

INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2024

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, on Monday, January 22, 2024 in the High School Media Center in Truro, Iowa.

President Nathan Gibson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Vice-President Dan Hutton and Directors Jessica Bucklin and Monica Strange were present. Director Melissa Keller was absent. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Sharon Dentlinger. Board Secretary Ted Bauer was absent. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Gibson read I-35's District Mission Statement and the District's Priorities.

Motion by Strange, seconded by Bucklin to approve the agenda as presented; motion carried 4-0.

Open Forum: No Public Comments.

Student representative Ross Baughman was present to give an update on recent events. Second semester is underway and going well. Students enjoyed a few days off for winter weather. Students in FFA have the opportunity to attend work sessions to refine their skills. Winter sports are in full swing. Rich Gray Wrestling Invitational was a success and our wrestlers are getting ready for regionals and senior nights. Basketball competes this week and will also have senior nights soon.

The Principals, Assistant Principal, and Activities Director/Special Education Director had submitted their written reports to the Board prior to the meeting and responded to questions from the board.

Dentlinger presented the Superintendent report. Dr. Dentlinger presented an overview of the difference between a competitive bid and a competitive quote. In addition, discussion was had about field trips, as there are some differences between this year and last year about obtaining parent signatures. This year we had a parent release on the registration form. The handbooks will be updated to include information about field trips. There was a discussion about the resources on the RSAI site for any board member or community member that would like to understand the legislative bills that may impact education. Finally, there was discussion about SRG (standards-referenced grading) and where the district is in relation to the action plan around academic planning.

Gibson called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the special board meeting on January 10, 2024; monthly bills and financial statement; open enrollment; contract update for Jenelle Smith (transferred from daycare associate to associate); Nicole Nichols terminated from associate position; Sue Meggers accepted early retirement package to retire at the end of 2023-2024; open enrollment. Motion by Hutton, seconded by Bucklin to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Hutton, seconded by Bucklin to approve the retirement package for support staff consisting of a scale for years of service with a payout for unused sick days (the most employees can bank is 130 days x \$25 per day = \$3,250.)

15 or more years of full- time service \$5000 and \$25/day unused sick leave

20 or more years of full-time service \$6000 and \$25/day unused sick leave

25 or more years of full-time service \$7000 and \$25/day unused sick leave

Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Hutton, seconded by Bucklin to accept the recommended 2024-2025 school year calendar. The recommended calendar for consideration requires 172 student days at 1140.4 hours. It reduces the teacher contract days to 190 from 192. It includes a two-week break at Christmas and one week for spring break. Students start Aug 23 and end the Friday before Memorial Day. Motion carried 4-0.

The district requested competitive quotes for air conditioning and heating in the high school science and foreign language classrooms. Only one has been received and this agenda item has been tabled until another quote is received.

Mr. Beckel presented an overview of the course offering handbook (purpose, origin, changes). He talked about recommended changes to the course offering guide as proposed by teachers and/or departments. He also answered questions the Board asked.

Closed Session: School Safety Plan Review. The Board moved into closed session at 8:20 p.m. under Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to review or discuss records which are authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential. The Board returned to open session at 8:55 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. A tentative special board meeting is scheduled to be held on January 24, 2024 at 11:45 a.m. to approve issuing bids on the remainder of phase 1 project (fields, concessions, restrooms) and to begin the conversation on a signing bonus for hard- to-fill positions.

Motion by Bucklin, seconded by Strange to adjourn; motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Nathan Gibson, Board President

Dr. Sharon Dentlinger, Superintendent