

# INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**November 23, 2015**

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, Monday, November 23, 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, Jeremy Maske, and Eddie Vonnahme were present. 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 amend the agenda by adding VIII-d: Discuss and/or Approve Superintendent's Recommendation on Early Graduation Request; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Maske, seconded by Hughes to approve the amended agenda; motion carried 5-0.

Open Forum: No visitors commented to the Board.

Education Spotlight: Chapter 62 Elementary Early Literacy Requirements due to come into effect in FY2017—Casey Christensen (Elementary Principal) explained that any third grade student not deemed at the proficient level will be required to attend an approved summer reading program for a minimum of 75 hours or be retained in third grade. Having adequate transportation, teachers and associates contracted for this summer program, and approved curriculum will need to be determined. Christensen explained that more information will be coming from the DE and it will be shared with the Board at that time.

Fiene reported to the Board on the following items: Madrigal Dinner is scheduled on Saturday, December 12; work is underway to continue to try to differentiate the professional development throughout the district; School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) is scheduled to meet at 6:30 pm on December 3; congratulations to Kathy Johnson, music instructor, for being one of five finalists for the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. Johnson will receive two Samsung Galaxy Tablets and compete with the other finalists for a video technology package for I-35 Schools.

Board members discussed attending the ISFIS training in Indianola on October 28 and the IASB Convention in Des Moines. Josh Hughes, Jeremy Maske, and Eddie Vonnahme attended the ISFIS training and two days of training at the IASB Conference. Bryan Arzani attended the President's Workshop Session. Board members commented that they gained knowledge on school finance, responsibilities of a board member and officer, and equity issues within Iowa.

President Arzani called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the October 26, 2015 regular meeting, monthly bills and financial statement, resignation from Curt Millard (custodian), and contract for Derrick Stowers (custodian). Motion by Hughes, seconded by Kirkpatrick to approve the consent items as presented; motion carried 5-0.

Fiene presented a recommendation to realign the Buildings and Grounds Department as follows: the Director of Buildings and Grounds would oversee the Grounds Maintenance position and the Facility Maintenance position and the custodians. Fiene explained that the district would be more efficient by adding a Facility Maintenance position than continuing to hire contractors to do many of the maintenance and repairs that this position would handle. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to realign

the Buildings and Grounds Department to include the Grounds Maintenance and Facility Maintenance positions; Kirkpatrick abstained; motion carried 4-0.

Fiene explained that the voter-approved PPEL (Property, Plant, and Equipment Levy) expires in 2018. Fiene explained that the Board will need to decide the maximum amount of the levy, supported by property tax or a combination of property tax and income surtax, and length (duration) of the levy. This levy raises approximately \$270,000 annually.

Fiene briefly discussed the concept of using solar energy to reduce electricity costs. The idea is that the cost of the solar panels is paid from the PPEL/SAVE Funds to save operating costs paid from the General Fund. More information will be shared in future months.

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Hughes to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for an early graduation request pending successful completion of all graduation requirements; motion carried 5-0.

At 7:18 p.m., Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Kirkpatrick, to move into closed session as authorized by Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential; roll call vote was taken, motion carried 5-0.

At 8:53 p.m., the Board returned to open session. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Kirkpatrick to deny the early graduation request for the student who is the subject of closed session; roll call vote was taken, motion carried 5-0. At 8:55 p.m., the Board took a brief recess.

At 9:02 p.m., Motion by Maske, seconded by Kirkpatrick to move into closed session as authorized by Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential and to conduct a hearing to determine whether to suspend or expel a student; roll call vote was taken, motion carried 5-0.

At 12:05 a.m., the Board returned to open session. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Maske, that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the first student who was the subject of the disciplinary hearing be expelled from attendance in the Interstate 35 Community School District and any school activities for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year and the District administration is directed to work with the student and the student's parents to provide academic resources and options during the expulsion period, that upon completion of the expulsion period, an application for re-admission must be submitted by the Administration and approved by the Board, and that written findings and conclusions consistent with the Board's deliberations will be prepared and the President is authorized and directed to execute Findings of Fact and Conclusions; roll call vote was taken, motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Kirkpatrick, that the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation that the second student who was the subject of the disciplinary hearing be expelled from attendance in the Interstate 35 Community School District and any school activities for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year and the District administration is directed to work with the student and the student's parents to provide academic resources and options during the expulsion period, that upon completion of the expulsion period, an application for re-admission must be submitted by the Administration and approved by the Board, and that written findings and conclusions consistent with the Board's deliberations will be prepared and the President is authorized and directed to execute Findings of Fact and Conclusions; roll call vote was taken, motion carried 5-0.

The next regular board meeting is set for December 21, at 5:00 p.m. at the high school library in Truro. Maske moved to adjourn, Hughes seconded; motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 12:07 a.m.