

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

BOARD WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

5:30 P.M.

High School Library

June 23, 2014

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order - President Julie Brownlee called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.
- II. Roll Call – Tracy Bean, Julie Brownlee, Leah Gray, Dan Kirkpatrick – present. Absent – Bryan Arzani.
- III. Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda by Leah Gray, seconded by Dan Kirkpatrick. Motion carried Ayes 4, Nays 0.
- IV. ISFIS Membership and Policy Hosting Discussion – Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fiene explained the services provided by ISFIS (Iowa School Finance Information Services) and his experience with ISFIS over the past four years. One of the services that is provided that would be very beneficial to I-35 CSD is assistance in updating board policies and hosting them. The annual membership cost to I-35 would be \$1,736.81 which includes the \$600 fee for policy hosting services.
- V. Review School Fees and Lunch Prices for 2014-15 – The Board reviewed the registration fees and lunch prices for 2013-14. Dr. Fiene explained that we do not recommend a change in textbook rental fees; however, he did indicate that because the Nutrition Fund needs to be self-sufficient, there is a need to increase revenues to cover the increasing costs. In addition, cost-saving measures have occurred to reduce operating costs. The Board compared lunch, breakfast, and milk prices at other districts and I-35. Raising lunch and breakfast prices by \$.25 and \$.10 for individual cartons of milk would increase revenues by approximately \$26,550.
- VI. Review 2014-15 Student Handbooks – After a brief discussion of the recommended changes to the elementary and secondary student handbooks, it was decided that Dr. Fiene will review and discuss with Principals Christensen and Kaster before bringing to the board for final approval.
- VII. Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) and Grapple Institute – Dr. Fiene explained that he would like to move toward authentic PLC's, including training of I-35 teacher coaches/facilitators by the Grapple Institute. This approach to PLC's is spearheaded by Danial Venables, author of The Practice of Authentic PLCs: A Guide to Effective Teacher Teams. Dr. Fiene has sent a letter to all I-35 teachers explaining the authentic PLC's and the Grapple Institute with the training dates on August 4-6, 2014.
- VIII. Rural School Advocates of Iowa (RSAI) – As discussed at previous work sessions, Dr. Fiene and the Board discussed the value of RSAI. Dr. Fiene stated that he has served in a leadership capacity for the Northwest region of RSAI and will step down on July 1. He explained that this organization advocates for issues unique to rural schools. For example, transportation costs per pupil are higher for rural schools, leaving fewer dollars to educate students.

- IX. Physical Plant Study – Dr. Fiene and the Board discussed various options for implementing the comprehensive physical plant study. Dr. Fiene has discussed one option from our current architect (Structure). Dr. Fiene will be working to meet with the Building and Grounds Committee. More information will be discussed at future board meetings.
- X. Construction Update – Dr. Fiene updated the Board about the construction project.
- XI. Other – Dr. Fiene discussed that we may be noticing changes in our agendas and board meetings in the months ahead.
- XII. Future Working Agenda Items – Report from Building and Grounds Committee.
- XIII. Adjournment – Dan Kirkpatrick moved to adjourn, seconded by Tracy Bean. Motion Carried Ayes 4, Nays 0. Meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Julie Brownlee, Board President

Ted Bauer, Board Secretary