

# INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 26, 2015

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, Monday, October 26, 2015, 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 Jeremy Maske were present. Director Eddie Vonnahme arrived at 6:01 p.m. 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 Maske to approve the agenda; motion carried 5-0.

Open Forum: No visitors commented to the Board.

Education Spotlight: High School Seminar Block and MTSS (Multi-Tiered Support System)—Steve Kaster (Secondary Principal) was present to explain the new 23-minute seminar period that has been implemented for grades 9-12 to support all students to learn at high levels and the efforts in using interventions to assist academically struggling students.

Fiene reported to the Board on the following items: discussed successful professional development on October 21, with PLC's (Professional Learning Communities) and Stewards of Children training; explained that a World Food Prize Laureate visited with all high school students on October 13; discussed that the Backpacks Against Hunger group at the middle school continues to provide meals to needy families; reported that two rounds of discussions with the architects regarding auditorium, bus-maintenance building and CTE space have been held and that additional meetings are being scheduled to include additional staff, as well as planning for community discussion; presented that official enrollment numbers have declined 18.81 students from last year's count and explained that it will have a financial impact on 2016-2017 since money from the state is tied to enrollment from the previous year. This will equate to approximately \$120,000 reduction in the General Fund for FY17.

Board members discussed attending and participating in the Rural Schools Advocates of Iowa (RSAI) Annual meeting on October 7. The meeting included setting the Legislative Agenda for 2016.

President Arzani called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the September 29, 2015 Annual Meeting and the September 29, 2015 Organizational Meeting, monthly bills and financial statement, resignations from Prissilla Boswell (co-sponsor for MS student council), Anna Johnson (assistant girls track coach), John Reid (assistant HS girls assistant basketball coach), and Michelle Wright (custodian); and contracts for John Reid (head MS girls basketball coach) and Jim Smith (assistant HS girls basketball coach). Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Hughes to approve the consent items as presented; motion carried 5-0.

IA School Finance Information Services (ISFIS) Fall Workshop on October 28, in Indianola; IASB Convention will be held November 18-20.

Fiene explained that when the district updated the board policies earlier in 2015, it was recommended that the Early Retirement policies be removed from board policy and that districts wishing to offer early retirement incentives should do so with yearly approved plans. Fiene explained that the district's attorney has taken the previous board policies for early retirement and made a legal plan for licensed staff and another plan for classified staff. The following statement has been added to each of the plans to allow additional flexibility on early retirement benefits: "The Board also reserves the authority to individualize early retirement benefits as long as both the Board and employee agree." Fiene explained that the total cost of the benefits would not be increased, but how the benefit is structured and disseminated could potentially be flexible. Fiene also explained that the funding for the early retirement plans is from the Management Fund. Fiene also indicated that offering an early retirement plan to eligible employees still gives the Board the final decision to approve or deny any and all applications. Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Hughes to approve the Early Retirement plans as presented. A roll-call vote was taken. Motion carried 5-0.

School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) 2015-16 request: Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Hughes to approve the application to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) in each of the following areas: open enrollment out \$159,787; LEP instruction beyond 5 years \$2,836; for a total of \$162,623; motion carried 5-0. If approved by the SBRC, additional spending authority will be generated.

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the 2016 early graduates as presented pending successful completion of all graduation requirements; motion carried 5-0.

Fiene presented a two-page position paper on 1:1 Technology Initiatives for I-35 Schools. In his paper, Fiene discusses that technology is everywhere and explains its value in education. He explains that over half the districts in the state of Iowa have 1:1 initiative, including districts contiguous to I-35. Fiene states that it takes time to plan and prepare for a successful rollout to students and indicates that additional discussions will take place regarding the 1:1 initiative at I-35. Fiene ends his position paper with it's not whether I-35 becomes a 1:1 school, it is a question of when we become a 1:1 school because current and future students of I-35 deserve every possible opportunity we as a school can provide them. No official action was taken.

Fiene explained that one of the requirements of the No Child Left Behind is to assure that all students are making adequate yearly progress. Fiene presented a PowerPoint and explained that the elementary is on the School in Need of Assistance (SINA) list for elementary reading (Watch List only) and for reading and math at the secondary level. Fiene explained that this is an opportunity to review what we do and improve what needs to be improved. Additional discussion and information will occur at future meetings.

The next regular board meeting is set for November 23, at 6:00 p.m. at the high school library in Truro. Maske moved to adjourn, Hughes seconded; motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

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Bryan Arzani, Board President

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Ted Bauer, Board Secretary