

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

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

6:00 P.M.

High School Library

January 28, 2013

**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 student council representative Josh Hughes – present. Absent – none.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance – The board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Welcome and recognize visitors – District patrons Tina Burkhead and Chris Cummings, teachers Jenny Dickinson and Stephanie Good; and district administrators and directors.
- V. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda by Julie Brownlee, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried 6-0.
- 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 – No one was present to address the board during open forum.
- VIII. Consent Agenda –
  - A) Approval of Past Minutes: December 17, 2012 and January 5, 2013
  - B) Approval of Bills
  - C) Approval of Personnel
    - Resignations – Tom Dannen (librarian); Jeff Shipley (route bus driver)
    - Hires – Roxanne Beeler (MS Head Softball); Tina McCuddin (Class D3 chauffeur)Dan Kirkpatrick moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried, 6-0.
- IX. Roadrunner Recognition – Superintendent Sundermeyer recognized the following individuals and groups:

Transportation Coordinator Bobbie Finley and her drivers for developing the BUS STARS recognition program. The first winners were: Taylor Hartfield, Sydney Nelson, Bode Stanley, and Bailey Steils.

Madison County Sheriff Craig Busch and his deputies for spending some time with us to provide input on our safety procedures and look for ways to increase visibility and collaboration with our school district.

Knowledge Bowl members Megan Ellis, Josh Hughes, Katie Jacobson, Alex Peters, Jake Peters, Travis Thornburgh, Caitlin Weeks and sponsor Stephanie Good for repeating as conference champions last week.

Jenna Sandquist for being selected to sing the National Anthem at the state wrestling tournament on February 15.

Katy Downes, Devin Ebert, Angela Steinlage, Brenda Vodraska, and Vicki Westerly for coordinating the middle School's Diversity Day last Friday.

Transportation Coordinator Bobbie Finley recognized the following individuals and groups: Pete Wilgenbusch, Frank Stroh, Peral Swartslander, Rick Tuttle, Jeff Shipley and Mistie Jurgensen for their outstanding help during the week before bus inspections trying to make sure everything was covered.

Principal Casey Christensen recognized the following individuals and groups: Miranda Gutierrez (3<sup>rd</sup>), Joe Kramper (2<sup>nd</sup>), and Boston King (1<sup>st</sup>) for being students of the week.

Ms. Nona Eivins for putting students first. Mr. Christensen received a very kind email from a parent commending Ms. Eivins for her commitment to helping kids.

Dean Downs, a volunteer wrestling coach for the I35 PK-6 program, for working to better our children by instilling values and sense of family in our community.

The social committee who organized an elementary potluck meal during professional development on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Jenny Dickinson for representing the elementary as part of a school-wide fundraiser involving the collection of old tennis shoes.

Staff for being flexible with the Christmas parties, 4<sup>th</sup> concert and assembly being held after the break due to weather-related school cancellations.

Principal Jeff Snider recognized the following individuals and groups: Mr. Lynn Winkleman and Ann Hawthorne for making a difference for several students through the Equine Assisted Learning program at Wildwood Hills Ranch.

- X. Individual Practices Inventory (IPI) Teacher Update – Jenny Dickinson and Stephanie Good reported on the IPI initiative. IPI is taken by trained teachers and reported on a scale of 1-6, with 6 being the highest score of students' active, engaged learning. Data is then analyzed to determine what went well and identify areas for improvement in order to increase higher order thinking activities in the classroom. IPI will be a topic of discussion at the Elementary level during the February professional development day. At the Secondary level, teachers are being videotaped in their classrooms and these are being reviewed with that teacher's Professional Learning Community (PLC). Julie Brownlee asked about the relativity of the

responses if taken by teachers of teachers. Dickinson and Good replied that all teachers are trained to assess based on the 1-6 scale, which takes the relativity out of it. Brownlee also asked how the gaps are covered when teachers are away making classroom observations, and Dickinson replied that a substitute teacher was hired all day for the teachers doing the IPI. Brownlee asked if the teachers know when they will be assessed, and Dickinson replied that staff knows the dates when IPI will occur, but sometimes forget. Brownlee was also concerned about how the results are shared so that people feel safe. Bryan Arzani said a traditional teacher might after receiving the results make a personal reflection and look for ways to get kids more engaged as a result. Arzani also observed that after a series of IPI's progress could be observed making teachers more accountable and driving it down to the principal. Leah Gray observed this as a step of what's to come. Brownlee asked if there were plans to rotate or expand the program. It's unsure whether IPI will expand at this time.

XI. 2013-14 School Calendar – Superintendent Sundermeyer reviewed and gave the highlights of next year's calendar: spring break will be a week-long break to coincide with DMACC and many other colleges and universities; the innovative calendar has been abandoned providing four more days of student contact and decrease professional learning by 20 hours; professional development days alternate between full and half days throughout the school year; and two snow days are built in to the calendar – one on January 2 (for anything prior to Christmas break) and one on February 17 (President's Day). Julie Brownlee moved to approve the 2013-14 School Calendar, seconded by Bryan Arzani. Motion carried, 6-0.

