

BOARD RETREAT MINUTES

Thursday, April 12, 2007

Chair Pagel called the Board Retreat of the Dover-Eyota Board of Education, District #533, to order at 6:33 PM in the Dover-Eyota High School Media Center. Board members present: Don Andring, Judy Brandt, Dan Johnson, Ed Kaehler, Gene Loftus, Ron Pagel, Gary Pedersen and Superintendent Bruce Klaehn. Absent: none. Also in attendance were Principal Jeanne Svobodny, Principal Todd Rowekamp, Jon Anderson, Nikki Bengtson, Chris Berg, Morgan Blair, Jordan Boettcher, Dave Ehlenfeldt, Jason Ehlenfeldt, Jessi Ehlenfeldt, Corey Eidem, T.J. Ellsworth, Brian Fierro, Matt Guenther, Teresa Hackler, Ben Hammel, Nancy Hammel, Tony Hammel, Kathleen Holetzer, Chris Holloman, Mike Holloman, Tristin Holloman, Jane Johnson, Loren Kiefer, Rob Laures, Helen Lauth, Holly Lauth, Bruce McAllister, John Ostrowski, Lori Pagel, Amanda Sarazin, Anna Schmidt, Lona Schreier, Brian Skalisky, Kate Stapleton, Matt Stolle, Philipp Tessenow, Amanda Thalacker, Katherine Thalacker, Zac Williams, and Chris Woodward.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve Agenda

Chair Pagel explained that the meeting was a retreat/working session and that no formal actions would be taken. He indicated that the agenda would be amended to allow for Visitors' Communications.

Superintendent Klaehn asked that the agenda be adjusted by moving Future Planning Update/Board Discussion after Visitors' Communication.

A motion was made by Member Brandt and seconded by Member Kaehler to approve the amended agenda.

Member Pedersen suggested that public input be limited to 2-3 minutes per person so that the Board could accomplish their agenda items.

A vote on the motion to approve the amended agenda was carried unanimously.

Visitor's Communication

An approximate 1.5 hour Visitor Communication was received by the Board. Matt Guenther, Chris Holloman, Amanda Sarazin, Lona Schreier, Teresa Hackler, Bruce McAllister, Tony Hammel, Jessi Ehlenfeldt, Mike Holloman, Jason Ehlenfeldt, Dave Ehlenfeldt, Holly Lauth, Amanda Thalacker, Katherine Thalacker, Brian Skalisky, Helen Lauth, Jordan Boettcher and Ben Hammel came forward to speak in support of the continued employment of Mr. Sean Little, English Instructor and Drama Coach.

Chair Pagel thanked the individuals for sharing their thoughts with the Board and said that the Board would act on Mr. Little's resignation at the regular Board meeting on Monday, April 16.

Future Planning Update / Board Discussion

Supt. Klaehn reviewed the Future of Dover-Eyota Schools book and the Board discussed the following items:

- revision of the mission statement with input from the staff and the Board
- revision of Policy 509 - Enrollment of Nonresident Students to limit open enrollment in grades 7-12
- 2007-08 staffing including elementary specials (music, physical education, media and art)

Activities Director John Ostrowski provided an update on Early Childhood programs including a new program for three year olds. The Board discussed funding options of the programs.

Curriculum Director Jane Johnson presented the curriculum review cycle.

Supt. Klaehn indicated that athletic facility needs had not been addressed (football field lights, crow's nest, baseball/softball fields) due to funding of the projects and direction from the Board; however, they were making efforts to replace the crow's nest.

Supt. Klaehn asked the Board if there were additional long-range issues that the administration should research. Member Kaehler suggested adding an exterior cafeteria area at the high school.

Technology Planning / Board Discussion

Technology Director Loren Kiefer provided a technology update that included replacement of computers and servers, Smart Board installations, staff surveys, communication changes (phone, Internet, etc.), a proposed joint powers agreement, and staff development plan. He brought forward the new Technology Plan including a proposed 3-year budget, which produced a lengthy discussion by the Board.

2007-08 Program and Staffing Update

Superintendent Klaehn presented the proposed program and staffing updates for the 2007-2008 school year.

Items mentioned:

- increase first grade to 5 sections
- increase elementary physical education to 2.0
- cover 6th grade physical education with a .333 position
- increase elementary music by .0167 to cover 6th grade music
- increase high school music by .333
- adding a .0583 position to address one additional 7-12 section
- hire replacement for a retiring 6th grade teacher and fill vacancies in English and Elementary Special Education
- administration changes would include a .25 increase in grades 6-12 administration (taken from the Community Education Director position) and a .25 increase in Community Education administration at Dover (taken from the elementary administration position) which would result in no FTE changes

High School Principal Todd Rowekamp advised of the proposal to move Deb Vosler to an elementary physical education position. He and Curriculum Director Jane Johnson talked about a proposed reading instruction program for struggling junior high and special education students.

Elementary Principal Jeanne Svobodny talked about the plan to add a 5th grade section and a proposal being considered to form a K-1 combination. She had been working on special area schedules and talked about the benefits of offering additional physical education for the students.

Evaluations

A motion was made by Member Loftus, seconded by Member Johnson and carried unanimously to table discussion of the School Board and Superintendent Evaluations until the Monday, April 16, 2007 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Kaehler, seconded by Member Pedersen and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:42 PM.

Daniel A. Johnson, Clerk
Cb