

**INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

October 24, 2022

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 24, 2022 in the Auditorium in Truro, Iowa.

President Jeremy Maske called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Directors Roger Cannoy, Melissa Keller, Monica Strange, and Eddie Vonnahme were present. 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 Cannoy, seconded by Keller to approve the agenda; motion carried 5-0.

Open Forum: Mr. Kevin Steward addressed the Board regarding the district's tax levy and asked what the district is doing in the area of cost containment.

Secondary Principal Anson Bonte and Assistant Secondary Principal Sharon Whitson were unable to attend due to extra-curricular events happening during the meeting and shared their written reports prior to the meeting.

Elementary Principal Danielle Woods shared her written report prior to the meeting. In addition, Woods handed out a one-page report that shows the baseline for the Relationship Goal that by May, 2023, all I-35 Elementary students will be confident to approach a trusted staff member with their individual needs.

Activities/Special Education Director Brayton Weber shared his written report prior to the meeting.

Superintendent Mrs. Dentlinger shared that the Certified Enrollment was down 8.5 students and the number of Students Served was down 10.5 students on Count Day which was October 3rd this year. State Senator Amy Sinclair visited our district last week and toured our school with a couple of our students. She met with the administrative team including Dentlinger and Cannoy and listened to some of our concerns. Dentlinger will be emailing a detailed list of concerns to Senator Sinclair this week, so she can refer to it going forward. Dentlinger discussed Social Media in the school and how students are allowed to use cell phones in the classroom. Mr. Bonte had an article in the Tri-Corner regarding proper phone usage. Dentlinger told the board that if parents have a question they should contact the Principal where their child attends or students should contact their teacher or trusted adult if they have questions.

Maske called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the regular board meeting on September 26, 2022; monthly bills and financial statement; contracts for Elizabeth Ford (associate), Blake Jobe (varsity head baseball coach); resignation from John Reid (ms cross country coach); open enrollment. Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Cannoy to approve the consent agenda items as presented, motion carried 5-0.

Dentlinger started preliminary discussion with the board whether or not to offer early retirement this year to certified staff. Last year, the Board approved an early retirement plan which required a minimum of 20 years of service and be age 60. Only one certified staff member was eligible and did not apply for it. The requirements of the three prior years have included a minimum of 15 years of

service and be age 55. Two years ago, the district paid out \$30,000 each to an HRA to four employees who accepted the plan. Dentlinger shared that the board has the discretion to continue with an early retirement plan, change the one used in prior years, or not offer anything this year.

Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Strange to accept the Revenue Purpose Statement (RPS) Canvas results from the September 13, 2022 election; motion carried 5-0

Dentlinger explained that two additional credit options for students working on Internships have been added as follows: (1) 22998: Internship (2 HS credits for 6-8 hours per week) and (2) Basic Internship (1 HS credit for 3-5 hours per week).

Dentlinger explained that the Iowa School Performance Profile is an online tool showing how public schools performed on a variety of indicators over time. Dentlinger was pleased to share that the I-35 High School and Middle School have upgraded from Acceptable in 2021 to Commendable in 2022 and the I-35 Elementary School has improved from Needs Improvement in 2021 to Commendable in 2022. Dentlinger credited the teachers and administration for their hard work and dedication.

Dentlinger recommended increasing substitute teacher pay from \$130 per day to \$149 per day and increasing the sub pay from \$170 to \$192 after five consecutive days. Anytime, a substitute has a break in service of one day or more, the rate returns to \$149 per day until the employee reaches 5 consecutive days again and increases to \$192. Dentlinger also recommended that the pay increase each year as a percentage of teacher base pay, but the Board requested that future sub pay changes be brought back for approval. Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Strange to approve increasing substitute teacher pay to \$149 per day and to approve increasing pay to \$192 per day for five consecutive days in any substitute assignment; motion carried 5-0.

Dentlinger and Bauer recommended that the district join the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool's Natural Gas Program to protect the district from extremes during the upcoming heating season. After a brief discussion, the board tabled the agenda item until next month and asked for additional information.

Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Cannoy to approve the four applications for early graduation, pending successful completion. The Board members wish them nothing but the best in the future. Motion carried 5-0.

At 7:30 p.m., motion by Cannoy, seconded by Strange 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.

At 8:39 p.m., President Maske announced the Board was in Open Session.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for November 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Motion by Strange, seconded by Cannoy to adjourn; motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Jeremy Maske, Board President

Ted Bauer, Board Secretary