who is “stable, honest and caring with a strong work ethic who advocates for her students.” Mrs. Zarling is known for developing a close relationship with her students and families, and will be missed; 6) Title I Para Jackie Arens is also retiring at the end of the school year. “She has done a great job and will be missed;” 7) Mrs. Svobodny noted that Kathy Martin was retiring; however, she would be returning next fall with a reduced contract.

District Feedback Forms

Supt. Klaehn relayed the compliment and complaint forms received.

REPORTS

Construction Updates

Tim Hruska of WKBS indicated that bids had been received for the grading and site work of the track and field project, which was scheduled to start within the next 10 days. He and Mr. Klaehn explained the various bids and surfaces for the field and track. There was currently a \$94,000 margin (under budget), but no contingency fund in the track and field project. The completion date for the excavation work is July 3.

Mr. Klaehn reviewed the combined construction budget of both the elementary addition and the track and field. He relayed that the elementary project construction contingency fund of \$500,000 should cover the PR’s and change orders. He provided information about these possible additions: a new athletic field scoreboard, extended field/track bleacher seating, new track equipment, eagle logo in the center of the field, and replacing the elementary gym floor. The Board held an extensive discussion to consider these additions.

Mindy Boynton of the Dover-Eyota Eagles Foundation (DEEF) indicated their group would probably be interested in financially assisting the installation of the eagle logo in the center of the new football field. Also, they might be able to help generate school pride at the elementary by financially assisting with a logo in the new elementary gym floor.

Activities Director John Ostrowski showed the two versions of possible scoreboards being considered. One option would cost \$48,000 and would accommodate football and soccer scores. The second option, at a cost of \$111,000 would also provide track results and sponsorship spaces. It was felt that the Dover-Eyota Eagles Foundation could perhaps seek those sponsors to assist in generating those funds for the school district.

Approve the Proposal for Commissioning Agent/Systems Inspector for the Construction Project.

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve Hallberg as the Commissioning Agent/Systems Inspector for the Construction Project.

OLD BUSINESS

Final Approval of Band Trip to Washington, DC and Gettysburg, PA

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to approve the Band Trip to Washington, DC and Gettysburg, PA June 29 through July 5, 2015.

2015-16 Budgeting Updates

Last month, the Board had asked the administration to proceed with \$100,000 in reductions. Supt. Klaehn explained that those decreases included voluntary reductions/retirements, reductions in Knowledge Road crossing

guards, Grades 6-9 retreat costs reduced by Eagle Bluff, an increase in athletic fees by \$10 and athletic gate admissions by \$1, reduction of the staff development allowance, reduction of one Spanish section and overload changes in the high school, and reduction of building supply budgets. The net total of these changes is a reduction of \$122,105 in the budget. At the same time, it was felt there was a need to increase technology staff by a half-time position.

Mr. Klaehn said that there were two large unknowns in the 2015-16 budget: legislative funding and settlement of the Dover-Eyota Education Association teacher contract. He would probably ask for final approval of the budget in June. The Board was in agreement that the direction given was an appropriate one.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the budget reductions and changes.

Field/Track Bid Approval

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve all project bids as presented totaling \$1,455,972.

Supt. Klaehn explained the options for the elementary gym floor -- urethane or wood. Mr. Ostrowski and Elementary Physical Education Instructor Eric Aeschlimann had visited schools with these types of floors and shared the advantages and disadvantages of both materials.

The Board also discussed the possible installation of a basic scoreboard for \$44,000 or a premier scoreboard for \$111,000, installation of additional bleachers for \$80,000, installation of a concrete pad only for future additional bleachers, purchase of track equipment in the amount of \$30,000, and installation of an eagle logo in the center of the field for \$10,100. Supt. Klaehn relayed that the District designated a \$300,000 contribution to the track and field project and explained from what funds the monies would be obtained.

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to replace the elementary gym floor with urethane and include removal of the current flooring.

More research would be done on scoreboard options before a decision would be made at the May Board meeting.

