

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Chair Pagel called the regular meeting of the Dover-Eyota Board of Education, District #533, to order at 7:35 PM in the Dover-Eyota High School Media Center. Board members present: Don Andring, Judy Brandt, Dan Johnson (7:40 PM), Ed Kaehler, Gene Loftus, Ron Pagel, Gary Pedersen, and Superintendent Bruce Klaehn. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Todd Rowekamp, Gary Allen, Chris Berg, Gary Betcher, James Dusso, Gary Franzen, Kristin Hanson, John Ostrowski, Deb Rathman, Jim Schumann and Gene Speltz.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve Agenda

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

Visitors to Address the Board

Jim Schumann talked about the proposed ethanol plant and the recent tour of a plant in Granite Falls. Several Board members who had attended the tour shared their impressions of the facility.

Board Minutes

A motion was made by Member Kaehler, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the June 11, 2007 Board Minutes.

Regular District Bills

With Member Andring abstaining, a motion was made by Member Brandt, seconded by Member Pedersen and carried unanimously to approve the Regular District Bills totaling \$145,813.99.

Special District Bills

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Loftus and carried unanimously to approve the Special District Bills totaling \$394,871.30.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Member Kaehler, seconded by Member Andring and carried unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report with liquid assets totaling \$2,720,844.36, as well as the June electronic transfers.

Facilities Committee Recommendation

Deb Rathman of the DLR Group provided a handout detailing the proposed \$9 million building project, as recommended by the Facilities Assessment Committee (Attachment B). Supt. Klaehn indicated that the committee had felt this proposal met current and future elementary space needs.

Kristin Hanson of Ehlers and Associates provided an overview of how the project would affect taxpayers and explained the tax process. A lengthy discussion ensued and Ms. Hanson answered questions from the Board members about the financial impact.

Chair Pagel indicated that the Board needed to determine whether or not to move forward with the project, what the cost would be, and what type of financing would be used. He reminded the Board that the proposal before them was in a conceptual format and that the final use configuration would be determined at a later time. In response to a question from the Board, Ms. Rathman said that she felt the project could be accomplished within the \$9 million estimate.

Supt. Klaehn indicated that the Facilities Committee had met eleven times since November, looking at the space needs, the various options, making changes as needed, and recommending that the Board proceed with a \$9 million elementary building project. He added that the committee had realized how complicated the issue was and that sufficient time should be allowed to educate the community on the current and future space needs as the resident student population was expected to grow. Chair Pagel, who had served on the committee, relayed that a December referendum date was recommended.

Board Member Kaehler, also a member of the Facilities Committee, felt that the project would serve district resident students for 15-20 years and added that the district would have open enrollment students for

some of those years. Member Kaehler made a motion that the Board proceed with the \$9 million project using the 18-year, "wrap-around" financing option, with a December 11, 2007 referendum voting date. The motion was seconded by Member Johnson.

Supt. Klaehn indicated that the Facilities Committee had also considered the fact that the west parking lot of the high school needed to at least be resurfaced (at a cost of approximately \$300,000). It was the Board's consensus that such an addition to the referendum would complicate the issue and should not be included.

Member Pedersen requested a roll call vote on the motion to proceed with the building project. Voting in favor of the motion were Loftus, Pedersen, Kaehler, Johnson, Pagel, Andring and Brandt. During his vote, Member Pedersen thanked the Facilities Assessment Committee for the "great job" they had done and said that he "had no reason to vote against their recommendation." Members voting against the motion: none. The motion carried unanimously. Board Member Kaehler, a member of the Facilities Assessment Committee, thanked the Board for their approval to proceed with the project.

Kristin Hanson indicated that the Board would need to adopt a formal resolution by October 19, 2007 calling for the election and offered to answer any future questions the Board might have regarding the financing and tax impact of the project.

Chair Pagel thanked Ms. Rathman and Ms. Hanson for the information they had provided.

