

ISD #738
Board Work Session Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2017

Chair Higgins called work Session of the School Board of ISD #738 to order in the LMC at 6:02 PM.

Present: Ali Kruger, Mike Higgins, Ben Christensen, Dale Streit, and Pat Meier
Absent: Russ Wolter

Also attending: Superintendent Chris Swenson, Business Manager Beth Heinze, Pat Overom from ICS, Principals Jim Stang & Brian Silbernack, Board Member Elect Ed Feia, and Transportation Director Rodney Ebnet,

Discussion took place de-briefing the Election results. The Board is looking for answers as to why over 700 people voted no? Some of the reasons brought up were tax increase, gymnasium, board approved levy, staff sentiment, lack of transparency, priorities, open enrollment, playground before roof, money tight as is for maintaining current facility, incorrect information, need for information on itemized project costs.

The Board then took a look at who the no voters mainly were. The consensus was that it is very difficult to pin point exactly who rallied the no voters but there definitely were some groups opposing the vote. Voter turnout was high, Question #1 received: 574 Yes, 649 No; Question #2 received: 475 Yes, 750 No.

Some things the Board would like to do next time are to get information out early and to continue to rally support, get on KASM Radio weekly to provide facts and correct misinformation, have information readily available such as itemized costs on each project, samples of tax impact affecting business, farmers and residential home owners.

The Board and Administration will start collecting input in a variety of ways from District Patrons. They plan to go out and meet with NO vote 'leaders' and YES voters to gather input on what they see as needs and find out what is missing. They will create a survey to hand out, put in the District Newsletter, as well as on the District Webpage. Administration will speak on KASM Radio to get the word out for people to complete a survey and get them returned to drop boxes at local businesses or at the District Office.

Discussion ensued on future timelines. Potential future voting dates fall in February, April, May, August, and November.

Parking Lot Lighting discussion was tabled until a future meeting.

Rodney Ebnet asked about Safe Routes to School and collaboration with the County on the Co Rd 17 project for next summer. The Board and Administration agreed it is important to stay in contact with the County so that the school has input on turn lanes and drainage issues affecting the school.

Adjourned at 7:53 PM. Motion by Christensen, second by Kruger. Motion carried. All in Favor.