

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

High School Library

October 24, 2011

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - President Leah Gray called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
- II. Roll Call – Bryan Arzani, Julie Brownlee, Leah Gray, Dan Kirkpatrick – present. Absent – Ken Stanley.
- III. Welcome and recognize visitors – No visitors.
- IV. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda by Bryan Arzani, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried 4-0.
- V. Public Hearing on Innovative Calendar – Leah Gray announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing regarding the Innovative Calendar request for the 2012-13 school year. There being no one present to speak for or against the issue, Gray declared the public hearing closed.
- VI. Open Forum – No one was in attendance to address the board during open forum.
- VII. Consent Agenda –
 - Approval of past minutes: September 26
 - Approval of bills
 - Approval of personnel
 - Hires – Travis Brant (7-8 wrestling coach); Jason Mehrhoff (9-12 wrestling assistant coach)Motion to approve consent agenda by Dan Kirkpatrick, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried 4-0.
- VIII. Reports to the Board
 - A) 21st Century Fitness – PE Teacher Moni Freeman and students Andrew Morris, Alyssa Bissell, and Zach Hutton demonstrated the new heart rate monitors purchased for secondary PE through a grant from the Madison County Healthy Kids Initiative. Freeman thanked Principal Jeff Snider for his efforts in getting the grant funding for the monitors, and stated the monitors were the best thing to happen in her classes in years. Lanae Price from the Madison County Healthy Kids Initiative presented a check in the amount of \$1,882 to Snider and the board.
 - B) Directors & Administrators
Transportation Director Rick Zimmerman addressed the board. He thanked the board for the opportunity to serve the district. During his first few weeks, Zimmerman has changed the parking arrangement at the bus barn and opened the east gate allowing busses to drive around the building to exit, making the flow much smoother. Zimmerman has also been catching up on necessary maintenance and repairs. Next month he will be proposing some minor adjustments to routes that will make them more efficient. Julie Brownlee was concerned about how the route changes would be communicated. Zimmerman

assured Brownlee that the drivers would communicate the changes with parents prior to implementing them, and that the changes would be very minor in terms of the pickup and drop off times.

Head Cook Mary Ann Evison was not in attendance, but did provide a written report in the board packet. Superintendent Sundermeyer noted the state nutrition site visit was scheduled for November 22 and 23, and wellness policy changes resulting from the upcoming visit.

Athletic Director Ray Condon was also not in attendance, but submitted a written report to the board. Highlights included:

- Fall Seasons Review:
 - HS Football 60 (includes Stats and managers) 5-4
 - HS Volleyball 32 Defeated Nodaway Valley 1st round play
Clarke Tuesday 10-25
 - HS Cross Country 14 (9 girls, 5 boys) District Meet in Atlantic
10-20
 - MS Football 35 8th 5-1 7th 5-1
 - MS Volleyball 19 8th 9-3 7th 8-7
 - MS Cross Country 12 (7 girls, 5 boys)
- Met with One Source Fitness on Thursday Sept 29th. Still waiting on his report. Met with Sports Construction on Wed.
- Booster Club: Fall Awards Night and Meet the Team Night on the 17th of Nov. 6:00
- Storage building at football field

Principal Jeff Snider updated the board on the Athletic Training Facility. Snider looked at the property and suggested that it be located in the staff parking lot area. If the committee keeps making progress, the building could be ready by August. Sports Construction has built facilities in Anita, Waukon, and Roland-Story. The building would be 120 x 80, 9600 square feet, and include an indoor track, volleyball and basketball courts, a weight area and batting cages.

Assistant Principal Geoff Tessau reported on various technology projects including: iMac lab, new website, and the AEA “bargain bin”. Technology Director Jade Pospeshil was not in attendance, but provided a written report including highlights of the recent ITEC conference and progress on elementary student computers in classrooms.

