

INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
405 E. NORTH STREET
TRURO, IA 50257-0079

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

High School Library

June 27, 2011

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - President Leah Gray called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
- II. Roll Call – Julie Brownlee, Leah Gray, and Ken Stanley – present. Absent – Bryan Arzani and Dan Kirkpatrick.
- III. Welcome and Recognize Visitors – Bus Driver Ross Cornelison was in attendance to address item XII on the agenda.
- IV. Approval of Agenda – Julie Brownlee moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ken Stanley. Motion carried 3-0.
- V. Public Hearing: Early Start Date Waiver Request – As specified in Iowa Code Section 279.10, Subsection 1, a school district must hold a public hearing on an Early Start Calendar waiver request. This waiver allows the Board of Education of a school district to make a request to the Director of the Department of Education to commence classes for regularly established elementary and secondary schools prior to the earliest date which is “no sooner than a day during the calendar week in which the first day of September falls...” Like every district in the state, the district’s approved calendar starts with students before that date (August 24), so the district must file this request.

President Leah Gray declared the public hearing open. There being no one present to speak for or against the Early Start Date Waiver Request, Gray closed the hearing.

Julie Brownlee moved to approve the Early Start Date Waiver Request, seconded by Ken Stanley. A roll call vote followed. Ayes – Julie Brownlee, Leah Gray, Ken Stanley, Nays- none.

- VI. Open Forum – Bus Driver Ross Cornelison expanded upon his comments made to the board at the June 20 Special Board meeting.
- VII. Consent Agenda –
 - Approval of monthly bills
 - Approval of personnel
 - Hires – Katie Downes (special education); Devin Ebert (elementary guidance); Josh Corwin (7-8 football); Andrew Messer (7-8 girls basketball)
 - Resignations – Brittney Flansche (elementary guidance); Lora McAllister (2nd grade teacher)

Motion to approve consent agenda by Julie Brownlee, seconded by Ken Stanley. Motion carried 3-0.
- VIII. Reports to the Board – Transportation Director Randy Jones briefed the board on the recent bus inspections performed by the State. Jones said most of the deficiencies had been

addressed. There are some window frames cracked on one of the new Freightliner busses that will be a warranty-covered repair. Jones updated the board on the location of the bus barns for next year. At the May meeting, a proposal was shared to go from three bus barns down to one central bus barn in Truro for some savings in salary and utilities. A poll of the drivers was taken, and the drivers have since agreed to forfeit their additional “shuttle pay” if the bus barns can remain at the three sites. This will result in an even greater savings to the district than going down to one bus barn, and will satisfy the needs of the drivers as well. To address safety issues next year, at least one driver will remain at each bus barn until all busses are in. The forfeiture of the “shuttle pay” will need to be voted on by the support staff association sometime in mid-July. Ken Stanley asked Jones about the condition of the roof at the St. Charles bus barn. Jones said he would have Dale Kephart take a look at the roof and the rafters and give an estimate of the cost to repair it.

Technology Director Jade Pospeshil reported that the elementary computer lab has been updated, configured, and imaged with new computers from the High School business lab. All the computers are Dell Optiplex 320's with flat screen monitors. The High School business lab has been updated with newer HP computers from the Middle School computer lab. Imaging of these machines is still in process. The Mac computers have arrived for the Middle School computer lab as well as new furniture. During the month of July, air conditioning, carpet, and electrical wiring will take place. Pospeshil thanked Denny Clark for setting up the removal of some very old machines and monitors that were taking up storage space. Several machines are out having warranty work done this summer. Teacher laptops not checked out for summer have been updated and checked. Finally, installation and configuration of the new wireless network is scheduled for the end of July.

Athletic Director Ray Condon reported the progress of the district's baseball and softball teams. There was about two weeks left of the season. The Middle School games had seen a lot of rainouts this year, but that wasn't a unique position as many districts had the same issue. High School Head Baseball coach Jeff Douglas was present to request an additional assistant coach for the current season due to the number of players and other health issues. Brett Douglas has been helping out since the first day of practice getting the fields ready for games, and working with the players. Jeff Douglas has had his arm in a sling and was unable to do some of the tasks, so Brett has been helping out. Ken Stanley asked Condon why this request was coming to them so late in the season. Condon said there was a miscommunication, and he thought it was being mentioned at the May board meeting. Condon was unable to attend that meeting because it was the first home game of the season. Because it was not on the agenda, the board was unable to take action on the issue, but will consider it at the next regular board meeting.

Maintenance Director Denny Clark updated the board on some buildings and grounds projects and issues. Clark reported on the new boiler controls system that has been installed which should be more energy efficient. The district will be changing its fire monitoring services from Simplex Grinnell to Midwest Alarm. The agreement with Midwest Alarm is less costly and should provide higher quality service. Clark commended the Student Council's design of the new football entry into the stadium. Summer cleaning is ahead of schedule thanks to the new floor stripping machine. Clark updated the board on the latest

roof issues: there is a need for caulking around the flashing. Three bids were received for repaving the student parking lot. Speck was the low bid for approximately \$10,000. The freezestat in the library hasn't worked properly since being installed. The problem is the location of the freezestat, but moving it would void the warranty. Clark has been in contact with architect Rick Seeley to see if there is any way to go back to the contractors and have them fix the issue. Clark reiterated Pospeshil's comments on the disposal of old technology by J&A Recycling. Finally, one outdoor fitness station has been purchased, and will be installed by Clark's crew this summer, saving the district \$3,000 by installing it in-house.

