

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 14, 2008

Chair Pagel called the regular meeting of the Dover-Eyota Board of Education, District #533, to order at 7:14 PM in the Dover-Eyota High School Media Center. Board members present: Don Andring, Judy Brandt, Ed Kaehler, Dan Johnson, Gene Loftus, Ron Pagel, Gary Pedersen, Superintendent Bruce Klaehn and Student Board Member Aaron Wiederhoeft. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Todd Rowekamp, Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Tor Anderson, Chris Berg, Gary Betcher, Melissa Blagsvedt, Jordan Boettcher, Taryn Crowson, Jane Johnson, Bruce McAllister, Katelyn Monson, John Ostrowski, John Pittenger, Evan Schmidt, and Dan Thoreson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda

Supt. Klaehn asked that a PageMaster's fundraiser request be added as well as a report from Curriculum Director Jane Johnson during Cabinet Communications.

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

Visitors to Address the Board

No visitors wished to address the Board.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Loftus and carried unanimously to approve the December 10, 2007 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Regular District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$81,346.16.

Special District Bills

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Brandt and carried unanimously to approve the payment of the Special District Bills totaling \$53,226.58.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$3,763,770.28, as well as the December electronic transfers.

REPORTS

Goal Update

Curriculum Director Jane Johnson, Elementary Principal Jeanne Svobodny and High School Principal Todd Rowekamp provided an update of the 2007-2008 goals.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

High School Principal – Todd Rowekamp shared the following: 1) Upcoming events included One-Act Play performances on January 17, January 24 and January 26 (subsections) and Snoball Coronation on February 4); 2) He would be attending meetings in February as a member of the Section 1A Committee and a half-day Minnesota Association of Secondary Principals' workshop that would provide school law updates.

Elementary Principal – Jeanne Svobodny had the following items to share: 1) Provided a handout that supported research about early education and how it builds a good reading foundation; 2) Several musical

events had been held during the holidays including a 1st and 2nd grade performance, a 4th and 5th grade Musical Explorers' performance and a 5th grade recorder performance. Mrs. Svobodny complimented Elementary Music Instructor Sara McDonald for doing a great job and having a wonderful rapport with the students; 3) Upcoming events included the 5th grade play presentation and a second preschool screening in Dover.

Curriculum Director – Jane Johnson relayed the following: 1) The Systems Accountability Committee had met that evening and she relayed their proposals which included adding an Algebra class for college credit, a career and technical education class (automotive engineering/high mileage vehicle class) for college credit, a basic automotive class (general maintenance, etc.), a Child Development II course (would focus on careers in early childhood education and stages of children ages 1 through 6) and an Advanced Food course (would focus on food careers); 2) She had attended a pretest workshop that was assisting districts as they prepared for upcoming testing. Her Assessment Assistant Karen Frye had joined her at the workshop in order to be cross trained in the process; 3) The District Spelling Bee would be held at the high school for 5th through 8th grades on Friday, February 1; 4) The Math Wizards would host a meet at the elementary school on Monday, January 28.

Customer Compliments, Concerns, Complaints

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

OLD BUSINESS

Tiling Project Agreement

Chair Pagel advised that this would be the first reading of the agreement by the School Board. An extensive discussion followed and the Superintendent was directed to make recommended changes to the agreement, have an attorney review it, and then bring it back for consideration by the Board and the other parties involved.

Playing Time Guidelines

Athletic Director John Ostrowski provided the Board with the Playing Time Guidelines as presented to them at their November meeting. The coaches had since reviewed and approved the document. Mr. Ostrowski relayed that it was still the intention of the coaching staff to allow all interested students to participate in lower level teams in order to provide them with the opportunity to develop their skills. At the varsity level, however, it was felt that a reduction in a team's size would be necessary in order for the team to be competitive and to eliminate team members not having the opportunity to participate in meets.

A lengthy discussion by the Board followed. The guidelines would be brought to the Board for further consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Appointing Judges for the February 12, 2008 School District Special Election

A motion was made by Member Kaehler, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to adopt the Resolution Appointing Judges for the February 12, 2008 School District Special Election (Attachment A).

Close Up Donation Request

Close Up Advisor John Pittenger and students Tor Anderson and Taryn Crowson sought a donation from the Board for the upcoming trip to Washington, DC. They indicated that 8 students would attend at a cost per student of \$1,719. Of that amount, \$200 per student had been fundraised by selling wrestling and football t-shirts.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Pedersen and carried unanimously to donate 10% of the cost of the Close Up trip to Washington, DC, February 10-16, 2008.

Fundraising Request

A motion was made by Member Kaehler, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the PageMaster's Reading Club "Read-a-thon" fundraiser to be held during the month of February.