Waterway Project Consideration

Chair Pagel provided a brief history of the waterway project, indicating that the district had tiled the elementary to the culvert that went under County Road 142 and had committed to spend up to \$5,000 to assist in a project that would channel water beyond that point to neighboring fields.

Landowners Gary Allen and Gene Speltz were in attendance. Mr. Allen indicated that the total cost of the waterway project was estimated at \$7,200, with a 75% participation level by the county/state. He felt that the cost to the district would be less than the \$5,000 previously approved.

The discussion included possible current tiling under the road and whether it was sufficient, damaged or plugged. A motion was made by Member Kaehler, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to hire Art Brookings to determine the status of any existing tile.

Mr. Allen would determine what paperwork needed to be completed to proceed with the project and keep the school district informed of the progress.

Superintendent Klaehn asked that Item 11C, Pricing for Wall Construction at the Elementary be moved up in the agenda since Deb Rathman was still available to answer questions about the project.

Pricing for Wall Construction at the Elementary

An estimated cost of \$85,866 was presented for wall construction to enclose elementary classrooms to provide a more conducive educational setting. Ms. Rathman explained the breakdown of costs including a contingency amount for unexpected costs and answered questions from the Board members. The Board discussion included if the district should move forward with the project and, if so, when it should be accomplished and funding of the project. Supt. Klaehn suggested that the school district purchase the materials, obtain labor estimates and hire a contractor to complete the work. Member Pedersen felt that the bidding process should be used for the entire project.

Member Pedersen made a motion to approve funding of the project using the formal bidding process that would include a project completion deadline in order to get the construction completed in a reasonable time. The motion was seconded by Member Andring. A roll call vote resulted in the following voting in favor of the motion: Loftus, Pedersen, Kaehler, Pagel, Andring and Brandt. Those voting against: Johnson. The motion carried 6 to 1.

Supt. Klaehn relayed that an estimate of \$10,000 (not including electrical work required) had been received to install a divider curtain in the elementary gym. He expected to receive another proposal and advised that the administration would accept the lowest quote since the purchase had been approved in the 2007-08 Capital Outlay budget.

CABINET COMMUNICATIONS

High School Principal – Todd Rowekamp shared the following: 1) He had attended a Hiawatha Valley Education District conference in Red Wing along with Principal Jeanne Svobodny and Curriculum Director Jane Johnson.

The session had focused on data which he had found beneficial, yet overwhelming; 2) The summer conference for the Minnesota Association of Secondary Principals was highlighted by speaker Dr. David Walsh, a psychologist whose latest book was about the need and importance for adults to say “no” to kids of all ages; 3) He and Principal Svobodny would be reviewing the instructional assistant applications and set interview times; 4) His administrative intern, James Dusso, “took the lead” in hiring the Family & Consumer Science instructor; 5) A teacher still needed to be hired for one section of advanced welding (Applied Technology). Mr. Rowekamp relayed that Counselor Tom Surprenant had built the teacher schedule in such a way that Jacob Robinson could teach the class; however, they wished to avoid placing him in an overload situation; 6) There had been three excellent Drama/Theatre Director applicants. The five students involved in the interview process had been open minded and felt they could work with any of the candidates. The position was offered to and accepted by Denise Strosahl, a current DEHS English teacher; 7) Two people had applied for the Yearbook Advisor position, with one being a current employee; 8) Interviews for a Social Studies teacher would be held July 26-27. He was pleased that 31 applications had already been received; 9) Mr. Rowekamp pointed out the rearrangement of the Media Center and relayed that many classrooms had been cleaned, abatement of asbestos tile was almost completed, new tile was ready to be installed, four Smart Boards and projectors were to be installed, and curtains/blinds would be installed in some rooms including the Media Center.

