

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 9, 2013

Chair 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. 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, Activities Director John Ostrowski, Business Manager Gary Betcher, Food & Nutrition Director Carrie Frank, Transportation Director Dustin Pagel, Administrative Assistant Chris Berg, Lora Allen, Susan Anderson, Bryanna Balbach, Sheri Crowson, Susan Keller-Schaefer, Gene Loftus, Michelle McNallan, Brooke Moeller, Jon Neubauer, Peggy Swenson, and Mary Trogstad.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Supt. Klaehn introduced the High School Student Council President and Student School Board Representative Akeem Sunde.

Approve the Agenda

The following additions were made to the agenda:

- 13e. Consider FFA Fundraiser Requests
- Student School Board Member Communications
- Move track report into Supt. Report

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Johnson, 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 Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the August 12, 2013 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the August 22, 2013 Board Retreat Minutes.

Regular District Bills

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Hofschulte, and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$148,527.28.

Special District Bills

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the payment of the Special District Bills totaling \$149,902.60.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$3,672,075.58 and the August electronic transfers.

RECOGNITIONS

Principal Todd Rowekamp introduced new teachers Nora Olson (English), Steve Moericke (Science), and Bryanna Balbach (Physical Education/DAPE) who shared information about themselves.

Dr. Jeanne Svobodny recognized elementary staff members Suzette Rowen for obtaining her Reading licensure, and Sheri Crowson for earning her Autism Spectrum Disorder licensure.

Supt. Klaehn acknowledged that Board Member Linda Nelson had completed all of the Minnesota School Board Association Phase training and presented her with a certificate.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

Elementary Principal – Jeanne Svobodny relayed the following: 1) She enjoyed watching the children come back to school...some with great anticipation and some with fear; 2) The preschool Open House was held on Thu., September 5th and had a good turnout. Today was the first day of the preschool program; 3) The first week enrollment at the elementary was at 535 students; 4) Challenges this year included scheduling paras and covering duties in areas of need, and arranging schedules for special education students; 5) Wednesday morning School Age Child Care (SACC) currently has over 80 children registered to be dropped off from 7:30 to 8:30 AM. Students will be divided into groups with various activities planned. Mrs. Svobodny gave special thanks to Kim Schlueter for helping with the SACC registrations; 6) The Language Arts Committee recently met and will work to improve the reading scores as they were not as strong as the math scores; 7) A student flu clinic is being coordinated by the Olmsted County Health Dept., Olmsted Medical Center, and Mayo Clinic.

High School Principal – Todd Rowekamp relayed the following: 1) The district held a One-to-One computer laptop meeting for 9th graders and some 10th graders; 2) The Technology Team decided not to allow printing from student computers, not only to save paper, but also to encourage students and teachers to communicate electronically; 3) In regard to Homecoming, he will send a similar letter to parents as he did last year to create a positive atmosphere for those activities.

Student School Board Member – Senior Akeem Sunde had the following to share: 1) Advised that he has attended Dover-Eyota since 4th grade; 2) He was recently elected the High School Student Council President, Megan Ostrowski was elected Vice President, and Jazmin Schott became the Treasurer; 3) The Homecoming theme is the “Eyota Choice Awards.” Akeem felt that sending out the Homecoming letter to parents again this year was a good way for them to know that pranks are a concern for the school district, and that they should be aware of their child’s activities; 4) The students are enjoying the new lockers; 5) In regard to the new policy reducing student printing, he felt that the students would get used to it and relayed that he electronically shares a lot of Moodle and Google documents with his teachers rather than providing a hard copy.

Food & Nutrition Director – Carrie Frank reported the results of the Food Service Department’s 2012-13 goals and accomplishments of the department.

Transportation & Grounds Director – Dustin Pagel reported the results of his department’s 2012-13 goals, summer projects completed (new sidewalk, camera systems in buses, updated the playground, etc.), and challenges (bus route drivers needed). He also mentioned the need for a bus routing software program.

District Feedback Forms

No District Feedback Forms were received.

