

INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 14, 2020

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 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, Cindi Cassady, Sara Hughes, and Eddie Vonnahme were present. Also present were Superintendent Mrs. Sharon Dentlinger and Board Secretary Ted Bauer. Student Council Representative Will Borseth was absent. 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 5-0.

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

Education Spotlight: I-35 Café—Family and Consumer Science Teacher, Mrs. Heidi Boyd, was present with six students to explain how the I-35 Café has been providing students with experience running a coffee shop each morning between 7:45 and 9:00 before classes begin. Students expressed that they are learning essential job skills as well as how to make hot and cold drinks with coffee and chocolate. The Board members thanked Mrs. Boyd and her students for their presentation.

Secondary Principal Steve Kaster thanked Mr. Jason Smith and the Student Council members for decorating the halls and doors for the holidays. The Wildwood retreat is underway this week. Grades 11-12 attended on December 14, grades 9-10 will attend on December 15, grades 5-6 will attend on December 16 in the morning and grades 7-8 will attend in the afternoon. Instructional Coach/Assistant Secondary Principal Heather Dutrey discussed the Literacy Goal to improve reading and writing skills for the Middle School. This is in addition to the two other Secondary level goals of (1) improving communication between administration and staff and (2) improving connections between staff and students. Recent Fall testing showed 63 percent proficiency in this area and the goal is to reach 70 percent proficiency. Elementary Principal Geoff Tessau thanked the social committee for setting up dress up days to make this week more festive for the students. The social committee has once again set a goal for the elementary to read 10,000 books by March 2, 2021. Last Friday they met with the AEA math consultant to evaluate math assessments and how to use the diagnostic information from these assessments to improve instruction.

Superintendent Mrs. Dentlinger discussed how the district is being served by the AEA office in Indianola now which allows our teachers and administration greater access to their consultants. Dentlinger further explained that the AEA will aid in implementation of the strategies in the classroom, instead of presenting material and teaching strategies to teachers like it has been done in the past. The District Leadership Team and Facilities Committee met last week. In January, Activities Director Smith and Superintendent Dentlinger will bring a recommendation for trophy cases to the Board for consideration. The Holiday Lunch will be held on Friday, December 18, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for all faculty, staff and board members.

Maske called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the November 23, 2020 regular board meeting and annual board meeting; monthly bills and financial statement; open enrollment; resignation from Nicole Edwards-Reed (associate). Motion by Cassady, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the consent agenda items as presented; motion carried 5-0.

At-Risk Plan: Dentlinger presented the At-Risk Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. At-Risk Coordinator Nicole Vogt was present to explain changes being made to the At-Risk program, including the classroom's name which is being referred to as the Student Success Center. Vogt and district administration have been working with AEA consultants to develop a process that is consistent for grades K-12 that will target not only academics but also social and emotional health. Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Hughes to approve the 2021-2022 At-Risk Plan as presented. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried 5-0.

At-Risk Plan Modified Supplemental Amount and Supplemental Aid: Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Cannoy to approve the request to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for Modified Supplemental Amount and Supplemental Aid for the 2021-2022 Dropout Prevention Program in the amount of \$211,776 for expenditures necessary to implement the 2021-2022 at-risk and dropout prevention plan as approved by the Interstate 35 Community School Board of Education. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried 5-0.

Social Worker Rose Dickinson updated the Board on remote learning. At the present time, the district has 72 students who are learning remotely. The school year started with 83 remote learners. The district has had as many as 117 remote learners (excludes those who were quarantined). There are five liaisons who communicate with remote learners in regards to grades, Schoology, technical issues, and district communication. Dickinson indicated that some students have done really well with remote learning and others have not. Some remote learners have taken advantage of the opportunity to come in on Fridays to meet with teachers, while some may meet virtually. Problems with remote learning for some students are due to a lack of structure and support. Kaster and Dentlinger credited Dickinson, Vogt, and Guidance Counselor Angela Steinlage for working with students (and parents) who want to improve their academic situation, either by returning to in-person learning when possible, taking online classes through Edgenuity when necessary, or other options that are available to help students graduate with the necessary credits.

Early Retirement: Mrs. Dentlinger explained that the district has 10 certified employees who will be at least age 55 before June 30, 2021, and who will have a minimum of 15 years of service to the district at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Dentlinger presented the same plan that was approved last year: \$30,000 each if 7 or fewer employees who are eligible for early retirement apply and are approved; if eight apply and are approved, the amount would be reduced to \$26,250 each; if nine apply and are approved, the amount would be reduced to \$23,300; if all ten apply and are approved, the amount would be reduced to \$21,000. The funds would be deposited into an HRA by July 25, 2021. Applications will be received by the Board Secretary between January 12, 2021 at 7:30 a.m. and January 19, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Motion by Vonnahme, seconded by Cassady to approve the early retirement plan for certified staff as presented; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the second reading of Board Policy Series 200 as presented; motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Vonnahme to approve the first reading of Board Policy 502.12: Student Mask Use with the recommended language changes; motion carried 5-0.

Dentlinger recommended extending the hours for students to utilize the fitness center. Currently, students have from 3:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. on Mondays – Thursdays. If supervision is available, it would be available to students until 7:30 p.m. Motion by Cannoy, seconded by Cassady to approve the job description for the fitness center supervisor as presented; motion carried 5-0.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the High School Media Center in Truro.

Motion by Cassady, seconded by Vonnahme to adjourn; motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Jeremy Maske, Board President

Ted Bauer, Board Secretary