

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 12, 2010

Chair Ron 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, Gary Pedersen (7:14 PM), Molly Rieke, and Superintendent Bruce Klaehn. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Todd Rowekamp, Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Activities Director/Principal John Ostrowski, Food and Nutrition Director Carrie Frank, Transportation & Grounds Director Dustin Pagel, Business Manager Gary Betcher, Administrative Assistant Chris Berg, Jenny Bushman, and Doug Wigham.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda

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

Visitors to Address the Board

There were no visitors to address the Board.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Austinson and carried unanimously to approve the June 14, 2010 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the June 29, 2010 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Member Rieke, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the July 8, 2010 Special Board Meeting Minutes.

Regular District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Austinson, seconded by Member Rieke and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$89,145.85.

Special District Bills

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Loftus and carried unanimously to approve the payment of the Special District Bills totaling \$421,672.16.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Rieke, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$1,493,854.97, as well as the June electronic transfers.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

High School Principal – Todd Rowekamp shared the following in addition to his written report: 1) He expressed his appreciation to Ryan Anderson, Nicky Anderson, Kathy Sherman, and Brandi Kohler for working with the Band throughout the summer. The Band has marched in at least four parades this summer and will perform in the Eyota Days Parade. He added, "There is a lot of pride in the program; in fact, all of the 6th grade band students will continue into 7th grade band, which is not typical"; 2) He thanked the custodial crew and the Leadership Team for their work this summer; 3) In response to a question from Member Rieke, Principal Rowekamp explained how students are placed in the Valley View Learning Center alternative school in the Dover building. He relayed that, typically, only high school students are referred to VVLC and then only after an Assistance Team and interventions determine that the student is not making adequate progress toward graduation. Also, in lieu of expulsion, a student may choose to attend an alternate school in order to continue their studies. It would be difficult to capture in a policy

the requirements for a student to be referred to an alternative school since recommendations and assistance for each student is so varied.

Elementary Principal – Jeanne Svobodny shared the following: 1) The interventionist program grant was again approved so the district will have math, reading and behavioral interventionists this year. Mrs. Svobodny thanked the district for funding the benefits for these individuals; 2) The ita grant was refunded at almost the same financial level; 3) In regard to reports due to the Minnesota Department of Education, she relayed that the Title I application wasn't even available on line yet so the deadline was extended to September 30. She discovered that our allotment for Title I is significantly lower (-\$20,000) than last year and she is contacting the state for an explanation; 4) Several special education paraprofessionals have resigned and she will be moving some current Title I paras into those positions; 5) Camp Invention went really well again this year. Tim Andring was the supervisor and Paula Braun and Wanda Hanson were teachers. The children did an awesome job and were really engaged and excited in what they were doing; 6) Upcoming events include the Summer Arts Camp this week and summer school the following week; 7) Regarding the preliminary MCA results, the elementary staff is very excited about the 3rd grade reading and math scores (90%, which was significantly higher than the state level). They were, however, disappointed in the 4th grade reading score and will investigate it further.

Transportation Director – Dustin Pagel relayed the following information: 1) Regarding the bus routes, the first bus leaves at 6:30 or 6:35 AM with the first student boarding around 6:45 AM. The elimination of one route that carried as few as six students sometimes will result in the current "Dover run" of 30 minutes having an additional 40 minutes to basically become equal with the other routes. The reduction of a route and having the buses more filled toward capacity will save mileage on a bus and reduce costs; 2) Mr. Pagel will soon be investigating an alternate route for one bus that will be affected by the road construction on County Road 10; 3) Member Austinson relayed her appreciation that he took the initiative to eliminate a route and save the district money; 4) Chair Pagel pointed out that Dustin had received a perfect score during a recent bus review by MNDOT.

Customer Compliments, Concerns, Complaints

Superintendent Klaehn shared that no Customer Compliment, Concern, Complaint forms had been received.

