

**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 22, 2012

**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, Dan Kirkpatrick, Ken Stanley, and student council representative Cole Daniels – present. Absent – none.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance – The board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Welcome and recognize visitors – District patrons Greg Bedwell, Darrell Beem, Tina Burkhead, Cindi Cassady, Jim Cassady, Jan Connelly, Chris Cummings, Jenny Dickinson, Julie Egli, Travis Egli, Sheri Elsen, Bobbie Finley, Leann Kennedy, Keith Ostling, Ron Pontalilo, Denise Raymond, Tod Richardson, Trina Sheener, Duane Smith, Erin Thornburgh, Randy Wiggins, Kelli Wiggins, Rob Winslow, Also in attendance: coaches Randy Calvert, Nate Rankin, Jamie Smith, district administrators and directors.
- V. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda by Julie Brownlee, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried 5-0.
- VI. 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) Engage in effective teaching and relevant learning for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
  - 3) Operate with fiscal integrity, efficiency and effectiveness
- VII. Open Forum – The following audience members addressed the board:
  - Randy Wiggins, Booster President, spoke regarding the decision not to allow food and drink in the HS gym and its impact on volleyball concessions. Wiggins reported sales were down 35%. He also reported that the Boosters choose to offer no grilled items at the game being held that night: only pop, candy, etc.
  - Rob Winslow, parent, spoke about ineligibility requirements and his son’s inability to play football the first four weeks during the season, due to being ineligible. Winslow received a letter regarding his son’s ineligibility and asked Mrs. Steinlage about a special study hall or other accommodations. At the time he talked to her, Steinlage said his son’s grades had improved, so no action was taken. Mr. Winslow received another notice during the season and this time his son was getting (4) F’s and a D, and one of those was in Mr. Smith’s class who is one of the football coaches. Winslow stated that the teacher/coaches should take more initiative to try to help failing athletes. Winslow also discussed in another letter the need for an assisted reading class for his son whose test scores were not considered proficient and questioned whether an intervention should have occurred before now. Ken Stanley asked

Principal Jeff Snider to respond to Winslow's comments. Snider asked Winslow to call him the next day so they could work out an intervention plan.

- Duane Stuart, parent, spoke regarding two infections that his son had contracted, requiring hospitalization. Stuart asked what the district was doing to control this. Superintendent Sundermeyer stated that the custodians had begun deep cleaning the locker rooms this school year once a month during teacher professional development days when the students are not in the building. Sundermeyer stated that the district would investigate further the proper cleaning techniques to help control further spread of these infections. Stuart also spoke regarding the athletic department. Stuart questioned if the appropriate staff is being held accountable for what they are doing when programs are losing performance.
- Greg Bedwell, parent, discussed his concerns regarding all the co-curricular and extra-curricular programs at the district. Bedwell stated that these programs weren't getting the potential of what they could or should get. He questioned how the district evaluated their programs and how these programs compare to other schools. Bedwell closed with the fact that the district provides a lot of different activities, but it all starts in the classroom.
- Tod Richardson, parent, stated that he had a disappointed kid at home and wanted to say something about it. Richardson asked who is responsible for the sports program; its performance, its quality, and the experience that the kids have while playing. Superintendent Sundermeyer responded the Activities Director evaluates head coaches, and Principal Snider is responsible for the evaluation of the AD. Superintendent is responsible for the Principals, and the board is responsible for the Superintendent. Richardson also commented about leadership, discipline, and performance and noted there is no coordination at sporting events.
- Chris Cummings, parent, spoke about coaching the little kids programs and their successes. He questioned what was happening between then and when they reach varsity. Cummings stated there was no discipline of the football team, the coaches were fighting, and the kids were using foul language.
- Darrell Beem, parent, also spoke about accountability for coaches, and who was holding assistant coaches responsible. Beem said players should be rewarded for playing a good game. He also mentioned players getting ejected from games. Beem stated the AD should be held accountable. There were two teammates fighting which is unacceptable. The coaches are here to teach in the classroom and on the field win or lose. Beem suggested there be a board of people to hold the coaches accountable and that the district needed a lifting program for all kids.
- Russell Godfrey, parent, spoke next and said he wasn't worried about the wins or losses, but about what coaches are teaching kids and lessons learned. Godfrey said that if coaches aren't doing what they are supposed to do, they should be evaluated and get help to get better.
- Ron Pontolilo, parent, liked the common theme of accountability in all the comments made.

