

INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 27, 2023

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 27, 2023 in the High School Library in Truro, Iowa.

President Jeremy Maske called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Directors Melissa Keller and Eddie Vonnahme were present. Vice-President Roger Cannoy was present telephonically. Director Monica Strange arrived at 6:04 p.m. Also present were Superintendent Mrs. Sharon Dentlinger and Board Secretary Ted Bauer. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Maske read I-35's District Mission Statement and the District's Priorities.

Motion by Keller, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the agenda; motion carried 4-0.

Open Forum: Mr. Nathan Gibson addressed the board regarding transparency and House Study Bill 173 (HSB 173).

Third Grade Spotlight-Education in Action: Third Grade Teacher Mrs. Beva Lupkes was present with several of her students as they read their opinion papers and stated their side of an issue to the Board. Board members complimented them on their presentations and thanked them for coming to the board meeting.

The Principals, Assistant Principal, and Activities Director/Special Education Director had submitted their written reports to the Board prior to the meeting. Secondary Principal Anson Bonte discussed that there have been fewer tardies in the second semester and student behavior has been more positive as well. Ms. Tonya Donahue & Ms. Kathryn Belden presented FAST data for high school ELA. The majority of students in grades 9-11 either made positive growth from Fall, 2022 to Winter, 2023 or were proficient. Assistant Principal Sharon Whitson shared that future middle school conferences will continue to be student-led. The MS cell phone policy has gone very well. Elementary Principal Danielle Woods shared elementary test results. Any students who do not do as well as expected are given additional resources in order to help them achieve their grade level goals. Activities Director/Special Education Director Brayton Weber presented special education numbers.

Dentlinger gave an update on proposed legislation at the State Capitol.

Maske called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the regular board meeting on January 23, 2023; monthly bills and financial statement; resignations from Zadie Hatfield (long-term substitute); contract for Nathan McKinney (Track Throwing Coach) and contract for Whitney Hutton (associate). Motion by Keller, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the consent agenda items as presented; motion carried 5-0.

Maske presented the third and final reading of Board Policy Series 100 and 600. Motion by Keller, seconded by Strange to approve the third and final reading of BP Series 100 and 600 as presented; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Keller to tentatively approve and issue for public bid the I35 Schools HVAC renovations project drawings, specifications, form of contract and engineer's estimate of probable cost; motion carried 5-0.

Dentlinger explained that the district is working with Cornerstone Geospatial Consulting to redistrict our director district boundaries so they will again be compliant with state law after the 2020 Census was completed. Each director district population needs to be within 10% of the other director districts. The recommendations from Cornerstone Geospatial Consulting are minimal and the documents will be completed to be presented for approval at the March board meeting. The due date for completion is May 15, 2023.

Motion by Keller, seconded by Strange to approve the tentative agreement with the Interstate 35 Educational Support Employees Association. This results in a \$.50 per hour increase or 3.337% increase for a total cost of approximately \$49,955; motion carried 5-0.

The district has received quotes to replace the current UTV which is used by the groundskeeping and activities departments. The recommendation is the lowest bid which was for a Kubota from Sundown Equipment for \$20,500 with trade in. Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Keller to approve the low bid as recommended. Motion carried 5-0.

Dentlinger gave an update on the long-range facility plan. Matt Gillaspie from Piper Sandler will be present at the March board meeting to discuss funding possibilities and timelines and answer any questions from the Board.

Motion by Keller, seconded by Strange to approve the quote from A+ Communications for \$5,966.76 to add additional security cameras with video access to two entrances that are used by students. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Keller to approve the quote from Iowa Sports Turf for \$8,250 for softball field improvements (adding dirt to support drainage). Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Keller, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the quote from A+ Lawn and Landscape for \$17,874.50 to provide equipment and install irrigation system on the football field. Motion carried 5-0.

Dentlinger recommended opening an early retirement option to certified teachers who will be 58 years of age and have 17 years of service in the district by June 30, 2023. Five teachers would be eligible at this time. Dentlinger requested that the packet would be given to eligible teachers by March 1, 2023 and need to be returned by March 14, 2023 and be presented at the board meeting on March 27, 2023 for approval. Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Cannoy to approve the early retirement plan as presented; motion carried 5-0.

At 7:31 p.m., motion by Strange, seconded by Vonnahme to enter closed session to review the district's School Safety Plan pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) to review or discuss records which are authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential. A roll call vote was taken. Motion carried 5-0.

President Maske announced the Board was in open session. Motion by Strange, seconded by Keller to adjourn; motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Jeremy Maske, Board President

Ted Bauer, Board Secretary