Activities/Capital Projects Director – John Ostrowski had the following items to report: 1) Whether or not the track cooperative was dissolved, St. Charles felt that they needed to increase student participation. Supt. Klaehn relayed that there would be a meeting of athletic directors, coaches and board members of both districts on Monday, August 6 at 7 PM in St. Charles; 2) In a response sent to students, 43 boys had signed up for 5th and 6th grade tackle football this fall to be run through Community Education. Eastwood Bank and Schott Distributing had offered to help pay for equipment; 3) In regard to capital outlay projects, he relayed that 88 lockers would be installed in the high school the last week of July or the first week of August. The high school asbestos tile abatement would be completed that day and VCT tile would be installed. New carpet for parts of the elementary was expected to arrive around August 1, blinds had been ordered for various high school areas, the Dover playground fence had been installed, and a wall had been built in the high school server room to make an office for Technology Director Loren Kiefer.

Customer Compliment, Concern, Complaints

Superintendent Klaehn advised of the Customer Compliment, Concern, Complaint forms that had been received that month.

OLD BUSINESS

Second Reading and Approval of Revised Policies

Chair Pagel relayed that most of the recommended policy changes were from the Minnesota School Board Association.

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to approve the revised policies listed in Attachment B.

Addition of a “C” Girls’ Soccer

Activities Director John Ostrowski advised that 43 girls were interested in participating in soccer this fall and he recommended the addition of a “C” coach.

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Kaehler and carried unanimously to approve the addition of a “C” Girls’ Soccer team.

On behalf of Coach John Pittenger and Coach Brad Hak, Mr. Ostrowski thanked the Board for approving the additional coach.

NEW BUSINESS

Awarding of Bids

Member Brandt, a member of the Purchasing Committee, advised that two dairy bids had been received and recommended the Board accept the bid from Kemps.

A motion was made by Member Brandt, seconded by Member Andring and carried unanimously to award the dairy products bid to Kemps.

Supt. Klaehn advised that offering milk in plastic bottles had not increased participation and had not decreased waste and, thus, continued purchase in that form did not warrant the increased cost. Food & Nutrition Director Carrie Frank had expressed concern to him about the increase in consumption of strawberry-flavored milk (which contained more sugar) during the test period.

Member Brandt advised that two bakery bids had been received and recommended awarding the bid to Pan-O-Gold.

A motion was made by Member Kaehler, seconded by Member Brandt and carried unanimously to award the bakery products bid to Pan-O-Gold.

Member Brandt relayed that two bus bids had been obtained – Blue Bird at \$83,916.13 and International at \$89,494.08. With Transportation Director Al Trogstad's input, the Purchasing Committee recommended purchasing the Blue Bird bus via the state purchase process. It was noted that a 27-year-old bus would then be traded in on this purchase.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Kaehler and carried unanimously to approve the purchase of the Blue Bird bus.

Two snow removal bids had been received and Member Brandt recommended that the bid from Mick's Backhoe and Blacktopping Service be accepted with the condition that Supt. Klaehn discuss certain issues with the contractor.

A motion was made by Member Brandt, seconded by Member Loftus and carried unanimously to award the snow removal bid to Mick's Backhoe and Blacktopping Service.

August Board Retreat

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Brandt and carried unanimously to set a Board Retreat for Monday, August 20, 2007 to begin at 6:00 PM in the DEHS Media Center.

2007-08 Health & Safety Plan

John Ostrowski talked about projects that had been completed in the past school year (catwalks in two high school mechanical areas, installation of welding curtains, etc.) to follow OSHA guidelines. He also mentioned health and safety projects (replacement of elementary gym lights, addition of exit lights, annual inspections, etc.) that would be accomplished following the 2007-08 Health & Safety Plan. Supt. Klaehn indicated that John Ostrowski, Gary Franzen and Wayne Ellringer had been very responsive in following up on recommended health and safety improvements.

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Pedersen and carried unanimously to approve the 2007-08 Health & Safety Plan.