VIII. Consent Agenda –

- A) Approval of Past Minutes: September 17, 2012
- B) Approval of Bills
- C) Approval of Personnel

- Resignations – Mike Haarhues (associate)
- Hires – Stephanie Good (wrestling cheerleading); Laura Iverson (Class D3 chauffer’s license); Mistie Jurgensen (Class D3 chauffer’s license); John Reid (MS Assistant girls’ basketball); Jamie Smith (MS head girls basketball); Jim Smith (MS assistant girls’ basketball); James White (MS head boys basketball).

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

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

PK-12 Roadrunner students and staff for two recent displays of great character and fun – Homecoming Pep Rally and Healthiest State Walk.

Montross Pharmacy and school nurse Becky Abbott for organizing and carrying out last week’s flu shot clinic for our staff and family members.

Tina Burkhead, Lori Jordan, Leann McFarland, and Tiffany Johnson for their successful student uploads into the new Student Reporting in Iowa portal to facilitate the certified enrollment process.

Erin Parker of Warren County Health Services for coordinating an I-Walk Safe Routes to Schools project for Interstate 35. She is hosting a workshop on Monday, October 29, at the New Virginia Fire Station.

Wyatt Jamison for being selected for the 7/8 Opus Honor Choir which performs in Ames in mid-November.

Wyatt Oliver and Nick Petersen for displaying more of their fabulous filmmaking for a three-minute video featuring America’s Smartland for the Midwest Governor’s Association.

Claire Bertrand and Jenna Sandquist for being selected for the All-State Choir after their performances this weekend in Harlan.

Holly McKinney for making State in Cross Country.

X. Reports to the Board:

- Winter sports program goals – basketball, wrestling coaches  
Coach Nate Rankin updated the board on the boys’ basketball program. Rankin and his team look to contend for a conference title. They played about 60 games through the off-season in leagues and tournaments. Rankin’s main goal is that his athletes leave better men. Rankin assists with the youth basketball program which typically has 75-80 kids. He also assists with the summer lifting program and his players had a lot of summer workouts. Rankin would like to start a pee-wee program called Little Dribblers for grades 1-2. In addition, his team will once again participate in the coaches vs. cancer program. Rankin concluded his report to the board stating that if the team should lose its okay as long as they do in the right way. He believes in accountability and discipline and

ultimately wants to be the first to win a state championship in boys' basketball at Interstate 35.

Coach Jamie Smith was next to report on the girls' basketball program. Smith provided a written report to the board in their packet, and highlighted a few items. Smith said his goal would be to win a conference title which has never been done. His challenges are figuring out ways to retain coaches. Smith works to insure the kids are getting better at the fundamentals. Smith is also coaching middle school basketball this year and has added one additional coach to help with the additional load. Smith's players have excellent attendance at the summer strength and agility training and throughout the school year, and Smith is actively assists the program as well. When asked how he is successful in getting his players to training, Smith stated that the parents and players know it's important to attend the training in order to improve.

Coach Randy Calvert reported on the wrestling program. Calvert and his team work on building a family atmosphere. There are exploratory level wrestlers, the hard-workers, and the state contenders and there is room for them all in the program. Calvert said his goal is to always do well in the conference and compete at the state level. Wrestlers work hard, and it's a personal sport. Calvert has been working with Bryan Arzani to set up a camp and bringing back former wrestlers to help in this. Weightlifting is incorporated during the summer and on Mondays during the season. This season Calvert will work more with the wrestlers on their diets and what types of foods to eat when.

- District Financial Report

Business Manager Jennifer Jamison delivered a presentation entitled Fall Financial Facts. The report summarized a five-year history of the seven financial health indicators and also updated enrollment trends including open enrollment in and out of the district. Jamison's report is also available online for anyone who missed it and wants to learn more about district finances.

- Department Directors and Administrator Reports

Activities Director Ray Condon's report was in the board packet and included information regarding parent/coach decorum, hosting class 3A regional volleyball on October 22, last football game on October 19 at Clarke, and Cross County regional/district meet October 18 with State meet October 27.

Assistant Principal Geoff Tessau's report highlighted the recent ITEC conference, the MacBook Air Cart, website traffic, and the mailing list update.

Elementary Principal Casey Christensen's report included updates on a 4R Kids Early Childhood Grant his staff is applying for to "beef up" their supplies, students of the week, professional development topics from October 15, student assemblies and activities, and community involvement in the I-Walk, a Safe Routes to School Program. Christensen especially wanted to recognize the students of the week. He also updated the board on literacy at the elementary and book selection for student grade levels.