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Lehnertz, and carried unanimously to install a bleacher pad and fencing and address an additional bleacher purchase at a later date.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to purchase track equipment as presented.

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the installation of an eagle logo in the center of the field as a part of the project.

NEW BUSINESS

New Superintendent Contract Approval

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018 contract with Mr. Michael Carolan with the following salaries: \$115,000 for 2015-2016, \$117,000 for 2016-2017, and \$119,000 for 2017-2018.

Approve Integration Budget

Curriculum Director Jane Johnson indicated that the Board had approved a 3-year Integration Plan last year, and each year must approve a budget.

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the Integration Budget (Attachment A).

MDE External User Access

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Lehnertz and carried unanimously to authorize user access to Minnesota Department of Education secure website for our local education agency to Bruce Klaehn through June 30, 2015 and Michael Carolan beginning July 1, 2015.

Approve Contract with CliftonLarsonAllen for Auditing Services

A motion was made by Member Austinson, and seconded by Member Andring, and carried unanimously to approve the contract with CliftonLarsonAllen for auditing services.

Fundraiser Request

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the FFA annual plant sale.

Accept Retirement Resignations

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Andring, and carried unanimously to accept the retirement resignations of Special Education Instructor LINDA ZARLING, Instructional Assistant JACKIE ARENS, and District Media Specialist KATHY MARTIN (will return on a reduced contract the Fall of 2015-16).

Consent – Accept Resignations

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to accept the resignations of Assistance Dance Coach OLIVIA CARDELL, Technology Coordinator RON MERCHLEWITZ, Cook KRIS EVANS, and District Office/Instructional Assistant JENNIFER GUNTER.

Consent - New Hires

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to hire TAYLOR SCHERBRING as an Elementary Instructional Assistant through the end of the 2014-15 school year and DANIEL ARCHER as Cook.

Consent - Accept Donations

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to accept the following donations: 1) High School - \$317 from DE PARENTS for teacher meals at the Spanish Club fundraiser, \$10 from ROBIN WILSON to the Class of 2021, \$600 from the EYOTA AMERICAN LEGION for GBB state competition transportation, \$200 from NANCY WHITCOMB for record boards; 2) District - \$1,202.23 from DON'S ELECTRIC, INC. for wiring work; 3) Close Up - \$250 from the DOVER FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION; and 4) Elementary - \$14,000 from PARENTS AND TEACHERS TOGETHER.

Contract Reduction

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the request from KAREN FRYE to reduce her contract from 1.0 FTE to .5 FTE starting the Fall of 2015.

HEARING OF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report & Communication -- Supt. Klaehn relayed the following: 1) Recognized Mr. Ostrowski for his extra work as the girls' basketball team went to the state tournament. He added, "We were 'first class' all the way including the welcome home for the players. He did an exceptional job representing the school district;" 2) He relayed where summer activities would be held in the high school building this summer; 3) The new Health Insurance Transparency Act (HITA) requires school to bid health insurance every 2 years with employee participation. That process is currently in motion this spring.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Andring – Mr. Andring congratulated the Dover-Eyota Eagles Foundation (DEEF) on the "spectacular job" they did on their fundraiser. He congratulated the Girls' Basketball team and the Knowledge Bowl team on their accomplishments. In regard to the construction project he said, "It is moving along very well. I hope it continues that way." Member Andring noted the success of the FFA teams and thanked PATT for their "fantastic" donation. He ended his report by expressing a special thank you to Linda Zarling for 39 years of working with special education students. He added, "Another great loss. She will be missed."

Nelson – Mrs. Nelson congratulated all of the kids on their achievements and hard work and added, "What a successful year for Dover-Eyota!" She gave a "shout out of appreciation" to the elementary staff for being so supportive of each other during the move. Member Nelson congratulated Mrs. Zarling on her retirement and said, "We will miss her in this district."

Austinson – Mrs. Austinson noted that "great things" were going on with FFA, Knowledge Bowl, and Girls' Basketball. She extended a thank you to PATT for their generous donation. She also thanked the custodial staff for their hard work and noted the flexibility of the staff during the move. Member Austinson expressed her appreciation to the construction workers for the good job they had done blocking off areas of the elementary building during construction. In regard to Linda Zarling's retirement she said, "When a person puts that much time into something, they put their heart and soul in it."