REPORTS

TSP Report

Jon Neubauer of TSP provided an overview of the Early Childhood Development Program Space Needs & Evaluation Study. The purpose of the study was to determine the space needs and best location for the preschool program. Input sessions were held with a task force made up of preschool staff, administrators, community members, and parents. A field analysis of the Dover building was completed, as well as an analysis of regulatory requirements (fire code, accessibility, etc.). The staff and Preschool Task Force identified significant aspects (pros and cons) of the preschool program being located in the Dover building or in the elementary building.

The report also provided significant items requiring action at the Dover building (roof replacement, exterior masonry tuckpointing, mechanical system replacement including plumbing and waste piping, etc.). Extensive remodeling of the Dover building would classify the project as “new” construction, meaning more code (building and fire) and accessibility requirements must be met. Complete, proposed renovations were estimated in excess of \$2,000,000. The study included a conceptual addition to the elementary building to provide 13,000 square feet of space (including an activity space) for the preschool program at a cost in excess of \$2,500,000.

Supt. Klaehn advised that Ehlers & Associates representatives will attend the Special Board Meeting on Thu., September 26 to provide funding options. He indicated that a levy referendum would be required should the School Board wish to proceed with the project.

OLD BUSINESS

Continue Building Security Consideration

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Hofschulte, and carried unanimously to approve security modifications in all three buildings totaling \$33,439.

NEW BUSINESS

2013-15 Dover-Eyota Education Association Master Agreement

Supt. Klaehn provided a summary of the agreement and advised that the teachers had approved the contract.

A motion was made by Member Andring, and seconded by Member Peterson to approve the 2013-15 Dover-Eyota Education Association Master Agreement. A roll call vote was taken with the following voting in favor: Peterson, Pagel, Johnson, Austinson, Nelson and Andring. Those voting against the same: Hofschulte. The motion carried 6-1.

2013-15 Bus & Van Driver Agreement

Supt. Klaehn advised that the Bus & Van Driver Agreement increased driver salaries 4.5% each year.

A motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the 2013-15 Bus & Van Driver Agreement.

Consent - Accept Resignations

A motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to accept the following resignations: 1) LISA MICKELSON as Instructional Assistant; 2) MICHAEL ECK as Bus Driver; 3) JAYLEEN MEYERS as Instructional Assistant and 9th Gr Volleyball Coach; 4) JESSICA WEBECK as Footsteps Instructional Assistant; 5) KIM SCHLUETER as Footsteps Educator; 6) DAVE HEDIN as 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach; 7) APRILL THOMPSON as Cook's Helper; 8) JOHN PITTENGER as High School Student Council Advisor; 9) BRANDI PAGEL as Junior High Knowledge Bowl Advisor.

Consent – Hires

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Hofschulte, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to hire the following individuals: 1) ALLI KITTLESON as Footsteps Child Educator; 2) CHRISTINE ECK as Long-Term Sub School Nurse; 3) KATHY GRIMM as Instructional Assistant; 4) LORI EHLENFELDT as Instructional Assistant; 5) BRIDGET CORCORAN as Instructional Assistant; 6) KARISSA LOEHR as Instructional Assistant; 7) SAM HANLEY as 9th Grade Volleyball Coach; 8) ROBERTA KURTH as Bus Driver; 9) LAURRINE KECKHAFFER as Cook's Helper; 10) VICKI ANDRING as Cook's Helper; 11) SALLY JOHNSON as Cook's Helper; 12) ALBERTO VERA as High School Student Council Advisor; 13) SARAH JOHNSON as Junior High Knowledge Bowl Advisor; 14) KIMBERLY SCHLUETER as SACC Administrative Assistant.

Consent – Fundraisers

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to approve the following fundraisers: 1) FFA Corn Drive October 1-31, 2013; 2) FFA fruit sales October 16 through November 22, 2013; 3) FFA plant sale May 8-9 and May 15-16, 2014.