REPORTS

First Reading of the Parent, Student, Coach and Employee Handbooks

Elementary Principal Jeanne Svobodny relayed the following changes to the student/parent handbook:

- the Judicious Discipline section of the student handbook was eliminated because Judicious Discipline has shifted to responsive Classroom at the elementary school
- parent requests for classroom assignment was discontinued because of the number of requests and the fact it could cause unbalanced classrooms within a grade level (However, if a parent has a strong reason to share with Mrs. Svobodny why their child should have a certain teacher, she will take it under consideration.)

A change to the elementary teachers' handbook was the addition of internally posting open positions to allow current staff to relay their interest before the position is opened to the public. Mrs. Svobodny noted that the principal retains the right to make the decisions regarding internal position reassignments. Board Member Julie Austinson relayed that this was a common practice in larger school districts.

Board Member Molly Rieke asked if the school district requires staff to complete a certain percentage of curriculum each year. Mrs. Svobodny relayed that she and Curriculum Director Jane Johnson were discussing that possible requirement.

Principal Todd Rowekamp and Activities Director John Ostrowski highlighted some of the changes to the high school student handbook changes:

- the Community Deputy section is new language
- the Academic Ineligibility section was added for clarification and the Minnesota State High School League Ineligibility section was reorganized to create separate sections for academic and MSHLS ineligibility (The

Board held a lengthy discussion regarding the various categories and the penalties imposed. A third category will be developed to encompass school-sponsored activities that are not MSHSL activities.)

- included that cell phone rules apply while students are on field trips
- an item was added to address negative or destructive actions during Homecoming and Snoball

The second reading of the handbooks and possible approval will be on the August Board agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Accept Bids for Bakery Products, Dairy products, Fuel and Snow Removal

Purchasing Committee Member Gene Loftus relayed the following information:

- two fuel bids were received and the Committee recommended awarding it to Feils
- two bakery bids were received and the Committee recommended awarding it to Sara Lee
- one dairy bid was received and the Committee recommended awarding it to Kemps
- five snow removal bids were received and the Committee recommended awarding it to Wigham Services

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to award the bids as recommended by the Purchasing Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Reduced Speed Limit on County Road 142

Deputy Chad Nelson relayed that the speed limit on County Road 142 doesn't reduce to 30 mph until it intersects with 6th Street. An attempt in 2002 to reduce the speed in this stretch of road was unsuccessful. The City of Eyota is seeking support from the school district in again requesting a speed study on this stretch of road.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding what level of reduction should be requested and from what point it should begin along 142.

A motion was made by Member Johnson and seconded by Member Austinson to support a speed study on County Road 142. It was suggested that Supt. Klaehn develop a document stating the Board's support.

Member Pedersen made an amendment to the motion indicating that the School Board was offering no opinion as to the requested change in the speed limit. The amendment was seconded by Member Loftus. A roll call vote on the amendment resulted in the following voting in favor: Loftus, Pedersen, and Andring. Those voting against: Johnson, Pagel, Austinson and Rieke. The amendment was defeated 4 to 3.

After further discussion on the original motion, Member Johnson made an amendment to the motion indicating that the school district was seeking a possible reduction in the speed limit. The amendment was seconded by Member Austinson. A roll call vote on the amended resulted in the following voting in favor: Loftus, Rieke, Johnson, Pagel and Austinson. Those voting against: Pedersen and Andring. The amendment carried 5 to 2.

Member Loftus made a motion to table the discussion and motion indefinitely until it comes on the agenda again. He felt this will allow the Board to know exactly what the Eyota City Council is proposing before deciding whether or not to support their proposal. The motion was seconded by Member Rieke. A roll call vote was taken with the following voting in favor: Loftus, Rieke, Pagel, Andring and Austinson. Those voting against: Johnson and Pedersen. The motion carried 5 to 2.

Deputy Nelson will bring a written recommendation to a future Board meeting.

Payment to Board Negotiations Committee

Chair Pagel advised that the pay schedule for the Board Negotiations Committee was set when there were only two bargaining units. With the addition of the Dover-Eyota Principals' Association, there are now three so they bargain with one unit one year and two units the next year.

A motion was made by Member Pederson setting the Board Negotiations Committee pay schedule at \$1,800 for **each** bargaining unit. The motion was seconded by Member Rieke.