Consent – Accept Donations

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Loftus and carried unanimously to accept the following donations and direct the administration to send thank you letters: Sharing Tree -- \$500 from THE DOVER FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION, \$100 from the JAMES DUSSO FAMILY, \$100 from the RYAN ANDERSON FAMILY, \$50 from the RURAL ROBINS, and \$15 ANONYMOUS; 2) Yearbook -- \$140 from the EYOTA AMERICAN LEGION.

HEARING OF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report & Communication

Superintendent Klaehn shared the following items: 1) Complimented the Referendum Committee for their work, including their attendance at several meetings over the holidays. He shared a brochure developed by the group who would now concentrate on getting information about the referendum to the community; 2) A goal of January 29 had been set for revealing our new website through RSchool. Mr. Klaehn complimented those individuals involved in the development of the new site and relayed that it would continue to be a work in progress; 3) An initial meeting had been accomplished with Gerry Bermel, and Joe Loftus regarding the shared officer who would begin in late July or early August. An internal committee would determine the expectations and duties of the officer; 4) As a new member of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators' board of directors, he was finding it to be a growth opportunity as he learned about issues other superintendents were facing; 5) Reporting on a question that surfaced during a recent public meeting, Supt. Klaehn relayed that the Dover building generated \$21,686 per year (not \$200,000 as stated by an audience member) in operating capital and deferred maintenance and that \$16,000 per year in rent was received from the Hiawatha Valley Education District.

Student Board Member Communications

Student Board Member Aaron Wiederhoeft relayed the following: 1) Member Brandt had recommended that there be more candidates for Snoball and Aaron relayed that the Student Council would seek student input on that proposal; 2) The Student Council sought suggestions on how to better advertise their upcoming blood drive on Tuesday, February 26; 3) On the recent two-hour late start, Aaron noted that the high school students had patiently waited for the 6th graders during the condensed lunch period.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Andring – He had been unable to attend the Health & Safety Committee meeting as it had been scheduled during the work day. He would be attending a Southeast Service Cooperative and Minnesota Regional Service Agency meeting. Member Andring inquired as to when another Meet & Confer with the teachers would be set and Supt. Klaehn indicated he would contact the association representatives. In regard to the Playing Time Guidelines, Mr. Andring felt that it was a difficult discussion item, the coaches had done what was requested of them by developing the guidelines, and the Board would need to work through the process.

Pagel – He had been unable to attend the Three Rivers' Conference meeting that day. Regarding the public informational meeting in Dover, Member Pagel had been pleased with the attendance considering the weather and felt that the focus now needed to be on how the project would benefit students.

Johnson – Member Johnson indicated his excitement about the possibility of college credits being offered as they meant additional rigor for the students and an investment in their future. He was also pleased to hear about the vocational class changes. Mr. Johnson felt that the public meeting in Dover had gone well and relayed his opinion that the new website would be more user friendly. In regard to the Playing Time Guidelines, Member Johnson felt that the decision to reduce the number of players on a team needed to be with the coach and that the coaches should be allowed to run their programs.

Kaehler – Suggested that once a year the school district bring in a nationally-known speaker (such as author Dr. David Walsh), with the event being free to the community.

Pedersen – Noted that the Legislative Conference for Cities, Counties and Schools was set for April 9-10.

Brandt – She had been unable to attend the Systems Accountability meeting and was looking forward to seeing the new class opportunities being implemented. In regard to the “Say Yes to No” book, Ms. Brandt relayed that she was truly enjoying the book and suggested a copy be provided to new families.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Brandt, seconded by Member Pedersen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 PM.

Daniel A. Johnson, Clerk
CB

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES
FOR THE FEBRUARY 12, 2008
SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL ELECTION**

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 533, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. The individuals specified on EXHIBIT A attached hereto, each of whom is qualified to serve as an election judge, are hereby appointed as judges of election for the school district's special election on February 12, 2008 to act as such at each combined polling place listed on said exhibit.

2. The election judges shall act as clerks of election, count the ballots cast, and submit the results to the school board for canvass in the manner provided for other school district elections.

EXHIBIT A

COMBINED POLLING PLACE

ELECTION JUDGES

Dover-Eyota High School

Head Election Judge Nancy Hammel
Jim Schumann
Dean Bierbaum
Dennis Kullot
Terry Yust
Luverne Hammel
Bob Pennington
Kevin Hammel
Darlene Bierbaum
Tom Dubbels

Dover School

Head Election Judge Kathy Predmore
John Schmidt
Marcella Mueller
Mary Abernathy
Geri Ihrke
Irv Plitzuweit
Ardith Ihrke
Esther Clark
Don Guderian
Marjorie Fix

Alternates Marlis Knowlton
Mary Davidson