

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Chair Pagel called the regular meeting of the Dover-Eyota Board of Education, District #533, to order at 7:02 PM in the Dover-Eyota High School Media Center. Board members present: Don Andring, Julie Austinson, Dan Johnson, Gene Loftus, Ron, Pagel, Todd Peterson, Molly Rieke (7:20 PM), and Superintendent Bruce Klaehn. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Todd Rowekamp, Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Asst. Principal/Activities Director John Ostrowski, Curriculum Director Jane Johnson, Business Manager Gary Betcher, Administrative Assistant Chris Berg, Lora Allen, Jill Davis, Bill Lisser, Linda Nelson, and Brian Todd.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda

Supt. Klaehn asked that Item 13f be added: Consider Capital Work in the Elementary Building.

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

Visitors to Address the Board

Mike Hinrichs of M&M Construction talked about his desire to be considered for snow plowing and parking lot resurfacing in the future.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to approve the August 6, 2012 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Andring, and carried unanimously to approve the August 21, 2012 Board Retreat Minutes.

Regular District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$168,808.41.

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 \$113,387.84.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Loftus, and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$1,602,979.25 and the August electronic transfers.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

Elementary Principal – Jeanne Svobodny relayed the following: 1) The preschool program Open House will be held Thu., September 6; 2) Grade level staff have been meeting and will continue to meet with the students to review behavioral expectations. When they see bullying occur, they are being taught to say, "Stop...We do not bully here!"; 3) The first week's enrollment is down a bit from last year; 4) Challenges this year include providing paraprofessional assistance to new special education students who have significant needs, getting the fall assessment schedule set, and scheduling and planning for upcoming target time (30-minute timeframes specified for flexible reading groups); 5) They are finding increased food allergies this year (i.e., to peanuts, eggs, etc.); 6) There are more English Language Learner students this year (children with a native language other than English); 7) The Climb Theatre will present interactive anti-bullying activities to 4th and 5th grade students on September 27th; 8) The elementary will be completing an application to seek a "Celebration Eligible

School” status. The school can apply because they met multiple measurement ratings (MCA proficiency, closing the achievement gap, percentage of kids who moved up a level on the MCAs, etc.); 9) The Hiawatha Valley Education District will complete a workload analysis of our special education staff versus needs.

High School Principal – Todd Rowekamp relayed the following: 1) The three (versus two) staff development days before school started were very much appreciated. Activities included good presenters from the Southeast Service Cooperative who talked about the Standards Insight program, Reading Specialist Heather Willman who may return to provide more workshops, and the Steve Gilleland presentation in Chatfield; 2) Last spring, a committee was formed to discuss the structure for class advisors and student leadership within each class. The new structure is being implemented now including advisors holding a class meeting for each class within the first two weeks of school and selecting class officers; 3) Mr. Rowekamp discussed the ACT test results with the Board; 4) The high school enrollment increased by seven students this fall; 5) Principal Rowekamp received Board input about a Homecoming parent letter he drafted as part of a new proactive strategy to reduce negative and damaging behavior in the community by some of our students.

Activities Director – John Ostrowski relayed the following: 1) Fall sporting participants include: 104 in Football (67 are grades 9-12 and 37 are grades 7-8), 58 in Volleyball (24 are grades 9-12 and 34 are grades 7-8), 48 in Girls’ Soccer (29 are grades 9-12 and 19 are grades 7-8), 10 in Boys’ Soccer with Plainview/Elgin/Millville, and 30 in Cross Country (18 boys and 12 girls); 2) The Dover-Eyota Cross Country invite is scheduled for Wed., September 12; 3) We will host the Three Rivers Annual Meeting also on September 12; 4) The Section 1A annual meeting will be held Wed., September 19 in Stewartville; 5) DE will host Section Dance competition in February; 6) A Varsity Soccer tournament for four teams is scheduled here for Sat., September 22; 7) We will host the Conference Cross Country meet on Tue., October 16; 8) DE will be hosting a 9th grade Volleyball tournament for 12 teams on Sat, September 22; 9) The new soccer/football field lights are “great.” He has not heard a lot of comments about them; however, it is obvious they make a big difference in the lighting of the field.

Customer Compliments, Concerns, Complaints
Supt. Klaehn relayed the complaints received.

REPORTS

First Reading of the 2011-12 SAR Report

Curriculum Director Jane Johnson led the group in the first reading of the Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement, which is an annual report required by the State of Minnesota .

OLD BUSINESS

Respond to Bid for Old Football Field Lights

Supt. Klaehn advised that one bid for \$50 was received for the old football field lights. The bidder was only interested in the poles but will dispose of the lights. There may be cost to dispose of the light fixtures.

A motion was made by Member Rieke, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to award Darcy Higgins the bid for the old football field lights.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Teamster Contract for 2012-14

Supt. Klaehn gave a quick review of the language changes in the 2012-14 Teamster Contract and advised that salaries increased 3.4% the first year, and 2.5% the second year. The Teamsters have ratified the contract.

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to approve the Teamster Contract for 2012-14.

Approve Cabinet and District Office Contracts for 2012-14

Supt. Klaehn relayed that the Cabinet and District Office contracts followed other approved contracts. The Cabinet contracts increased 2.77% the first year and 1.96% the second year. The District Office contracts increased 3.4% the first year and 2.5% the second year. He recommended approval of the contracts.

