

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

High School Library

August 22, 2011

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - President Leah Gray called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- II. Roll Call – Bryan Arzani, Julie Brownlee, Leah Gray, and Dan Kirkpatrick– present. Absent – Ken Stanley.
- III. Welcome and recognize visitors – Visitors in attendance: Tom Cunningham, Bobbie Finley, Bruce Hadsall, John Hadsall.
- IV. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda by Bryan Arzani, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried 4-0.
- V. District Priorities – The Superintendent reviewed the following district priorities with the board to keep in the forefront as the board makes decisions that continue to move the district forward:
 - 1) Articulate and support a cohesive student-centered PK-12 vision for continuous school improvement
 - 2) Promote effective teaching and relevant learning for the 21st Century
 - 3) Foster a culture of high expectations for student success
- VI. Open Forum – Attorney and district patron John Hadsall was present to address the board regarding the potential hiring of his brother Bruce Hadsall as a bus driver for the district. John Hadsall stated Bruce Hadsall had a physical completed, and received a bus route from Transportation Director Randy Jones. In addition, a State of Iowa background check had been performed. Bruce Hadsall has maintained a continuous Iowa driver’s license for the past 20 years. John Hadsall had heard there were concerns about Bruce Hadsall being able to drive for the district. Julie Brownlee was bewildered as to why Bruce Hadsall felt he needed to be represented by an attorney as the board considered his recommendation for hire. Bruce Hadsall stated he didn’t understand why his recommendation to be hired was pending suitable background check when he was offered the position prior to another driver also being recommended for hire. Superintendent Sundermeyer replied that there is a program through the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) that conducts not only a State of Iowa background check, but a more comprehensive one that includes a national criminal file, sex offender registry, child abuse registry, and motor vehicle driver’s license history check. The IASB background check had not yet been received at the time of the board meeting, thus Bruce Hadsall’s recommendation for hire was pending a suitable background check from IASB.
- VII. Consent Agenda –
 - ❑ Approval of past minutes: July 18, August 4
 - ❑ Approval of bills
 - ❑ Approval of personnel

- Hires – Tom Dannen (librarian), Doug George (bus driver); Tina McCuddin (lunch associate) – pending suitable background check; Bruce Hadsall (bus driver) – pending suitable background check; Mike Haarhues (MS Volleyball coach); Rick Gray (a.m. lead custodian); Kenny Erwin (p.m. lead custodian)
- Resignations – Sarah Engel (MS Girls Basketball)

Ken Stanley joined the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Motion to approve consent agenda by Bryan Arzani, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried 5-0.

- VIII. Shared Transportation Agreement – Martensdale-St Marys’ Board would like to continue the Shared Transportation Agreement for students attending Grandwood in Woodward. Each district has students with high needs and both have shared transportation in the past. The agreement spells out the details for us to split the costs evenly and follow Woodward’s schedule of classes. Transportation Director Randy Jones has asked for an additional clause (#2) about the need for an associate as a proactive measure. Motion to approve the Shared Transportation Agreement by Bryan Arzani, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried, 5-0.
- IX. Agreement for Participation in Vocational/Career Program – I-35 has taken advantage of the Madison County Career Academy in the past. At this time, most of the classes are offered in Winterset, but there has been interest in expanding to other Madison County schools. Classes offered include: Culinary Arts, Electrical, CNA, Principles of Engineering, Introduction to Engineering, Digital Engineering, Virtual Reality Pathfinders, and Building Trades. The state requires that these agreements be in place in order to obtain supplemental weighting. Julie Brownlee sought further clarification from counselor Angela Steinlage outlining the expectations of the program with regards to time of arrival and departure, etc. Motion to approve the Agreement for Participation in Vocational/Career Program by Dan Kirkpatrick, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried, 5-0.
- X. Policies 301.2, 303.1, 306, and 701.2 – In the middle of last year, the board had its first reading to eliminate “Management Team,” 301.2 as an unnecessary policy. This would be the second reading to take such action. The “Administrative Provisions” policy should be revised to include principals only. “Succession of Authority to the Superintendent” should be revised to this order: Assistant Principal for 21st Century Learning, Elementary Principal, and Secondary Principal. Also policy 701.2 has been updated with new petty cash amounts to reflect current practices in the elementary and secondary offices. Motion by Julie Brownlee to delete policy 301.2 and to approve policies 303.1, 306, and 701.2 and waive the second reading, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried, 5-0.
- XI. Open Enrollment Application – The district received open enrollment applications for two 7th graders after the deadline of March 1st which do not meet the good cause definition, therefore, the Superintendent recommended the applications be denied. Superintendent Sundermeyer also sought clarification on how to handle future open enrollment-in requests. Did the board want to see them all, or just those that miss the deadline and qualify for good cause? The board responded that they would like to only see those that miss the deadline and do not qualify as good cause. Motion by Julie Brownlee to deny the Open Enrollment requests, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 5-0.
- XII. Meet the Board of Education – Open House – The board took a brief recess to mingle about the building for the PK-12 Open House and meet with parents and community members. The meeting reconvened at 6:55 p.m.

- XIII. Roadrunner Recognition – Sundermeyer recognized the following individuals and groups: Casey Christensen, Jeff Snider, Jennifer Jamison, and Jade Pospeshil for coordinating the New Teacher Orientation. The evaluations came back positively, and the new teachers felt welcome here at Interstate.