Principal Casey Christensen presented his report to the board as follows:

- PK staff members Jyl Wightman and Dee Myers attended the Iowa PK Conference on October 14th. Jenny Dickinson attended a technology conference on the 17 & 18 of October and will work to guide the PK team in more technology use in the PK program.
- Special Education teacher Nicki Jass and Reading Interventionist Heather Wells are both back after maternity leaves. We thank Marybeth Morrow and Angel Lewis for their long-term sub help!

- I have met with my principal advisory team to discuss school related issues. It seems the school year is off to a great start from the staff perspective. We will work a few student school-wide issues as a part of PBIS.
- Ronald McDonald paid the elementary a visit on October 5. We had two 30 minute programs on bullying. This was part of the PBIS program and our school counselor, Devin Ebert's, teaching program. The students enjoyed the show!
- We try and foster community involvement and thanks to the local fire departments we have done that again. On October 14 we had the local fire fighters and trucks pay a visit to the school during Fire Safety Week. It was an educational presentation that the kids will remember and should help keep them safe. Thanks to all the volunteers that came and presented!
- On a personal note I would like to thank the entire elementary staff for being so flexible and helping out as needed when I was spending some time at home with our new son, Louis Croix. We are lucky to be a part of a caring community!

Principal Jeff Snider presented the following report to the board:

- We are putting up picture frames (and pictures) in the 6-8 and 9-12 wings of the building to help promote a positive culture.
- The fall play this year is actually a musical, Bah Humbug. Mr. Webster and his class have been spending a lot time preparing for the event. The performance will be November 4th and 5th beginning at 7:00.
- The Pursuing Victory with Honor Conference was a great opportunity for our students to see the power of positive leadership as we look to further develop a positive culture of character both in the classroom and on the field of competition.
- The PTO provided the 7th and 8th grade students with funds to purchase additional books. Additionally they are piloting exercise balls for 7th and 8th grade students as chairs.
- Our anatomy class attended Body Works in Des Moines that enabled our students to learn and see the human body in a way that couldn't be duplicated in a traditional classroom.
- Students of the Month for October: Ashton Mason(12), Suzanna Hart(9), Kryssa Brown(11), Bobby Heilman(10), Brennon McCuddin(7), Alyssa Watson(9), Jenna Lundy(8), and Dillan Jacobe (8). Congratulations to these students!
- FFA had its fall cookout (49 members strong) on Saturday October 15th. Our FFA recently traveled to Maryville, MO for a judging competition at Northwest Missouri State University in which we had several excellent showings. Great job by coach Denny Meggers and our FFA!
- Math club is hosting the Ironman volleyball tournament on October 27th.
- Knowledge bowl had tryouts and is preparing for the POI competition on the 2nd
- 15 8th graders went to a Norwalk music festival on October 17th.
- This year we have had reduced student time taken out of class by 65% this year. That is the equivalence of 104 class periods of student contact time that have been preserved since we have instituted Saturday School as an alternative to in-school suspension.

Business Manager Jennifer Jamison reviewed the September financial reports with the board. The reports show various funds with a smaller fund balance; however, the semi-annual property tax payments were received in October and will be reflected in next month's reports. Jamison updated the board on the annual audit. Auditors were in the district on September 27, and have completed their fieldwork. Certified enrollment count day was October 3. Enrollment is up 18 students from last year, however, open enrollment out is up as well, netting an increase of 12 students. Finally, Jamison reported that she is attending the Iowa Association of School Business Officials' fall conference on October 27-28 in West Des Moines. General sessions at the conference will include the new School Business Official authorization, IPERS changes, 403(b) updates, and Worker's Compensation best practices, as well as various other break-out topics.

Superintendent Sundermeyer discussed the results of staff feedback on the progress made toward the board's goals, certified enrollment, and the IASB convention. Leah Gray asked if it would be possible to send a survey out to the families who open enroll out of the district to ask why they choose to open enroll out. Administration will work on getting this out to those families and report back in the future.

