

## INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

### REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 22, 2016

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, on Monday, February 22, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Library in Truro, Iowa.

President Bryan Arzani called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all visitors. Directors Bryan Arzani, Josh Hughes, Dan Kirkpatrick, and Eddie Vonnahme were present. Director Jeremy Maske was absent. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fiene and Board Secretary Ted Bauer. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Arzani read I-35's District Mission Statement and the District's Priorities.

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Hughes to approve the agenda; motion carried 4-0.

Open Forum: No visitors commented to the Board.

Education Spotlight: High School Robotics Team—Instructors Theresa Birch and Eric Borlaug, along with high school students Elijah Elliott, Jarrett Day, Quade Garner, and Amanda Geddes were present to explain the process of how the team members problem solve and collaborate in their efforts to be successful in their robotics competitions. The robotics team has been successful in district competition and will be competing in state competition in Iowa City on March 4-5. The board members congratulated them in their efforts and wished them well at state!

Fiene reported to the Board on the following items: congratulations to all winter activities on very successful seasons and programs, and to Sal Arzani for winning the state wrestling title; LED light installation is scheduled to begin on March 11 and will be completed over spring break; fluorescent lighting equipment that is being removed will be offered to district patrons first, then to others to avoid the cost to dispose of them; work is starting on the 2016-2017 school calendar; reminder that Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled on March 8 and March 10, and no school on March 11, Spring Break is March 14-18, and March 21 is a non-student professional development day; and all current and updated board policies are available on the district website. Fiene ended by sharing a document that explained how the district is utilizing the funds generated from the Instructional Support Levy for the current school year.

Hughes shared that he, Maske, and Fiene attended a legislative forum at Simpson College last Tuesday night and that he has been at the Capitol. Not a lot of progress being made on the State Supplemental Assistance (formerly allowable growth rate) for public schools for the 2016-17 or the 2017-18 school years.

President Arzani called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the January 30, 2016 regular meeting; monthly bills and financial statement; resignation from Bob Overman (assistant football coach); and contracts for Dawn Nelson (teacher associate), Keegan Smith (golf coach), Mike Stuart (track throwers coach), and Carrie Wood (head MS girls track coach). Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the consent items as presented; motion carried 4-0.

Fiene presented the bids received for the keyless-entry security system. The district received bids from three companies for 3 phases of the project. The bids came in from A+ Communications for a total of \$94,138.55 - \$104,638.55; from Inteconnex for a total of \$97,282 - \$100,700; from Van

Maanen Electric for a total of \$57,690. Travis Mechanical submitted a bid for just phase 1 of the project which included only the main exterior doors for \$38,146. After a discussion of the differences in each bid, motion by Hughes, seconded by Kirkpatrick to approve the lowest bid from Van Maanen Electric for \$57,900; motion carried 4-0.

Fiene explained that last summer the district replaced the clock system and paging system in the high school area with the idea of completing the project this summer with a new product that would be available for installation by this summer. He explained that because the district is very satisfied with the system that was installed last year in the high school, the project can simply be extended to the middle school and elementary by replacing the speakers in that area. The total price of this project is \$79,995.42. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the completion of the project by CEC (Communications Engineering Company) for \$79,995.42; motion carried 4-0.

Fiene presented bus bids received from School Bus Sales for Bluebird, from Hogland Bus for International, and from Thomas Bus Sales for Thomas for propane, diesel, and gasoline powered engines. Only School Bus Sales had a bid for gasoline-powered engines. Representatives from School Bus Sales and Hogland Bus attended the meeting and answered questions regarding their vehicles. The board had a lengthy discussion comparing propane vs. diesel engines, leasing vs. purchasing, and Bluebird vs. International vs. Thomas, and comparing bid prices. The current laws allow for an Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit (AFETC) which will allow the district to claim a \$.50 tax credit for each gallon of liquid propane purchased. The bids for propane-powered buses were \$95,533 or \$106,038 with a/c from School Bus Sales; \$98,697 or \$108,157 with a/c from Hogland Bus; \$99,561 or \$107,049 with a/c from Thomas Bus Sales. Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Hughes to approve the purchase of two Bluebird propane-powered buses from School Bus Sales (one with a/c and one without a/c) for 3-year lease and to approve the purchase of two International propane-powered buses from Hogland Bus (one with a/c and one without a/c) for 5-year lease; motion carried 4-0. The decision to purchase two buses from different manufacturers was to provide a side-by-side comparison to factor into future purchasing decisions.

