

# **INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**April 27, 2020**

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 27, 2020 at the High School Media Center in Truro, Iowa.

President Jeremy Maske called the virtual meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Directors Cindi Cassady, Roger Cannoy, and Sara Hughes were virtually present. Director Eddie Vonnahme was absent. Also present physically were Superintendent Mrs. Sharon Dentlinger and Board Secretary Ted Bauer. Members of the public were also invited to attend the meeting via Zoom due to Governor Reynold's resolution to have no more than 10 people in a gathering. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Maske read I-35's District Mission Statement and the District's Priorities.

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

Education Spotlight: Update for parents for the end of school year pickup to be held on April 30, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the High School entrance. Parents will form a line and drive through to pick their child's belongings that were in their lockers/desks. Students who have books or items to be returned to the school can return them. Anything that hasn't been picked up after this date will be saved and can be picked up at Registration. If anything is needed before that time, contact the district office and make arrangements to pick up your belongings. Drop boxes will be available near the meal sites in each community to return property that belongs to the district including library books, textbooks, Chromebooks, chargers, cases. Anyone returning Chromebooks or laptops in Truro should bring into the District Office (door #25).

Student Representative Report: Senior Ainsley Maske was virtually present and indicated that she didn't have much to report on due to the closure. She indicated the importance of staying positive during this time.

Elementary Principal Geoff Tessau shared that elementary teachers are continuing with preparing and sending weekly information to students and communicating with them. Teachers are being creative to stay in touch with their students and are busy preparing their rooms for the end of the year. Secondary Principal Steve Kaster shared that they are seeing good participation from students in grades 9-12. Approximately 50 percent of students in grades 5-8 are participating in the Continuous Learning Plan.

Superintendent Mrs. Dentlinger gave an update to the board regarding the Continuous Learning Plan as we enter week 3 of this plan. Dentlinger shared that a survey will be created this week and then be sent to parents, students, and teachers to get input and feedback regarding what is working and what could be done differently while the Continuous Learning Plan is implemented. Dentlinger shared that the district will need to develop a Return to Learn Plan which will be presented at the June board meeting. She also commented on the possibility of summer school to benefit those who may need it. Dentlinger indicated that the district will continue to prepare for the 2020-2021 school year and if any changes were to be made to the school calendar, the district would have to have a public hearing and the board would have to act on it. At this time, she indicated that there are too many unknown variables to make any recommendations to change the calendar including the start date for the school year.

Maske called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the April 13, 2020 special board meeting and minutes of the April 20, 2020 work session; monthly bills and financial statement; resignations from Jami McCuddin (ms volleyball coach), Carrie Thompson (ms basketball coach); contracts for Makayla Bauer (special education teacher), Jesse Baldwin (special education teacher, Dallas Gilleland (hs social studies teacher); open enrollment applications submitted timely or those that

qualify for good cause. Motion by Cassady, seconded by Hughes to approve the consent agenda items as presented; motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Hughes to deny the open enrollment request that was submitted late and without good cause; motion carried 4-0.

Activities Director/Special Education Director Keegan Smith presented an annual review of the district's activities program.

Mrs. Natasha Cooper, shared Curriculum Director with Southeast Warren CSD, presented an overview of the curriculum resource review process for math and recommended the math curriculum that the district should purchase.

The Board took action on March 17, 2020 to pay all support staff (essential and nonessential) through April 12. On April 13, 2020 the Board took action to continue to pay all support staff through April 30. Because Governor Reynolds extended the closure through the end of the 2019-2020 school year, Dentlinger recommended that the district continue to pay all support staff through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Cassady to approve the continuous pay of all non-certified staff through the end of the 2019-2020 school year; motion carried 4-0.

Dentlinger shared that she received a request for hazard pay from the I-35 Educational Support Employees Association for employees working during this time. The request was for 1.5 times their normal rate. Dentlinger indicated that this would be a way to show employees who are working that they are appreciated. Dentlinger indicated that the district is following the guidelines provided by the Iowa Department of Public Health. Dentlinger shared that our understanding is that in order for FEMA or CARES to reimburse for hazard pay, the district's board policy would have had to have included it prior to the proclamation of the pandemic. Dentlinger also shared concerns about future funding from the State and we need to be careful how we spend through the pandemic and after. Dentlinger asked the Board for guidance to determine which direction she should go with this issue. Maske stated that he is sympathetic with the request and appreciates everything that the support staff employees are doing. Cannoy asked if the district is providing proper PPE for employees and how long the duration would be for the hazard pay and who would qualify for it. Dentlinger shared the importance of being good stewards of taxpayer dollars while still taking care of our employees. Maske asked that this be brought back to discuss at the next board meeting.

Mr. Kaster presented an update on upcoming events.

A special board meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the High School Media Center and electronically.

Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Hughes to adjourn; motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

---

Jeremy Maske, Board President

---

Ted Bauer, Board Secretary