Member Pedersen described the negotiating process and relayed that an additional bargaining unit means more time and involvement by the Negotiating Committee members. Member Rieke agreed it was an extensive amount of time.

A vote on the motion resulted in a roll call vote with the following voting in favor: Loftus, Pedersen, Rieke, Johnson, Pagel and Austinson. Voting against the same: Andring. The motion carried 6 to 1.

Health & Safety Attachment 10 Approval

Supt. Klaehn relayed that this is a more precise and clear version of the old Attachment 99. One item needs to be added to the report before it is submitted (Mr. Greg Olson's certification number). He recommended approval of the report which meets the requirements of the health and safety program.

A motion was made by Member Rieke, seconded by Member Johnson, and carried unanimously to approve the Health & Safety Attachment 10.

Consent - Approve Fundraiser Requests

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Austinson and carried unanimously to approve the following fundraisers: Choir – participate in a Barnes & Noble Bookfair; Football Team – sell cookie dough and sell water softener salt.

Accept Resignation

A motion was made by Member Rieke and seconded by Member Austinson to accept the resignation of CHRIS TOFT as of October 12, 2010.

Member Molly Rieke publicly thanked Mrs. Toft for her service to the district. Member Johnson said that the district was "blessed" with a number of professionals like her that have made huge contributions to the district. He added, "We are sorry to see Chris move on but she has given us a lot."

Leave of Absence Request

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the maternity leave of absence for CHRISTINE KOBS from September 7 through October 8, 2010.

Consent - Approve Hires

A motion was made by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Austinson and carried unanimously to approve the following hires: 1) Summer School Staff: DOUG ZARS and AMANDA MECUM (teachers) and KIMM OLSON, JORDAN JENSEN and TARYN CROWSON (paras); 2) CURT OLSON as Head Wrestling Coach; 3) MARILYN BENSON as .333 Spanish Instructor.

Consent - Accept Donations

A motion was made by Member Rieke, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to accept the following donations: 1) **Elementary** -- \$125 to the School Patrol from the DOVER FIREFIGHTER RELIEF ASSN.; 2) **Band Dept.** – Alto sax valued at \$600 from LAURA NEWELL; 3) **High School** – KWIK TRIP rewards to the Baseball Team in the amount of \$59.60 and to the High School Activity in the amount of \$179.82.

HEARING OF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report & Communication

Supt. Klaehn communicated the following information: 1) Reminded the Board of their possible participation in the Eyota Days Parade on Sat., July 17; 2) Advised that the lawsuit from the 2008 Snoball incident had been settled with two school district insurance companies sharing the \$90,000 award. Mr. Klaehn also mentioned instituting a due diligence waiver to be signed by parents in regard to transportation to certain events; 3) The Board Members will consider attending the T&L Conference October 19-22. Chair Pagel relayed that the conference relates to information the group had obtained at the National School Board Association Conference; 4) Supt. Klaehn will make certain that the school district is represented at the Walkability Workshop on August 17 from 5:30 to 9:00 PM in the DEHS Commons; 5) A Board Retreat was set for Mon., August 23 at 6:00 PM in the DEHS Media Center. Agenda items will include results of the 2009-2010 goals, a possible operating referendum discussion, and an opportunity for refunding of additional bonds.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Loftus – Reported that negotiations were moving forward.

Johnson – Thanked the other Purchasing Committee Members for the “well-considered decisions” they had made that evening. He congratulated Transportation Director Dustin Pagel on a “clean bill of health” in regard to the buses and the adjustments he had made to the bus routes. To Mrs. Svobodny he relayed he was pleased with the math test results and liked seeing that the reading scores were getting stronger. Mr. Johnson ended his report by saying he felt it was important for the Board Members to attend the T&L Conference.

Andring – He will be attending a Minnesota Service Coop meeting this week. In regard to the bids awarded that night he said, “Thank you to all those who bid. They were all good bids and gave us options.”

Pagel – Congratulated Mrs. Chris Toft on her 32 years of service to the district.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Rieke, seconded by Member Austinson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 PM.

Daniel A. Johnson, Clerk
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