First Reading of the 2007-08 Handbooks

Major changes in the High School Staff Handbook were presented by Principal Todd Rowekamp. Administrative Intern James Dusso joined him to present proposed, staff-driven changes to the High School Student Handbook. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the proposal to ban the use of cell phones during the school day and it was the consensus of the Board that they would support the new rule.

Additional 7-12 Special Education Para Position

High School Principal Todd Rowekamp indicated that adequate yearly progress had not been made in special education and he proposed hiring an additional para for that area.

A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Loftus and carried unanimously to hire an additional high school Special Education Instructional Assistant.

Leave of Absence Request

Principal Todd Rowekamp advised that Social Studies Instructor Sarah Bronk was leaving to accept a position as women's assistant basketball coach at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay and to pursue a master's degree. Being a highly regarded member of the staff, it was difficult to see her leave. Due to the number of applications already received, Mr. Rowekamp expected to be able to fill the opening. He recommended that, when a future leave of absence were granted, specifying that the individual would not be allowed to return prior to the end of the leave would make it easier to hire a replacement.

The Board expressed their appreciation that Ms. Bronk wanted to return and wished her to know that she was appreciated; however, it was difficult for the Board to reserve a teaching position. When hiring a new person, the district would like them to be dedicated to us and district wanted to be dedicated to them.

A motion was made by Member Pedersen and seconded by Member Andring to deny the 3-year leave of absence sought by SARAH BRONK.

Principal Rowekamp requested that the Board further discuss leave of absence guidelines and establish a philosophy for their consideration. It was decided that this would be placed on the Board Retreat agenda.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion with the following voting in favor: Pedersen, Johnson, Pagel, Andring and Brandt. Voting against the same: Loftus and Kaehler. The motion to deny the leave request carried at 5 to 2. It was the expectation of the Board that Ms. Bronk would submit a letter of resignation.

Consent – Resignations

A motion was made by Member Brandt, seconded by Member Loftus and carried unanimously to accept resignations from Speech Therapist KONI GRIMSRUD, Instructional Assistant RHONDA MILLER and High School Yearbook Advisor JOE BAURES.

Consent – Approve New Hires

A motion was made by Member Andring, seconded by Member Pedersen and carried unanimously to approve the following new hires: SARA PRINISKI MCDONALD as Elementary Vocal Music Instructor, MICHELLE MCNALLAN as Early Childhood Special Education Instructor, DENISE STROSAHL as All-School Play/One-Act Play/Spring Musical/Drama Director and BEVERLY SHARP as Junior High Knowledge Bowl Advisor.

Consent – Accept Donations

A motion was made by Member Loftus, seconded by Member Kaehler and carried unanimously to accept the following donations and direct the administration to send thank you letters: Band - \$100 from BRYAN & KONNIE BICKNESE, \$1,000 from the EYOTA AMERICAN LEGION (for instruments); Elementary - \$111 from the SUNSHINE CHAPER #98 OES (to library) and \$500 from EASTWOOD BANK (for playground equipment); High School - \$121.50 from the EYOTA AMERICAN LEGION (*USA Today* subscription).

HEARING OF REPORTS

Superintendent's Report & Communication

Superintendent Klaehn shared the following items: 1) Board members wishing to participate in the Eyota Days Parade should meet at the bus garage on Sat., July 21 at 10:30 AM; 2) The Energy Services Group, who was doing an energy study of the school buildings, would bring forward a proposal at the regular August Board meeting; 3) The district had changed their telephone provider and the Dover exchanges had been replaced with toll free numbers which were being widely publicized; 4) Deb Meyer, elementary school psychologist and dean of students for the district through the Hiawatha Valley Education District, had accepted a position in Austin and the high school psychologist (also through HVED) had also resigned. Elementary administrative duties would be reviewed as a replacement for Ms. Meyer would be arranged; 5) Kindergarten enrollment this fall remained at 84 to 86 students and would mean there would be four sections unless a big influx occurred prior to the start of school.