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Loftus, and carried unanimously to approve the Cabinet and District Office Contracts for 2012-14.

Consider Fundraiser Requests

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Rieke, and carried unanimously to approve the FFA Corn Drive and fruit sale fundraisers.

Accept Donation

A motion was made by Member Rieke, seconded by Member Austinson, and carried unanimously to accept the \$200 donation from the D-E Traveling Baseball Association for bases.

Consent - Approve Hires

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to hire the following individuals: 1) JANET LILLIE as Van Driver; 2) DAVID HEDIN as Van Driver; 3) DIANNE SCHMIDT as Bus Driver; 4) CHAD OHL as 8th Grade Football Coach; 5) KATHY SMITH as Technology and Assessment Assistant; 6) CASSIDY FOGARTY as AM SACC Worker; 7) JESSICA MERCHLEWITZ as Footsteps Child Educator; 8) JULIE GIESE as ELL Teacher.

Consider Capital Work in the Elementary Building

Supt. Klaehn reminded the Board that they approved payment of \$15,000 for preventative maintenance items on the exterior of the high school building. The contractor did an outstanding job and he was impressed with their work. An estimate of \$10,000 has been received for preventative exterior work on the areas of greatest need at the elementary building. Since the budget allowed for Dover roof repairs which ended up being covered at no cost from the vendor, the budget will allow for work to be done at the elementary building.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to approve \$10,000 preventative exterior work at the elementary building.

HEARING OF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report & Communication -- Supt. Klaehn relayed the following: 1) Reminded the Board of the Special Board Meeting on Mon., September 24 starting at 7 PM. The agenda will include the second reading and approval of the SAR Report, approval of the levy certification, and a report by Jon Neubauer on the Dover building; 2) The Minnesota Rural Education Association Area Meetings are scheduled for September 19 & 20. He will attend the September 20th meeting and later that night serve on the *Post Bulletin* bullying panel with other educators; 3) A Minnesota School Board Association Fall Regional Meeting is scheduled for September 20. He asked the Board to push MSBA to formulate a resolution regarding TRA contribution reinstatement; 4) The Three Rivers Conference Annual Meeting is being hosted by DE on Wed., September 12. We always receive great feedback as our Food Service provides an excellent meal; 5) Enrollment is down slightly from projections: 1332 WADMs projected and 1327 WADMs actual. Over the next two years, enrollment should remain level and then we will see a growth spurt; 6) He provided an update on the elementary roof project. Mr. John Neubauer will provide a full update at the September 24th Special Board Meeting; 7) The Southeast Service Cooperative is offering biometric testing to employees on Wed., October 17th for those on the health insurance plan. The testing includes blood work and completing an online survey for which employees will receive \$200 in their VEBA account. The results will be confidential and will not impact insurance premiums; 8) Elementary Custodial Director Wayne Ellringer and he met with Troy Miller and Jon Neubauer about the Dover building. The results being reported by Mr. Neubauer on September 24.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Loftus – Negotiations have ended for the year with the approval of the Teamster Contract. In regard to Mr. Hinrich's communication with the Board, Mr. Loftus did not feel that this year's snow removal bids should be reopened. He expressed his respect to Mr. Hinrich for his remarks to the Board.

Rieke – Ms. Rieke thanked everyone for the “nice round of negotiations.” She was late for the Board meeting because she was attending a Community Education Committee meeting. New Community Education Coordinators Susan Keller-Schaefer and Jennifer Horman are showing “a lot of energy.” They presented flyers and additional offerings they are working on bringing into the district. Mrs. Schaefer and Mrs. Horman are not only reaching out to the school community, but are also trying to engage the greater community at large. Suggested classes included parent classes on laptop use so that they can troubleshoot with students at home. The committee is seeking additional members. A new driver’s education vendor is being instituted and Community Education will offer a soap making class off site in Dover at Simple Soaps for Simple Folks.

Member Rieke reported that she would be teleconferencing with the Early Learning Council on Wed., September 19.

Peterson – Mr. Peterson did not attend any committee meetings.

Johnson – Member Johnson relayed his appreciation of Mr. Hinrich’s input. In regard to complaints about the school district’s website he said, “It shows that people are using it.” Mr. Johnson ended his report by saying, “Supt. Klaehn does a good job getting to the nuts and bolts of a concern.”

Andring – The Southeast Service Cooperative accepted the resignation of Paul McDahl as their Executive Director for the Centers of Excellence. The Coop recently hired Barb Marchetti as a Special Education Specialist. Mr. Andring relayed that the biometric testing offered by the SSC to our employees is information for them to use for their health. He ended his report by offering a Meet & Confer meeting with the teachers whenever they might want.

Austinson – At the end of last school year, the Crisis Committee discussed an evacuation plan and she was uncertain what the group would focus on this school year. New playground equipment was installed this summer. Member Austinson will attend the Minnesota School Board Association meeting and added, “I enjoy being on the Delegate Assembly.”

Pagel – Chair Pagel advised that the Three Rivers Conference Annual Meeting would be held on Wed., September 12.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Peterson, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Don Andring, Clerk
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