

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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

6:00 P.M.

High School Library

April 23, 2012

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order - President Leah Gray called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. Roll Call – Bryan Arzani, Julie Brownlee, Leah Gray, Dan Kirkpatrick, Ken Stanley, and Taylor Parrish (Student Council representative) – present. Absent – none.
- III. Welcome and recognize visitors – District patrons Jennifer Baughman, Shannon Howe, Shawna Wagner, Jenny Dickinson, Brandi Herman, Sherrie Gray, Duane Stewart, Gerald Snyder, and Tina Burkhead were in attendance. Also in attendance were administrators and directors.
- IV. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda by Julie Brownlee, seconded by Ken Stanley. Motion carried 6-0.
- V. District Priorities – President Gray 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 (Ensure/Engage in) effective teaching and relevant learning for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
  - 3) Operate with fiscal integrity, efficiency and effectiveness
- VI. Open Forum – Shawna Wagner addressed the board regarding an altercation between her son and another student on March 30. The board thanked Wagner for speaking about the situation. Jennifer Baughman spoke to the board regarding the current preschool scenario for five-year-olds wishing to attend preschool next year. Principal Casey Christensen stated that given the current numbers, there should be enough space for all five-year-olds; however four-year-olds will have first priority.
- VII. Consent Agenda –
  - A) Approval of past minutes: March 12, March 14, April 9
  - B) Approval of bills
  - C) Approval of personnel
    - Resignations – Jamie Gelner (preschool teacher); Nicki Jass (special education); James Sleep (high school science); Jon Warsawski (custodian); Scott Meyer (network administrator)
    - Hires – Alicia Struble (4<sup>th</sup> grade); Jim Miller (substitute driver); Robyn Marlow (7/8 language arts) pending satisfactory background check. Jason Smith – (strength and conditioning) – removed from consent agenda.
    - Transfers – Kelly Myers (Dean of Students) to HS ScienceMotion to approve consent agenda by Bryan Arzani, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried 6-0.

- VIII. Reports to the Board – Band Instructor Steve Kness and student Ben Merrick presented some of the technology purchased with the Monsanto grant received from resident Peggy Phillips. The music department purchased seven SmartMusic licenses and installed them on iMacs purchased from Heartland AEA at a substantial discount. The SmartMusic stations have the music pre-programmed into them and students play into a recording device that recognizes the notes and scores whether or not the student hit the notes on the programmed music piece. This has been utilized by Kness for individual lessons and by David Webster in vocal music to help teach students to read music. Ben Merrick demonstrated how he used the iMac’s program Garage Band and Finale software to write original music pieces.

Assistant Principal Geoff Tessau presented a revised list of questions for the Needs Assessment that will be conducted in anticipation of the Department of Education site visit. Tessau solicited ideas from teachers, District Leadership Team, and the School Improvement Advisory Committee. Board Members were asked to review the questions and provide any further revisions to Tessau.

Superintendent Sundermeyer presented the results of the Open Enrollment Survey to the board. Families of students who open enroll out of the district were sent a survey about their decision to open enroll. The district received almost a 50 percent response from the survey. Most families selected location for their reason to open enroll , but other responses included athletic or athletic programs as well as size either too big or too small.

Written reports were provided in the board packet by the Activities Director, Head Cook, Transportation Coordinator, Principals, Business Manager, and Superintendent. Activities Director, Ray Condon, expanded on the Strength and Conditioning position for the board. Jason Smith has directed the Speed and Agility program at the High School beginning last summer. The program evolved into a Strength and Conditioning program for athletes between seasons and has been very popular. This position would compensate Smith for heading up this program. Business Manager Jennifer Jamison informed the board that a budget amendment would be forthcoming for the May board meeting. Superintendent Sundermeyer shared the new evaluation forms for support staff. Directors and administrators will be evaluating support staff this spring using the new forms.

- IX. Roadrunner Recognition – Superintendent Sundermeyer recognized the following individuals and groups:

Vicki Westerly for being selected to the Belin-Blank Academy at the University of Iowa for addressing the needs of gifted children.

Sue Meggers for being selected as one of 70 teachers across the world to be invited to an all-expenses-paid “green boot camp” in San Diego courtesy of Honeywell.

Shauna Pickering for coordinating the first-ever fifth grade variety show. Again, an impressive display of fine arts at Interstate.

Garry Bedwell for bringing in the very first diploma from Interstate 35 in May 1962. His diploma, along with other images from the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration, are posted on the district website.

Anyone and everyone who helped make the golden anniversary a success. It was a great turnout and celebration for a Roadrunner Family Reunion.