Everyone – Tina Burkhead, Tiffany Johnson, Le Ann McFarland, Jeff Snider, Angela Steinlage, Deann Strange, Jaci Taylor, and PTO/Beep Club members Sherri Elsen, Julie Kordick, Bev Murphy, and Nicole Williamson – involved in making online registration a success. We had a great two days and nights and were impressed with how well the major change went and how accepting parents were. Their efforts and attitude are what made this possible. Thanks so much for putting together such a family-friendly experience.

Sophomore Ashley Mace for being selected best dancer (out of 135) at the Statesman Cheerleading Camp. Great job, Ashley! ~ via Twitter @ I35Schools.

- XIV. Reports to the Board

Transportation Director Randy Jones has been working diligently to assign drivers and students to routes. Jones recognized bus drivers Johnna Ekleberry, Frank Stroh, and Bobbie Finley for their help in assigning the routes. The association recently voted to keep the Master Agreement “as is,” so all routes will be leaving from and returning to Truro.

Ray Condon included a written report to the board. Highlights of his report include: Participation numbers for fall activities: HS Football – 65 (includes stats and managers); HS Volleyball – 40; HS Cross Country – 11 (6 girls, 5 boys). I-35 will be staying with One School Street for activities scheduling. The district had considered switching to Schedule Star, but found other districts were not happy with recent changes made to it. Condon made a recommendation to other conference schools that baseball and softball start times go back to JV first. Finally, Condon included a letter from the Iowa High School Athletic Association that recognized the district for being one of 192 schools who had no athletes or coaches ejected during the 2010-11 school year.

Mary Ann Evison was present to report to the board and provided a written summary of her report. Evison met with her staff on the 18th and trained her staff on what comprises a reimbursable meal for both breakfast and lunch. Evison also met with staff regarding expectations for the year and assisted them with annual online trainings. Evison along with Deann Strange met with the Preschool teachers and Mr. Christensen regarding the recordkeeping and other logistics of family style service in the preschool classrooms for lunch. Groceries and milk arrived on the 22nd, with bread still on the way. Before staff returned on the 18th, Evison met with the new principal as well as with Deann on the new lunch machines and training for them which will take place later this fall. Evison also interviewed candidates for the new Lunch Associate position in which she recommended Tina McCuddin for hire. Joyce Baughman will assist with breakfast down in the elementary lunchroom. Evison is glad to have both ladies on board.

Elementary Principal Casey Christensen included a written report for the board. Highlights included: office staff spent the summer cleaning, defining, organizing, creating, and preparing for teachers’ and students’ arrivals. Improvements included bulletin boards up by

hall to organize and share daily and community events, new tack strips in the halls to display student work, organizing the office, assigning new duties, and creating new schedules. Christensen thanked the custodial staff and summer help for all their work. The building looks fabulous. The preschool has much to celebrate: new playground areas to allow for new activities, family style meals being served this year thanks to Mary Ann for working through the details, and new assessments this year to comply with state funding expectations. Finally the PK-12 special education team met to review the new rosters and learn about new building procedures and expectations. They were allowed time to ask questions as the district works to organize from 11 teachers to 8 in this area.

Secondary Principal Jeff Snider included a written report for the board. Highlights included: Several staff members went to the e2020 training at Clarke of Osceola. There are lots of ways we can use the program. Kelly Myers is going to lead the charge with Jade working with teachers in implementation. Snider included a discipline newsletter to hand out to staff providing the vision of discipline, school culture, and student recognition. Grades 6-12 are going electronic with its PBIS form that helps students learn from behavior and helps teachers/administrators to understand what interventions are working and not working for the student. Registration went very well with the electronic registration. Snider thanked Deann, Tiffany, Angela, Jaci, and Tina for their efforts, as well as the PTO and Julie Kordick for offering assistance to community members. Snider also recognized Geoff Tessau for his work with the iMac lab, the maintenance staff for their work on the building, and Deann for getting the Secondary office up and running. Finally, Snider reported that new mailboxes were installed in the Secondary office and look marvelous.

Business Manager Jennifer Jamison reviewed the financial reports with the board for the previous fiscal year ending June 30 as well as for July of the current fiscal year. The General Fund is still on target to meet the board's goal for fund balance. The other funds look to be in good shape as well. Jamison stated that the district's external auditors will be here to conduct the annual audit the week of September 26. Jamison has been working on completing the Certified Annual Report for the Department of Education. The report is due September 15.

Superintendent Eric Sundermeyer shared a video entitled "Iowa Did You Know?" as well as the letter to welcome back staff and some Frequently Asked Questions that were available for parents at Open House. Sundermeyer had also invited community member Lisa Davis to share her ideas about a fundraiser for the organization First Decents. This organization sends young adults who have cancer or are cancer survivors to camp. Davis would like to give airbrush tattoos in exchange for a donation to First Decents at the Homecoming game. The board was supportive of the organization, but not willing to set precedent by allowing an individual to raise funds for an outside organization at one of its activities. Davis will pursue her idea with other school-based organizations to see if there would be an opportunity for one of them to sponsor her fundraising efforts.

XV. Upcoming Dates

- August 24th – First day of school
- August 24-26 – 1:15 dismissals, professional development

- August 25 – Fall Meet the Team Night, 6:30 p.m.
 - September 13 – School board elections
 - September 15 – School pictures
 - September 26 – No School, Professional Development Day
- XVI. Board Comments/Future Agenda Items
- Goal setting work session (September/October)
 - Athletic Training Facility
 - Student IDs
 - 50th anniversary – Interstate 35 School District (2011-12)
- The board participated in a tour of the new iMac lab led by Assistant Principal for 21st Century Learning, Geoff Tessau.
- XVII. Adjourn – Bryan Arzani moved to adjourn. Motion approved 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Leah Gray, Board President

Jennifer Jamison, Board Secretary