

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 10, 2014

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, Dan Johnson, Linda Nelson, Ron Pagel, Todd Peterson, Molly Hofschulte, Student Board Member Akeem Sunde, and Superintendent Bruce Klaehn. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Todd Rowekamp, Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Curriculum Director Jane Johnson, Athletic Director/Asst. Principal John Ostrowski, Food & Nutrition Director Carrie Frank, Business Manager Gary Betcher, Administrative Assistant Chris Berg, and Jacob Robinson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve the Agenda

Chair Pagel advised that there were two additions to the agenda: Jacob Robinson's leave of absence request and track coaching staff discussion.

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

Visitors to Address the Board

There were no visitors to address the Board.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to approve the January 13, 2014 Organizational Board Meeting Minutes.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the January 13, 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Regular District Bills

A motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$81,047.23.

Special District Bills

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the payment of the Special District Bills totaling \$113,086.91.

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 \$2,579,663.87 and the January electronic transfers.

RECOGNITIONS

Principal Jeanne Svobodny recognized Jill Magnuson for writing a \$1,000 Minnesota Reading Association grant that was approved, and Penny Garity for being nominated as a candidate for the Minnesota Teacher of the Year award.

Activities Director John Ostrowski advised that the Dance Team placed 2nd in section high kick competition and are excited to advance to state.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

High School Principal – Todd Rowekamp relayed the following: At a recent inservice, teachers Becky Houghton, Betsy Wells and Dan Vrieze had shared with their peers how they have implemented some "Grading for Learning" practices in their classrooms.

Elementary Principal – Jeanne Svobodny relayed the following: 1) Lori Mack provided a day-long presentation on the strategies for effective teaching of Academic Vocabulary; 2) She thanked the elementary members of the Teacher

Evaluation Committee (Doug Zars, Chris Matejka, and Penny Garity) for providing a great update to staff on the progress thus far; 3) Bobbi Waters, Tom Flaig, Jill Magnuson, Sadie Linnihan and Dan Lecheler, members of the RTI Steering Committee, provided their peers with an overview of their work; 4) She attended the Minnesota Elementary Principal Conference entitled "Growing the Minnesota Child." She thanked Jane Johnson for filling in during her absence and the Board for the opportunity to attend the conference.

Food & Nutrition Director Carrie Frank

The auditors suggested the district reduce the Food Service fund balance by possibly improving equipment and Mrs. Frank has purchased a range for the high school and a new slicer for each building at a cost of just over \$12,000. She would also like to purchase an additional steamer for the high school for approximately \$16,000 which includes installation. Mrs. Frank suggested that it be purchased now and that the equipment allowance for the next fiscal year be reduced accordingly. This purchase would require Board approval.

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of an additional steamer at a cost of approximately \$16,000.

Director Frank showed the Board how, with the use of a grant she wrote and received, school menus have gone high tech with the intent of helping students with food allergies. The menus are now interactive on the web and can be downloaded to a Smart phone as an app. Dover-Eyota is one of six schools in Minnesota using this application. Mrs. Frank is receiving favorable comments, especially from parents whose children have allergies.

District Feedback Forms

No district feedback forms were received.

STUDENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Senior Akeem Sunde brought forward these items: 1) The Student Council held a fundraiser called "Rent a Senior Day." Select seniors who met certain requirements could be rented out and walked the "renters" to and from class. The group raised \$200 and will give one-third each to the Class of 2014 and to the Sharing Tree; 2) There are a lot of new Drama Club members and auditions for the spring musical will be held the last week of Feb.

REPORTS

First Reading of the 2014-2015 Calendar and 2015-2016 Tentative Calendar

Supt. Klaehn advised that the Calendar Committee's discussion was down to one basic issue: the need for more work/in-service time after first and third quarter. They are considering eliminating the early outs on the first and third end-of-quarter days and making the following day a work/in-service day. To accommodate that, the student contact days could be reduced from 175 to 174.

The discussion included members expressing the need to stay with 175 days, some agreeing to the reduction to 174 days, and the option to reduce the potential snow make up days from three to two. The Calendar Committee will do more work on the 2014-2015 Calendar and bring it back to the March Board meeting.

2014-16 Aims and Goals – First Draft

Supt. Klaehn thanked the Administrative Team of John Ostrowski, Todd Rowekamp, Jeanne Svobodny and Jane Johnson for their "forward-thinking work" on the Aims and Goals. Mr. Klaehn explained the thought process behind the changes/improvements to the Aims and Goals. Several suggestions for further changes came from the Board members. The next steps are to obtain staff input, and then bring a revised document back to the Board.