Board of Education Committee Reports & Communication

Brandt – Negotiations were going well and the Crisis Team had convened after the death of a student.

Andring – He would be attending a Southeast Service Cooperative meeting on strategic planning and would attend a conference in Duluth that week. He asked Supt. Klaehn when the next Meet & Confer would be held and was told that one had not yet been arranged.

Pedersen – As a member of the Negotiations Team, relayed that the issue would be discussed later in the meeting.

Pagel – Relayed that the Hiawatha Valley Education District was in negotiations with their staff and that three new schools had joined the district – Chatfield, Mabel/Canon and Lanesboro. He would be attending a Three Rivers Conference Board meeting in August.

CLOSED SESSION FOR NEGOTIATIONS STRATEGY

At 11:21 PM, a motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Loftus and carried unanimously to close the Board meeting to hold a closed session in order to discuss negotiation strategies.

At 12:30 AM, a motion was made by Member Kaehler, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to begin the closed session of the Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

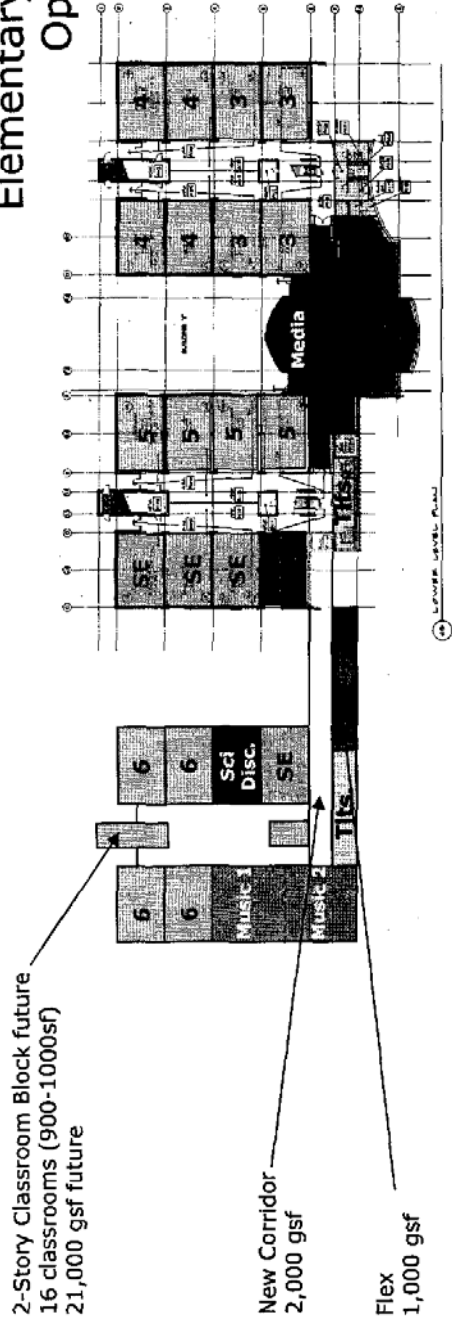
A motion was made by Member Pedersen, seconded by Member Andring and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 AM.