HEARING OF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report & Communication -- Supt. Klaehn relayed the following: 1) Provided an enrollment update and advised that a few less students are attending than was anticipated; 2) Brought forward the concept of installing directional signs that would help individuals find the school buildings in Eyota; 3) Advised that three pre-registrations had been made for the Minnesota Rural Education Association Conference November 17-19 in Brainerd; 4) The cost structure for the school officer contract will be reviewed and a recommendation will be made to the Board; 5) The need for crossing guards at Bush Court was discussed; 6) Provided a summary of the brainstorming that took place at the Board Retreat. Mr. Klaehn will prioritize the list for the September 26th special meeting

Track Program Update

Added costs (above what the district is currently paying) for the DE boys' and girls' track program to split from St. Charles would be an estimated \$17,563 the first year and an estimated \$3,913 each year thereafter. The first year would require new uniforms and equipment. Mr. Klaehn and Mr. Ostrowski will be meeting with St. Charles Supt. Mark Rubinek and Activities Director Scott McCready to discuss jointly-owned equipment. Activities Director Ostrowski provided information about the possible dissolution of the DE/St. Charles track team and shared discussions he has had with our track coaches. It was noted that St. Charles seems to be in agreement with the dissolution, but has not made a formal decision.

Member Austinson made a motion to dissolve the track cooperative with St. Charles Public Schools. The motion was seconded by Member Nelson, and carried unanimously.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Andring – Mr. Andring welcomed the new teachers and Student Board Member Akeem Sunde. He advised that negotiations with the teachers “went very well” and he was pleased an agreement had been met. He added that the contract was “very beneficial to both” parties.

Nelson – Mrs. Nelson hoped that the school year got off to “wonderful start.” She also wished the best for Gary Franzen and his family.

Austinson – In regard to Dustin Pagel's desire to purchase bus routing software, she said, “He is a very practical guy that doesn't ask for much unless it is necessary. Putting things on a map – we can do better than that.” Mrs. Austinson ended her report by stating she liked the idea of exploring building a separate structure in Dover to house the preschool program.

Peterson – Mr. Peterson relayed that, “Negotiations went well. It was a good settlement for both sides.” In regard to the information provided on the Dover building, he said it would take time for the Board to sort through the data before making a decision. He added, “We are a long way from making that decision.” Member Peterson also welcomed the new teachers.

Johnson – Member Johnson welcomed Akeem Sunde to the School Board and added, “It is nice to have a student back on the Board.” He also stated that anything needed for maintenance, such as bus route software, was worth the expenditure. Mr. Johnson found the Dover report very interesting and stated, “It all goes back to meeting the needs of the district over the long term.” Mr. Johnson was pleased to work with the Negotiations Team on the teacher contract. He added, “It was a new experience and we did the best to be fair and responsible to the taxpayers.” He ended his report by wishing the best to Gary Franzen in his recovery.

Hofschulte – Mrs. Hofschulte sent encouragement to Gary Franzen and his family. In regard to the work of the Preschool Task Force she said, “It was no small undertaking. Preschool is coming at us as another grade. Expansion will be an issue for many school districts.” She also noted that she will be pushing for the Vocational Family Committee to be more active. In regard to Community Education, she advised that the committee had met that evening, “the ladies are busy and doing a fantastic job,” and they are working with open gym coaches to restart the program. Member Hofschulte welcomed the new teachers and felt it would be

good to accommodate a bus route program for Dustin Pagel. She indicated she also would like to see what the cost would be for a separate preschool site in Dover.

Pagel – Chair Pagel welcomed the new teachers and Student Board Member. The Hiawatha Valley Education District is continuing negotiations. The annual Three Rivers Conference meeting is scheduled at Dover-Eyota on Wed., September 11th. He also advised that the new football conference is “up and running.” In ending his report, Mr. Pagel said, “We continue to keep Gary (Franzen) in our thoughts and prayers. Kudos to his staff for keeping things running in his absence.”

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Nelson, seconded by Member Peterson, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 PM.

Julie Austinson, Clerk
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