- IX. 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
- X. Roadrunner Recognition – Superintendent Sundermeyer recognized the following individuals and groups:
- Madison County Healthy Kids Initiative for its generous donation of 30 heart rate monitors to be used in the secondary PE department.
- Montross Pharmacy and school nurse Becky Abbott for organizing and carrying out this morning's flu shot clinic for our staff and family members.
- Tina Burkhead and Tiffany Johnson for their successful student uploads into the Project EASIER sit to facilitate a smooth certified enrollment process.
- Deann Strange for submitting all the required information in order to transition to the new lunch software in mid-November.
- Students Justin Willett (4th grade), Wyatt Schultz (8th), and Staci Morris (12th), and teachers Hannah Ludwig and Laura Haines for spearheading our students' artwork to be displayed at this year's Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) Convention in Des Moines.
- Students Alex McCuddin (5th), Lilly Miller (5th), Lindsey Young (4th), Zane Olsen (4th), Jamie Smith (4th), Kylie Adams (4th), Mason Edwards (4th), and Kailee Elsen (4th) for their efforts and positive showing in the Bridges Festival Spelling Bee held in Winterset on October 8. Special recognition to Alex McCuddin who secured 4th place! Also thanks to the 5th & 4th grade teachers, especially Nancy Calvert and Sherrie Gray for having spelling contests here at school to help qualify and support these young men and women.
- XI. Innovative Calendar, 2012-13 – Interstate 35 Schools has traditionally asked for the waiver of 180 school days to accommodate additional professional development. Motion by Julie

- Brownlee to approve the innovative calendar request, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 4-0.
- XII. Early Graduates – Policy 505.6 allows for early graduation, and Mr. Snider has recommended the following students for reaching the criteria: Justin McCombs, Maria DeAngelis, and Sarah Davenport. Motion by Dan Kirkpatrick to approve early graduates, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried, 4-0.
- XIII. Simpson College Student Teaching Agreement – Simpson College has asked the district to host student teachers and/or practicum students from their Education Department. In such a situation, this type of agreement is required by the Iowa Department of Education. Hosting pre-service teachers is a great way to market the district to potential applicants and provides great learning opportunities to our students and the cooperating teacher. Motion by Bryan Arzani to approve the Simpson College Student Teaching Agreement, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried, 4-0.
- XIV. Wellness Policy, 507.9, Second Reading – Mary Ann Evison and the Superintendent worked through revisions of Appendix D for the Wellness Policy, which was the one area not discussed at last month’s meeting. It seems a district Wellness Committee last met in 2009, so will re-convene this group with this newly adopted policy as the framework for our discussion and action. Motion by Dan Kirkpatrick to approve policy 507.9, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried, 4-0.
- XV. Board Policies, 501.14 – 507.8, First Reading – The majority of the 500 series was last reviewed in 2003 or, at the least, was not updated electronically to reflect more current reviews. If there were significant changes /updates from the IASB Policy Manual, they were included in the packet. If the languages stayed the same, and the dates and references simply needed updating, I noted that as well. The plan is to get through the 600s by winter break and the focus on those specific to the DE site visit, before returning to the 700s, 800s, and 900s. Motion by Julie Brownlee to approve the first reading of board policies 501.14-507.8, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried, 4-0.
- XVI. Upcoming dates –
- October 28 – End of first quarter, 1:15 p.m. dismissal
 - November 4-5 – Musical, “A Christmas Carol,” 7 p.m.
 - November 7 & 10 – Parent-teacher conferences
 - November 11 – No school, teacher comp day
 - November 14 – No school, professional development
 - November 16- SIAC Meeting, 5:45 p.m.
 - November 16-17 – IASB Annual Convention
 - November 23 – Thanksgiving break, 1:15 p.m. dismissal
- XV. Board Comments/Future Agenda Items
- November 28 – Iowa Youth Survey results
 - Lunchroom acoustics, elementary

XVII. Adjourn – Julie Brownlee moved to adjourn. Motion approved 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Leah Gray, Board President

Jennifer Jamison, Board Secretary