

INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2020

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 26, 2020 at the High School Media Center in Truro, Iowa.

President Jeremy Maske called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Directors Roger Cannoy, Sara Hughes, and Eddie Vonnahme were present. Director Cindi Cassady and Student Council Representative Will Borseth were absent. 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 Vonnahme, seconded by Hughes to approve the agenda as presented; motion carried 4-0.

Open Forum: No one from the public had any questions or comments.

Education Spotlight: Mrs. Brenda Vodraska's Life Skills Class—At 6:02 p.m. the Board and public went to the Life Skills classroom which was renovated in the past 18 months. Mrs. Vodraska and her students showed the updated classroom to the board members and explained how they worked at staying within their budget and how they arrived at recommending the purchase of the furnishings and how they assembled the items that needed it. After the students showed their newly renovated space, board members were treated to dinner consisting of taco salad, refried beans, Mexican rice, chips and salsa. At 6:39 p.m. the Board reconvened in the library to continue the meeting.

Mr. Kaster read the Student Council Representative Report submitted by Will Borseth. Will's report stated that the induction into National Honor Society (NHS) went well. Halloween decorations are up around the building. Schoology is getting easier to use.

Secondary Principal Steve Kaster shared that we are at the end of the first quarter. With the Student Council leading the way, there has been positive involvement with decorating for Halloween. Kaster indicated that the first nine weeks of in-person learning have gone relatively well. Elementary Principal Geoff Tessau reported that parent-teacher conferences are coming up and most of them will be virtual. The preschool class went on a field trip to Harvest Barn and third grade went to Living History Farms. On Friday, the students are looking forward to Halloween parties.

Superintendent Mrs. Dentlinger shared that she has received comments from staff members that they are appreciative for what has been done to keep staff safe and to be teaching in person. The RSAI Fall meeting was held on October 21. Several of the legislative priorities for 2021 include on-time adequate SSA Funding, increase internet connectivity and access, bonding capacity simple majority 50% plus 1, and local school board authority. Dentlinger also discussed the Return to Learn Plan (hybrid model).

Maske called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the September 28, 2020 regular board meeting and of the September 28, 2020 work session; monthly bills and financial statement; contracts for Heather Dutrey (part-time assistant secondary principal),

Zach Weilbacher (head ms girls track coach), Jesse Baldwin (ms assistant girls track coach), Casey Howe (ms assistant girls basketball coach), Ronald Hartfield (hs assistant robotics coach), Julie Kordick (ms robotics coach); resignation from Jerry Young (ms robotics coach). Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the consent agenda items as presented; motion carried 4-0.

Dentlinger discussed the possibility of the district offering early retirement this year to certified staff. The requirements of prior years included a minimum of 15 years of service and be age 55. In each of the past two years, the district paid out \$30,000 each to an HRA to two employees (each year) who accepted the plan. Dentlinger shared the Management Fund projections with obligations from past early retirements. She indicated 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. If the district offers anything, she recommended that the eligible employees have it before they leave for winter break in December.

Dentlinger shared the district's certified enrollment that was certified on October 15, 2020. While the district certified 36 fewer resident students, the district is serving the same number of students due to fewer students open enrolling out and more students open enrolling in. Dentlinger also shared a trend report for schools that make up Heartland AEA.

Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Hughes to approve outsourcing a portion of the custodial work on a month-by-month basis with SmartClean Services. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the applications for early graduation, pending successful completion of credits. Motion carried 4-0.

Mrs. Dentlinger shared that the district has not raised the daily rate for substitute teachers or hourly pay for substitute custodians, cooks, and associates for many years and recommended that the district (1) increase substitute teacher pay from \$105 to \$130 per day, (2) increase substitute teacher pay for long-term assignments (after 5 consecutive days for the same teacher beginning on the 6th day) from \$154.50 to \$170 per day, and (3) increase hourly rates for substitute custodians, cooks, associates, and secretaries by \$.50 per hour. Because substitute bus drivers receive the entry-level pay rate for bus drivers, no increase was recommended for them. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Cannoy to approve the substitute pay increases as recommended by the Superintendent. Motion carried 4-0.

The next board meeting is scheduled for November 23, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the High School Media Center.

Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Hughes to adjourn; motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Jeremy Maske, Board President

Ted Bauer, Board Secretary