Daniel A. Johnson, Clerk
CB

Elementary School Expansion

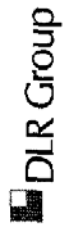


Dover-Eyota Elementary PK-6 Option G

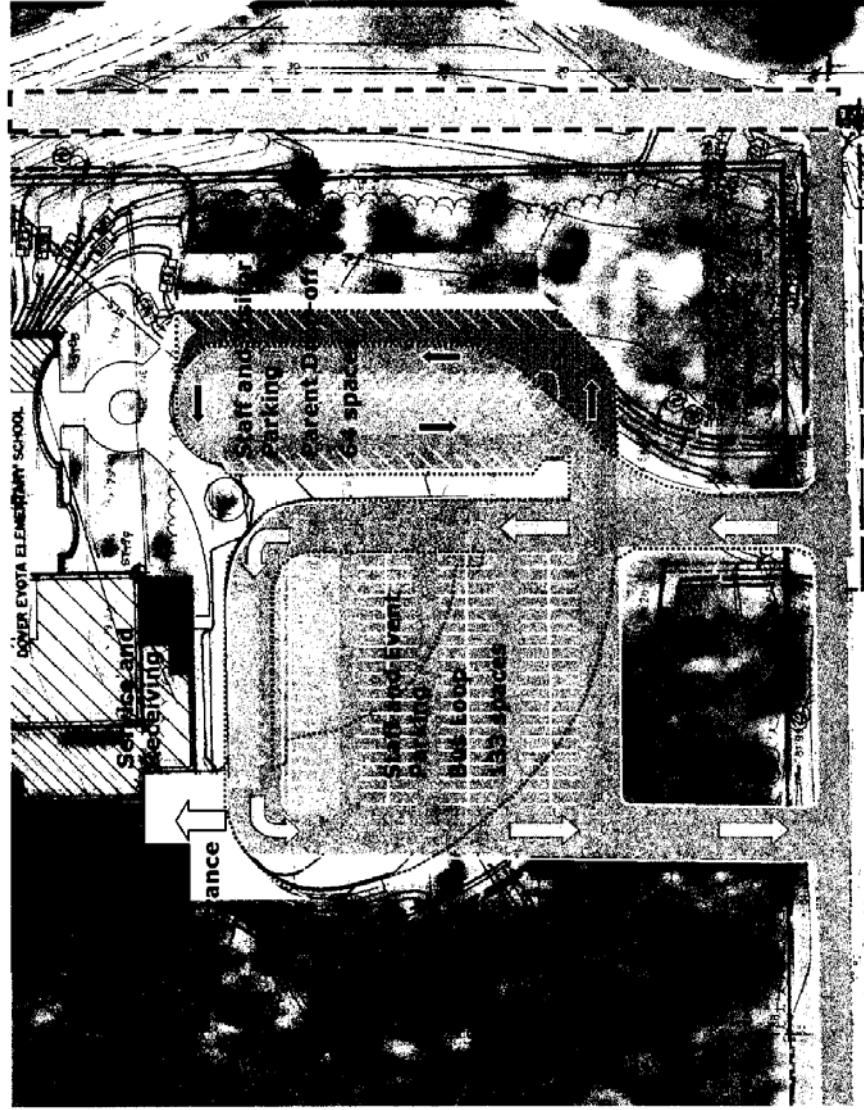


Total Expansion 44,500 gsf
4-Section PK-6
675 to 750 student capacity

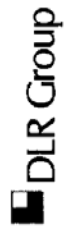
New Construction Cost	\$8.3 M
Renovation	.200
Parking Improvements	.500
Total	\$9.00 M



Dover-Eyota Elementary School



Paved area shown: 13,690 sy
Parking spaces: Existing: 70 Proposed: 197
Estimated Cost: \$500,000



Dover-Eyota Public Schools Meeting 12: 07/16/07

Policy Revisions

June 2007

- 202 – School Board Officers
- 206 – Public Participation in School Board Meetings/Complaints About Persons at School Board Meetings and Data Privacy Considerations
- 211 – Criminal or Civil Action Against School District, School Board Member, Employee or Student
- 408 – Subpoena of a School District Employee
- 412 – Expense Reimbursement
- 414 – Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse
- 420 – Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions
- 514 – Bullying Prohibition Policy
- 524 – Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy
- 532 – Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Teams to Remove Students with IEPs from School Grounds
- 618 – Assessment of Standard Achievement
- 624 – On-line Learning Options
- 701 – Establishment and Adoption of School District Budget
- 702 – Accounting
- 707 – Transportation of Public School Students
- 709 – Student Transportation Safety Policy
- 801 – Equal Access to Facilities of Elementary and Secondary Schools
- 906 – Community Notification of Sex Offenders