Head Cook Mary Ann Evison reported that she has finished the inventory for year-end as well as prepared the menus for August and September. She has also been busy preparing information to request bids for items for next year. Evison has contacted Anderson Erickson Dairy to see if we own the milk cooler or not as the milk price reflects the cooler rental if it is owned by the dairy. Evison is also going to upgrade the Nutrikids and Accuscan programs that track student meals. The upgrade would display the student's picture and include allergy information so that the clerk can check the child's tray for any items he or she may be allergic to. In addition, the new program will make an auto adjustment if the clerk records three separate menu items that could be counted as a reimbursable meal which is expected to generate enough revenue to cover the cost of the upgrade. Evison planned to upgrade the High School system this year, and the elementary next year. Julie Brownlee felt that the allergy information was valuable enough to add it to both locations. Evison said she has enough reserves to cover both upgrades, so will plan to do both cafeterias next year.

Principal Casey Christensen briefly reported that he has been busy with change management for next year with the addition of fifth grade to the elementary.

Principal Jeff Snider reported that he is glad to get started at the district. There has been a lot of shuffling of staff. Snider has also worked with the secretaries, been busy hiring new teachers, and making progress on the Dean of Students position and how that is going to look.

Business Manager Jennifer Jamison reviewed the monthly reports with the board. Jamison still estimates that the district will end the year above its fund balance goal of \$1,000,000 in the General Fund. Jamison attended software training on year-end procedures in early June and decided to pay out all remaining contracts in June as opposed to July and August. This will result in a cleaner cutoff for year end and more timely reports to the board. With the legislature wrapping up this week, the recent talk has been to reduce preschool funding from .6 to .5 weighting. After the session concludes, Jamison along with Superintendent Sundermeyer and Principal Christensen will need to review all funding streams and expenditures for next year and evaluate the fee structure for preschool for next year. The fees will be up for board approval at the July meeting.

Superintendent Sundermeyer shared his letter to the Department of Education regarding the switch from 5th grade at the Middle School to 5th grade at the elementary.

IX. Roadrunner Recognition – There was no Roadrunner Recognition.

- X. GASB 54 Fund Balance Policy 701.3 – This new policy puts the district in compliance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 54, which commits, restricts, and assigns fund balances. Jamison briefed the board on the new policy which requires board action to commit any fund balance and allows the Superintendent or designee to assign fund balance to a specific purpose. Motion by Julie Brownlee to approve Policy 701.3 and waive the second reading, seconded by Ken Stanley. Motion carried, 3-0. Motion by Brownlee to commit the fund balance of all or a portion of the revenues in excess of expenditures in the general fund for the current fiscal year to fund the athletic training facility, seconded by Ken Stanley. Motion carried, 3-0.
- XI. Iowa Association for Educational Purchasing Agreement – To be in compliance with proper procurement procedures, this agreement must be approved before June 30 as the district plans to use Martin Brothers (awarded the state contract through 2013) for many of the food items. Motion by Julie Brownlee to approve the Iowa Association for Educational Purchasing Agreement, seconded by Ken Stanley. Motion carried 3-0.
- XII. Substitute Bus Driver Contracts – Sundermeyer met with Randy Jones and Ross Cornelison (ISEA representative) last week regarding the proposed hourly rate for substitute bus drivers. They agreed that a substitute wage of \$14.79 per hour would be fair and competitive with conference and neighboring schools. Conference and neighboring districts on average pay \$14.24 per hour, with Indianola paying \$15.00 per hour. As soon as the rate is established, contracts will be offered to substitute bus drivers and the district will advertise for substitutes in the Corner Express and Madison County Shopper. Ross Cornelison was present and voiced concern regarding the change to an hourly rate. Cornelison felt that going to an hourly rate for substitute drivers was a change in the negotiated agreement. Per Cornelison’s notes from negotiations, the district proposed switching regular route drivers to an hourly rate, but this was later dropped. Cornelison also had an employment contract for a current substitute driver which referenced pay as that of the route driver for which the driver was substituting. The board responded that substitutes were not part of the negotiated agreement, thus the district was not proposing a change to the agreement. In addition, the employment contract for substitute drivers was changed at the April board meeting and it references an hourly rate, so the employment contract Cornelison referenced is no longer valid. Julie Brownlee stated that she would like to have the rest of the board present before addressing Cornelison’s concerns. Ken Stanley stated he didn’t think that \$14.79 per hour was a bad wage, and that the substitute contract needed cleaned up, so he was supportive of the proposed rate. Stanley did agree to listen to the negotiations tape again with the Superintendent just to be sure that the district wasn’t violating any agreements reached during negotiations. Motion by Ken Stanley to approve the substitute bus driver contract rate at \$14.79 per hour, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried, 3-0.
- XIII. Superintendent Contract Consideration – Julie Brownlee moved to table this item until the next board meeting where the full board would be present, seconded by Ken Stanley. Motion carried, 3-0.
- XIV. Upcoming Dates – There were no upcoming dates.
- XV. Board Comments/Future Agenda Items
- Board Policies, 300s & 700s (July)
 - Student Handbooks (July)
 - Milk, bread, fuel, trash removal, pest control bids (July)
 - Chapter 12 student achievement goals (July)

- Preschool Fees
- High School Assistant Baseball Coach
- Student IDs

XVI. Adjourn – Julie Brownlee moved to adjourn. Motion approved 3-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Leah Gray, Board President

Jennifer Jamison, Board Secretary