Secondary Principal Jeff Snider's report included the following highlights: Career and Technical Education (CTE) advisory committee, Healthiest State Walk, hosting POI Leadership Conference November 5, hosting POI conference Knowledge Bowl November 1 at SWCC, professional learning days now offer licensure credit, and site visit preparation. Snider also briefly explained the equine learning opportunities for at-risk students working in collaboration with Wildwood Hills Ranch.

Business Manager Jennifer Jamison's financial reports were in the packet. Jamison reviewed much of the information during her earlier presentation.

Superintendent Eric Sundermeyer's report included Annual Progress Report (APR): Part 1, which includes a history of average ACT scores compared to the statewide average and post-secondary credit options, 2011-12 Iowa Assessment AYP Proficiency Results which includes reading and math tests results overall, by low SES and by race, and APR: Part 2 which includes early literacy indicators, fifth grade fluency, algebra readiness, and science performing task. Sundermeyer also played the opening presentation for the DE Site Visit to be held October 23-25 entitled, "If You Take a Roadrunner to Interstate 35."

- XI. SIAC, CTE Committee Appointments – Effective January 1, 2012, board-appointed committees have been mandated to strive for gender balance. The following committee members of the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) and Career Technical Education (CTE) Advisory committees need to be formally appointed by the board. SIAC members: Roxanne Beeler, Julie Brownlee, Cindi Cassady, Casey Christensen, Kristi Daniels, Sarah Darst, Karla Day, Sandy Delzell, Travis Egli, Jason Fantz, Leah Gray, Sara Hughes, Tracy Hutton, Julie Kordick, Hannah Ludwig, Bryan Nelson, Jeff Snider, Patty Snyder, Keri Steele, Angela Steinlage, Eric Sundermeyer, Geoff Tessau, Erin Thornburgh, and Nicole Williamson. CTE Advisory members: Glen Bedwell, Mark and Rose Blackford, Julie Brownlee, Mark Brownlee, Heidi Burhans, Jim and Cindi Cassady, Travis Egli, Darla Erwin, Brian and Wendy Stanley, and Kevin Steward. Motion by Dan Kirkpatrick to appointed these individuals to the SIAC and CTE Advisory committees, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried, 5-0.
- XII. Candidates for Early Graduation – Mr. Snider has recommended the following students for early graduation per board policy 505.6: Sam Bedwell, Tiffany Brown, Sam Davis, Danielle Heilman, Alexis Nelson, Keisha Slye, and Travis Yossett. Motion to approve early graduation requests by Julie Brownlee, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 5-0.
- XIII. St. Charles Bus Shed, 803.2 – The district is no longer in need of the bus shed in St. Charles, and it was recently the target of vandalism. Policy 803.2, Lease, Sale or Disposal of School District Buildings and Sites, addresses the scenario if the bus barn were to be razed. Julie Brownlee had concerns about demolishing the current structure as it provides shelter out of the weather for students waiting at the bus stop. Ken Stanley also had concerns about the community's connection to the structure. Bryan Arzani moved to approve policy 803.2 and waive the second reading, move forward with relocating the fuel tank to Truro, but keep the bus shed at the present time, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried, 5-0.
- XIV. Board Policies, 102.E2, 102.E3, and 500 – These are the final policies in need of updating before the DE Site Visit. 102.E2 and 102.E3 are grievance forms for complaints of discrimination and 500 required updated language for protected classes and contact

information for the Office of Civil Rights. Bryan Arzani moved to approve policies 102.E2, 102.E3, and 500 and waive the second reading, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 5-0.

XV. First Reading: Board Policies, 900 – The 900 series board policies relate to School District-Community Relations. Policies have been updated from the IASB Policy Reference Manual. Bryan Arzani moved to approve the first reading of the 900 series of board policies, seconded by Julie Brownlee. Motion carried, 5-0.

XVI. Upcoming Dates:

- October 23-25 Site Visit (Leah & Dan to meet 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:15 p.m.)
- November 2 – Madrigal Dinner, 6:30 p.m.
- November 5 and 8 – P/T Conferences 4-8 p.m.
- November 9 – No School, teacher compensation day
- November 21 – Two-hour early dismissal
- November 26 – Regular board meeting, 6 p.m.

XVII. Board Comments/Future Agenda Items

Julie Brownlee wanted follow up on tonight's Open Forum comments

Dan Kirkpatrick spoke on the success on Interstate's Pee Wee Teams

XVIII. Adjourn – Dan Kirkpatrick moved to adjourn. Motion approved 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

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Leah Gray, Board President

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Jennifer Jamison, Board Secretary