

**INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 27, 2023**

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met following the regular meeting, Monday, November 27, 2023, in the High School Media Center in Truro, Iowa.

The Organizational Meeting was called to order by Board Secretary Ted Bauer at 6:09 p.m. Directors Melissa Keller and Monica Strange were present and newly-elected directors Jessica Bucklin, Dan Hutton, and Nathan Gibson were present. Also present was Superintendent Dr. Sharon Dentlinger.

Bauer welcomed and issued the Oath of Office to Jessica Bucklin, Dan Hutton, and Nathan Gibson.

Bauer opened the floor for nominations for President. Gibson was nominated by Hutton, seconded by Keller; Bauer asked if there were any other nominations for President. Hearing none, a roll call vote was taken; motion carried 5-0. Bauer then delivered the Oath of Office for President to Gibson and congratulated him.

President Gibson opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Keller was nominated by Strange, but did not get a second. Hutton was nominated for Vice-President by Bucklin, seconded by Hutton. Gibson asked if there were any other nominations for Vice-President. Hearing none, a roll call vote was taken; motion carried 5-0. Bauer delivered the Oath of Office for Vice-President to Hutton and congratulated him.

Motion by Keller, seconded by Strange to approve the agenda as presented; motion carried 5-0.

At 6:16 p.m., Gibson declared the public hearing for the I-35 Science Lab Renovations open including the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimated total construction costs. No one from the public commented. At 6:17 p.m., Gibson closed the public hearing.

After a discussion to determine which board members would like to represent the board on various committees, Keller moved to appoint Strange to the Warren County Conference Board, Hutton to the Madison County Conference Board, Keller to the Clarke County Conference Board, Strange and Hutton to the Negotiations Committee, Bucklin and Gibson to the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC), Hutton to the Facilities Committee, and Keller to the Insurance Committee, seconded by Hutton; motion carried 5-0.

Hutton moved to designate the following individuals/organizations to the respective positions and to table item (c) Legal Counsel and item (k) Reconsideration Committee until the December meeting, seconded by Bucklin; motion carried 5-0: (a) Board Secretary-Treasurer – Ted Bauer, (b) School Depositories and maximum amounts – Union State Bank (not to exceed \$10,000,000) and Iowa School Joint Investment Trust (ISJIT) (not to exceed \$10,000,000), (c) Legal Counsel – tabled, (d) School Insurance – EMC, (e) Official District Publication – The Madisonian (Winterset), (f) Regular Board Meeting Date and Time – Fourth Monday of the Month at 6:00 p.m., (g) Level I Investigators – Jessica Reisinger and Angela Steinlage; Level II Investigators – Madison County Sheriff's

Department, (h) ADA/504 Coordinator – Natasha Cooper, (i) Equity Coordinator – Adam Beckel, (j) Free/Reduced Lunch Steering Officer – Deann Strange, (k) Reconsideration Committee: tabled, (l) Chief Negotiator – Sharon Dentlinger.

Open Forum: Dennis Meggers addressed the Board for continued support of Early Retirement on behalf of his wife, Sue Meggers.

Student Spotlight: FFA trip to National Convention—Ellie Hutton, Sophomore FFA member, shared highlights of the trip to Indianapolis to attend the National FFA Convention. The group toured a Caterpillar Museum, visited an apple orchard, and attended the FFA Rodeo earlier this month.

Student Representative Ross Baughman was present to update the board on student activities. Many donors came out in support of the NHS Blood Drive, Veteran Day Celebration was well attended, Career Day was very informative, Fall sports have ended and Winter sports have started.

The Principals, Assistant Principal, and Activities Director/Special Education Director had submitted their written reports to the Board prior to the meeting. Each gave an overview of their reports and answered questions.

Dentlinger gave a recap of the IASB Convention. Director Bucklin attended one day of board training with Dentlinger. Additional training dates are available throughout the state for new board members including January 3, 2024 in Van Meter and January 4, 2024 in Chariton. Dentlinger presented the Iowa Performance Profile and a comparison for overall performance for the past five years. The Elementary, Middle School, and High School each received an overall rating of Commendable. Dentlinger gave an update on facility projects and reviewed Superintendent Goals for 2023-2024. Dentlinger reviewed the process for requesting information regarding the activity fund.

Gibson called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: resignations from Jeff Engelhardt (hs math), Katie Klingensmith (hs agriculture and FFA sponsor) and contract for Anna Valdez (assistant robotics sponsor). Motion by Keller, seconded by Strange to approve the consent agenda items as presented; motion carried 5-0.

Nathan Brownlee from the FFA Alumni Association for Interstate 35 was present to encourage an awareness of their organization which was founded in 2021.

Kelsey Ritchey, President of the Interstate 35 Education Foundation, was present to update the board about how the Foundation has supported education with the funds received. The Foundation has supported literacy through the book vending machine and math with thinking boards.

Dentlinger presented the second reading of Board Policies 503.1 and 503.8 (Discipline Policies) and 605.1, 605.1R, 605.2, 605.3, 605.3R1, 605.3E2, 605.3E3, 605.4, 605.5 (Instructional Materials). There will be three readings of these board policies before they are policy. Motion by Hutton, seconded by Bucklin to approve the second reading as presented with modification to the reconsideration policy (7 members total, 4 members selected by the board) as discussed; motion carried 5-0.

At the regular meeting on October 23, Dentlinger started preliminary discussions regarding offering early retirement for certified staff again this year. The district has five teachers who will be at least 56 years of age and have at least 20 years of service by June 30, 2024. Last year, the Board set the criteria at 57 years of age and 17 years of service. Dentlinger recommends offering it again this year to help balance the budget through attrition. More information will be presented at the December meeting.

School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) Application: The district's administration is authorized to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee for a modified supplemental amount of \$194,270 due to an increase in open enrollment out from the prior year. Motion by Hutton, seconded by Keller to approve the application to the SBRC for additional authorized spending authority, for \$194,270 for an increase in open enrollment out 2023 not in Fall 2022 count; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Keller, seconded by Hutton to approve the proposed plans, specifications, forms of contract, and estimated total construction cost for the science lab renovations slated for Spring/Summer, 2024; motion carried 5-0.

The board discussed the possibility of having a work session on December 6, 2023 to discuss instructions programs/student achievement including standards referenced grading (SRG).

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, December 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the HS Media Center in Truro, IA.

Motion by Keller, seconded by Bucklin to adjourn; motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

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Nathan Gibson, Board President

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Ted Bauer, Board Secretary