XII. Second Reading of Board Policies, 700 Series – The 700s relate to Noninstructional Operations and Business Services. The board reviewed and suggested revisions at last month's board meeting. The policy related to use of school buses has been kept the same and does not allow an opportunity for outside organizations to use our fleet. In addition, Mary Ann has included a list of expectations for kitchen use to accompany 710.1. Motion by Bryan Arzani to approve the second reading of board policies, 700 series with revisions to 710.1 regarding lunch deficit thresholds, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried, 6-0.

XIII. Reports to the Board

Activities Director Ray Condon's report was emailed to the board. Condon reported that Varsity Boys' Basketball was 12-1 in conference play, and since Condon has been at the district, there has never been a conference champion. Varsity Girls' Basketball is 6-7 in conference play. The Coaches vs. Cancer game raised more than \$7500 which doesn't include t-shirt sales. Between Interstate 35 and Central Decatur, over \$12,000 has been raised since the inception of the Coaches vs. Cancer game. Bryan Arzani asked if there were any gaps in coaching for spring, and Condon said those positions are filled. Condon said the track restriping will occur as soon as they are in the area and have a 40-45 degree day. Julie Brownlee asked how many home meets, and Condon said at least 5, including hosting the conference meet and Middle School east side of conference meet.

Transportation Coordinator Bobbie Finley's report was included in the packet and highlights included: bus inspection January 14, recognition of drivers, Bus S.T.A.R.S. program first round winners, and one additional D3 for van routes. Bryan Arzani asked about a replacement schedule for buses. Leah Gray asked if the district received as much "bang for the buck" as hoped for by purchasing used buses. Superintendent Sundermeyer stated the

district would consider used buses in the future, but look to purchase locally to assure buses are within Iowa standards.

Head Cook Mary Ann Evison's report was also part of the packet and included the following: lunch rules allowing more proteins and grains, counts down due to illness, preschool regular trays, illness of staff, CBC buying group meetings, Hawkeye Foods to U.S. Foods transition, additional 6 cent certification, hot lunch balance struggling, lock down drill cut close to serving time. Superintendent Sundermeyer stated that February's meeting would include the expenditure side to continue Jennifer Jamison's report from December regarding lunch revenues and expenditures.

Assistant Principal Geoff Tessau's report included updates on Special Ed Training on IEP meetings, MANDT training, website analytics, and Mailchimp updates. Tessau highlighted the website analytics showing traffic to the district's website during the period of August 1, 2012 through January 23, 2013. There were 58,853 visits with 64.9% of those visits being made by return visitors.

Elementary Principal Casey Christensen's report included the following topics: Preschool planning for next year, recognition, professional development, report cards sent home with attendance letters and DIBELS results, playground update, conference. Christensen highlighted preschool changes to report cards as a result of the online GOLD Assessment. Teachers are looking at ideas and things to order with a grant received from 4R Kids. Finally, Christensen briefed the board on potential changes to the preschool program due to restrictions on funding received from the State for children at-risk.

Secondary Principal Jeff Snider's report included the following: winter concerts, ASVAB tests, Equine Assisted Learning at Wildwood Hills Ranch, course requests for 2013-14 and new course offerings, professional learning to improve student achievement, PBIS. Snider included highlights regarding a date for graduation in 2014, semester tests rescheduled due to snow days, and Diversity Day.

Business Manager Jennifer Jamison's report included reviewing the fund financial reports and the need for a budget amendment which will occur before May. Jamison also included a Treasurer's report showing cash and investment balances and interest earnings for the month of December per board policy 704.3. Jamison stated that W2s were delivered to employees on the January 10 payday, and the 2013-14 budget is underway with taxable valuations increasing 2.7% overall.

Superintendent Eric Sundermeyer's report included Adequate Yearly Progress results. As a district, Interstate 35 was above the state percentage proficient in the Middle School even though it was the lowest percentage in the district. As compared to the state, math is still below the state, but catching up. At the last professional development day, Sundermeyer reviewed with staff and SIAC the site visit results and a roadmap of what school improvement looks like at Interstate 35. Safety was also a topic of discussion at the January PD day. Sundermeyer discussed the elementary math curriculum adoption slated for the 2013-14 school year. The adoption will provide for a cohesive K-12 math. The realignment

of curriculum at the High School will hopefully reap higher ACT scores by raising the bar. In addition, reading curriculum adoption at the elementary was discussed. Evaluation of various curriculums will begin in 2013-14 with adoption slated for 2014-15.

XIV. Upcoming Dates:

- February 18 – No school, professional development

XV. Board Comments/Future Agenda Items

- District opening proposal, within 10 days of January 28, 2013
- Madison County Career Academy (February)
- Food in Gym (Julie) – information coming out next week
- School Spirit (Leah) – Middle School cheerleading cut, frequency of student council meetings

XVI. Adjourn – Julie Brownlee moved to adjourn. Motion approved 6-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Leah Gray, Board President

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Jennifer Jamison, Board Secretary