School board members Leah Gray, Julie Brownlee, Ken Stanley, Bryan Arzani and Dan Kirkpatrick for the spirit of dedication and sacrifice they exhibit throughout the school year. IASB and I-35 will recognize these volunteers for their service during the week of May 6-12.

Tech Fair- Janet Walkup and Julie Kordick were instrumental in helping the following students attend and participate in some recent out-of-school activities. We wish to recognize the following students for their achievements:

Blue Ribbon Awards

- 4th graders Mick VonFeldt & Mason Edwards with Robot Messenger
- 5th graders Lilly Miller & Sky Delzell with Video I-35 Skating

Red Ribbon Awards

- 4th graders Zane Olson & Taylor Brommel with Bowler Bot
- 5th graders Richie Grigilione, Zach Capps, Alex McCuddin with video Are We Late?

Some students also attended the ISU Computational Thinking Competition on Saturday. Fourth graders Mick VonFeldt and Mason Edwards received an honorable mention award. Others participating were: Kailee Elsen and Taylor Brommel.

Our technology teacher Julie Kordick and TAG teacher Janet Walkup took five students and three robots to the competition at Iowa State. Interstate 35 sixth grader, Elizabeth Smith, took first place in the elementary School Division of the first Computational Thinking Competition. Elizabeth's entry was entitled "Robot Jimmy." Congratulations are in order for both Elizabeth and I-35 Community Schools.

The knowledge bowl team had a great experience at the Moravia Brain Bowl. Out of a 64-person field, we had four out of the final eight competitors in this 64 person, eight team field. The championship match paired 2 Interstate 35 Students, Rachael Wiggins and Josh Hughes, with Josh walking away as Grand Champion! All of our competitors finished strong as we won the team competition as well. Members of the winning team included: Josh Hughes, Rachael Wiggins, Kaley Chicoine, Alex Bertrand, Mariah Lewis, Megan Ellis, and Michael Snell. Great Job Roadrunners!

Students on the Garden Planning or Technology Team include: Travis Brownlee, Travis Schultz, Cynthia Thomas, Breanna Lowry, Bailey Burton, Emma Foreman, Wyatt schultz, Hannah Gradstaff, Blake Kozak, Madelyn Young, Ally Bedwell, Luke Flickenger, Remington Hutton, Elijah Elliott, Maddie Olson, Elizabeth Smith, Mick Schaffer, Bridger Hutton, Zach Goering, Libby Kennedy, Bailey McCuddin, and Eliza Parish.

- X. Little League Proposal – Duane Stewart and Gerald Snyder were in attendance as well as Buildings and Grounds Director Denny Clark and lead custodian Rick Gray to discuss alternatives surrounding the proposed sewage improvements at both the Little League field

and the I-35 football field. Much discussion between the district, Little League, county, and city officials has taken place regarding the most cost effective and environmentally sound solution. Thus, the Superintendent recommended tabling this discussion so more research could take place. Bryan Arzani moved to table the Little League proposal in order to study other options, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 6-0.

- XI. Candidates for Graduation – Julie Brownlee moved to approve the list of candidates for graduation, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried, 6-0.
- XII. 2012-14 Student Teaching Agreement with UNI – This is an agreement to have UNI student teachers placed in our schools and is a great way to see new innovative ideas and is a strong marketing tool for our district when it comes to recruiting for open teaching positions. Motion to approve 2012-14 Student Teaching Agreement with UNI by Bryan Arzani, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 6-0.
- XIII. Shared Transportation Agreement with Murray CSD – Murray Schools would like to share the costs of transporting student up to Woodward. Motion by Bryan Arzani to approve the Shared Transportation Agreement with Murray CSD, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 6-0.

Taylor Parrish left the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

- XIV. Upcoming Dates –
- April 25 – Baccalaureate, 7 p.m.
  - May 5 – Prom @ Jackson Bldg, 8-11 p.m., After-Prom, 11:30 p.m.
  - May 15 – Fine Arts Night, 6:30 p.m.
  - May 16 – Senior Awards Night, 7 p.m.
  - May 20 – Commencement, 2 p.m.
  - May 21 – Regular Board meeting, 6 p.m.
  - May 25 – Last day of school, 4-hour early dismissal (11:15)
- XV. Board Comments/Future Agenda Items –
- May – boiler plans, specs, contract
  - May – school calendar early start request
  - May – budget amendments(s)
  - May – “others” contracts
  - June – Superintendent evaluation
- Motion by Julie Brownlee to appoint Jason Smith as Strength and Conditioning Coach, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 5-0.
- XVI. Negotiations Strategy Session – postponed
- XVII. Adjourn – Julie Brownlee moved to adjourn. Motion approved 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Leah Gray, Board President

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Jennifer Jamison, Board Secretary