Fiene presented the technology budget which includes an estimated cost of \$85,500 for infrastructure upgrades including wireless upgrades, fiber upgrade, switches, content filter, and firewall; \$85,000 for teacher laptop replacement; \$16,200 for grades 3-5 interactive projectors; \$33,000 for grades 3-5 Chromebook carts (3); \$19,000 for grades K-2 iPads. Total cost estimate is \$238,700; however, \$35,500 should be saved through E-Rate, making it a net cost of \$203,200. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Kirkpatrick to approve the technology budget for upgrades as presented; motion carried 4-0.

Fiene gave an update on the Teacher Leadership and Compensation (PLC) Planning. Interviews for the Curriculum Design Coach, Instructional/Data Coach, and the Instructional Coach will occur on Wednesday, February 24. As these positions are filled with current teachers, the district will move forward to fill the positions vacated. Fiene stated the new contracts would be on the board agenda next month to be approved.

Fiene gave an update/review of the Phase 1—Site Planning—and reminded everyone about the public meeting on Thursday, February 25, at 8:00 p.m.

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Kirkpatrick to approve the FY17 At-Risk/Drop-Out Application and to request the maximum amount allowed by law of the (MSA) modified supplemental amount (\$207,163); motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Hughes to approve of Interstate 35 Community School District levying property tax for fiscal year 2016-17 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14 of the Code of Iowa; motion carried 4-0.

Fiene explained that the concern about the soft gravel roads this winter has prompted the district's transportation department to put together a plan for picking up and dropping off students at designated locations and times on hard-surfaced roads. Fiene explained that even though the district prefers to not use this policy, should the need arise, it is good practice to have this option in place. If approved, the transportation department will distribute this plan to parents of students. Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Kirkpatrick to approve the Hard-Surface Only Transportation Plan; motion carried 4-0.

At 8:08 p.m., the board recessed until 8:20 p.m.

Due to a change in law, Fiene presented the first reading of Board Policies 202.1 Elections of Board Members, 601.2 School Day, and 603 Emergency School Closing.

In an effort to maintain the recently updated board policies and to stay on the proposed five-year review schedule for the future, Fiene presented the first reading of the Board Policy Series 200.

Fiene gave a presentation regarding the curriculum review cycle and process underway at Interstate 35 Schools. He explained that curriculum is critically important—it is the backbone of the important work done in schools and the district is developing systems that systemize the review and development of curriculum; these systems need to transcend whomever is sitting in the superintendent's or curriculum director's chair and become standard operating procedure. Everything in curriculum should be based on research-based best practice and it is ongoing and takes substantive time. For example, the secondary math program worked with AEA Math Consultant Diane Royer in spring, 2015 throughout the summer to evaluate and realign the math program with the Iowa Core. This led to purchasing all new math materials for grades 6-12 to implement in August, 2015. Professional development will be ongoing. Elementary math curriculum was replaced two years ago and all elementary teachers have been going through professional development with AEA Math Consultant Diane Royer to align lessons/units to the Iowa Core and closer align the elementary math to secondary math. In addition, Fiene explained the K-12 Science Team is working with AEA Science Consultant Peggy Christensen on a two-year review process for K-12 science curriculum at I-35. The K-12 Talented and Gifted Team has been participating in the year-long Gifted Academy at Heartland AEA to review and redesign the K-12 TAG program. In the Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) program that starts with the 2016-17 school year, a new position entitled Curriculum Design Coach will work directly with administrators and teachers in the design and delivery of curriculum throughout the district. Fiene said curriculum development is more of an ongoing marathon than a sprint.

The next regular board meeting is set for March 28, at 6:00 p.m. at the high school library in Truro. Hughes moved to adjourn, Vonnahme seconded; motion carried 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

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Bryan Arzani, Board President

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Ted Bauer, Board Secretary