First Reading of the 2014-2015 Preliminary Budget

Supt. Klaehn provided an overview of a draft version of the 2014-2015 Preliminary Budget.

OLD BUSINESS

Further Planning and Information for the May 7, 2014 Referendum

Mr. Klaehn provided a draft proposal of the website front page which would provide information about the May 7th Bond Issue Referendum. He also had the Board view a document entitled the "Basics of the May 7, 2014 Dover-Eyota Bond Referendum" which will soon be released as an informational piece. Suggestions for further revisions were provided by the Board members.

NEW BUSINESS

Potential Make-up of any Future Snow Days

Supt. Klaehn recommended the following as make-up days for future snow days: April 17, June 5, and April 21.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Peterson and carried unanimously to have April 17, June 5, and April 21 the makeup days for any future snow days.

Consent – Accept Resignations

A motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to accept the following resignations: 1) CATALINA SOVELL as Food Service Clerk; 2) TAMRA MCCOY as Cook's Helper; 3) JAYLEEN MEYERS as Softball Coach; 4) JEFF MORENO, JR. as Baseball Coach; 5) TYLER ROGERS as Boys' Basketball Coach; 6) KRISTI BLATTNER as Volleyball Coach.

Consent – Hires

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve hiring ALLISON MARTIN as the Long-Term Substitute Health Instructor, and BRYANNA BALBACH as the 8th Grade Softball Coach.

Consent – Accept Donations

A motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to accept the following donations: 1) Elementary - \$90 from WELLS FARGO Matching Gift Program (employee was Michelle Williams); 2) High School - \$200 from ROBERT BUCK to Yearbook.

Leave of Absence Request

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the leave of absence of JACOB ROBINSON from approximately March 1, 2014 for 10 work days.

Track Coaching Staff

Supt. Klaehn proposed hiring Dave Hedin as an adjunct track coach to provide expertise in shot put and discus. Besides this training, the position would provide much needed increased supervision. Continued consideration of this position for future years would be revisited. He recommended a stipend of \$1,050 for the season.

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Austinson and carried unanimously to hire Dave Hedin as the adjunct coach at a stipend of \$1,050 for the 2013-2014 track season.

HEARING OF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report & Communication -- Supt. Klaehn relayed the following: 1) Because a primary for Board elections has not been required since it's installation in 2008, Mr. Klaehn asked the Board to reconsider the need for a primary. This will be a formal agenda item at the March meeting; 2) The legislative forum on February 1st was attended by 12 legislators, 24 superintendents, and numerous board members was very successful. Included was a lively discussion on the proposed bullying legislation; 3) A legal group recently released a lunch policy report from 309 Minnesota school districts. It concluded that districts use one of three methods of supplying meals to students who do not have money in their lunch accounts: allow them to keep taking meals no matter what their lunch balance, give them a peanut butter sandwich and milk in place of a meal (Dover-Eyota's policy), or receive no lunch. This group is advocating that all kids be fed a hot lunch every day no matter what. Mr. Klaehn talked about accountability and the fact that providing meals no matter what their balance could open the door for all kids to have free lunch. He added that our Food Service Department encourages families to apply for free or reduced meals if they are having trouble paying for meals.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Andring – He missed a Playground Committee and was unable to attend the legislative forum, which he has enjoyed over the years.

Austinson – Attended the legislative forum and was waiting to receive handouts from the event. The Southeast Service Cooperative will be holding a school safety and security forum in March.

Hofschulte – The Early Learning Council's current focus is to clarify what preschool readiness and kindergarten readiness means across the state. The Southeast Service Cooperative remodeling is under way and they will soon be

ready to rent out the new facilities for meetings, etc. Mrs. Hofschulte thanked Supt. Klaehn for his part in making the legislative forum more unique and productive.

Johnson – Discussion at the last Technology Committee meeting included how to use Facebook as a way to relay school happenings. Many schools have a Facebook presence and the group will continue considering this means of keeping the community informed. In regard to the new Food Service menu app, he said, “The total concept of apps is infiltrating our lives for more specific purposes. Smart phones make it easier to navigate the apps.” Mr. Johnson ended his report by expressing his feeling that food in the gym is going well; however, he suggested a fall or spring cleaning and adding recycling containers.

Nelson – Mrs. Nelson advised that the Policy Committee held some good discussions at their recent meeting.

Pagel – The Hiawatha Valley Education District continues its negotiations. Mr. Pagel relayed how proud he was of the DE Band’s performance at the Minnesota School Board Association conference.

Peterson – Member Peterson will be attending Minnesota School Board Association officer training. He congratulated the Dance Team for making state competition once again.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 PM.

Julie Austinson, Clerk
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