

INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2023

The Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, on Monday, December 18, 2023 in the High School Media Center in Truro, Iowa.

President Nathan Gibson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Vice-President Dan Hutton and Directors Jessica Bucklin and Melissa Keller were present. Director Monica Strange was present electronically. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Sharon Dentlinger and Board Secretary Ted Bauer. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Gibson read I-35's District Mission Statement and the District's Priorities.

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

Open Forum: Frank Stroh addressed the Board during open forum.

Student representative Ross Baughman was present to give an update on recent events. Congratulations to the HS dance team which received a Division 2 rating. The winter formal was held last Saturday. HS band concert was held on December 4, this evening the choir concert is being held, and the NHS will host a chili fundraiser on Thursday night during the basketball game.

The Principals, Assistant Principal, and Activities Director/Special Education Director had submitted their written reports to the Board prior to the meeting and responded to questions from the board.

Dentlinger presented the Superintendent report. The Insurance Committee which has representation from certified staff, support staff, administration, and the board will meet in February after the renewal rates are received from Wellmark. Dentlinger gave a facilities update. The high school science classroom remodel project will include installation of air conditioning. The School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) meeting was held on December 12 and Dentlinger shared the minutes from that meeting. Dentlinger gave an academic planning update (SRG) from the board work session which was held on December 6.

Gibson called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items: minutes of the regular board meeting on November 27, 2023; minutes of the work sessions December 6, 2023 and December 13, 2023; monthly bills and financial statement; open enrollment (none); contracts for Dennis Meggers (hs vocational agriculture teacher), Mistie Smith (bus driver), Nicole Blackford (associate); resignation from Doyle Jacobs (bus driver). Motion by Keller, seconded by Bucklin to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Deputy Chad Hollerud was present to give an overview of the activities that he has been involved in during his first four months as the district's school resource officer (SRO). Sheriff Jason Barnes was also present in the audience.

Motion by Keller, seconded by Bucklin to approve the Superintendent's recommendation on annual designations for (1) Legal Counsel – Ahlers and Cooney and (2) Reconsideration Committee: Heather Jelsma, Abbey Mease, Brayton Weber, Jill McDonald, Remington Hutton, Tonya Donahue, and Emily Hanna; motion carried 5-0.

The third and final reading of Board Policies 503.1 and 503.8 (Discipline Policies) and 605.1, 605.1R1, 605.1R2, 605.2, 605.3, 605.3R1, 605.3E1, 605.3E2, 605.3E3, 605.4, 605.5 (Instructional Materials) was presented. This includes updates regarding these policies in both the Secondary Handbook and Elementary Handbook. Motion by Keller, seconded by Bucklin to approve the third reading as presented; motion carried 5-0.

At the board meetings on October 23 and November 27, Dentlinger gave a preview of the early retirement plan that she had been planning to propose at the December board meeting. The plan, if approved by the Board, would be offered to certified teachers who will be 55 years of age and have 15 years of service in the district by June 30, 2024. Five teachers would be eligible. The packet would be given to eligible teachers by Wednesday, December 20, 2023 and returned by Friday, January 12, 2024 and be presented at the board meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024 for approval. The plan would provide \$50,000 HRA payment to the early retiree. Motion by Hutton, seconded by Strange to approve the early retirement plan as presented; motion carried 5-0.

Dentlinger discussed the consideration to offer early retirement options for support staff in the future.

At-Risk Plan: Motion by Bucklin, seconded by Hutton to approve the At-Risk Plan for the 2024-2025 school year as presented; motion carried 5-0.

At-Risk Plan Modified Supplemental Amount and Supplemental Aid: Motion by Bucklin, seconded by Hutton to approve the request to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for Modified Supplemental Amount and Supplemental Aid for the 2024-2025 Dropout Prevention Program in the amount of \$233,058 for expenditures necessary to implement the 2024-2025 at-risk and dropout prevention plan as approved by the Interstate 35 Community School District Board of Education. Motion carried 5-0.

Dentlinger presented a preview of the academic calendar for 2024-2025.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. A tentative special board meeting is scheduled to be held on January 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. to review/approve bids on science classroom renovations and a tentative special board meeting (including closed session for legal update) on January 10, 2024.

Motion by Bucklin, seconded by Hutton to adjourn; motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Nathan Gibson, Board President

Ted Bauer, Board Secretary