Peterson – Member Peterson thanked Mrs. Zarlring for her service to the district and added, “39 years is a great accomplishment!” He congratulated the Girls’ Basketball team for not only making it to state competition, but winning it. He ended his report by relaying that the negotiations meeting with the teachers had been cancelled.

Lehnertz – Mrs. Lehnertz congratulated all of the students in the various activities. In regard to the move at the elementary, she said to that staff, “You make it look easy. Nice job!” She also indicated that a Technology Committee meeting was scheduled for April 28th.

Pagel – The HVED was wrapping up strategic planning, was working on a director evaluation, and continues to look at a future site for the alternative school. Member Pagel thanked the Board, administration and staff for all the extra work and noted that this was not a “typical” year at DE due to construction, superintendent interviews, groundbreaking, sport successes, and extra-curricular activities. He noted the success of the Dover-Eyota Eagles Foundation’s first auction, which was a “huge success.” Mr. Pagel ended his report by relaying that Michael Carolan was excited to get started as the new superintendent and looked forward to being a part of the culture of the Dover-Eyota School District.

CLOSED SESSION – Negotiations Strategy

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to close the meeting for a closed session at 10:05 PM.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to end the closed session at 10:32 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 PM.

Julie Austinson, Clerk
Cb

Achievement and Integration Plan Budget Update Dover-Eyota School Board Meeting

April 13, 2015 124D.861 ACHIEVEMENT AND INTEGRATION FOR MINNESOTA.

The "Achievement and Integration for Minnesota" program is established to pursue racial and economic integration and increase student academic achievement, create equitable educational opportunities and reduce academic disparities based on student's diverse racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds in MN public schools.

Our current three-year Achievement and Integration Plan with the Minnesota Department of Education (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2017) provides us with the seed money to help fund a Literacy Specialist position in the Middle School/ High School to minimize the achievement gap, and to improve the process for helping our students develop individual student college/ career readiness plans.

The Literacy Specialist provides direct instruction in reading, writing and work readiness skills to at-risk students. She also works in classrooms and professional learning teams to assist in the implementation of English Language Arts best practices into the content areas.

Literacy Specialist Responsibilities:

1. Analyze and interpret assessment data to determine student reading proficiency and students in need of intervention.
2. Administer additional reading/literacy assessment to individual students as needed.
3. Provide individual/small group reading instruction to identified students.
4. Teach/ co-teach reading interventions.
5. Co-teach with content area teachers to demonstrate and share model lessons and instructional best practices in literacy.
6. Provide formal and informal mentoring and professional development to teachers related to ELA and Literacy standards and instructional best practices in literacy.
7. Assist with the development and monitoring of building, PLT and individual teacher goals pertaining to student reading proficiency.
8. Participate in professional development to stay current with best practices in reading/literacy instruction.

This grant covers approximately 45% of her salary. The Integration Revenue expenditures for the 2015-2016 will be: \$29,585.30

The fiscal year 2016 Achievement & Integration Revenue budget must be approved by the school board.

Integration Collaborative Member Districts:

1. RI/RIS (Racially Identified District and Racially Identified School/s-- Rochester Public Schools)
2. A (Adjoining Districts: Dover-Eyota, Pine Island, Plainview-Elgin-Millville, Chatfield, Stewartville, Zumbrota –Mazeppa, Byron

Achievement and Integration Program Goals:

- By spring 2017, the proficiency GAP between the FRP and Non-FRP students enrolled by the full academic year for all grades tested within grades 3-8 & 10 on all state Reading accountability tests (MCA, MOD, MTAS) will *decrease by 3 %*.
- By spring of 2017, Dover-Eyota Middle School students will have an evolving college/career readiness plans.

Specific Integration with Rochester Middle Schools:

- Observe common presentations
- Shared field trips to local businesses and medical facilities
- Shared experiences based on career interests