

Minutes for February 3, 2021
School Board Work Session
Holdingford Public School

Chair Christensen called the Work Session of the School Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:02 PM in the high school meeting room using social distancing.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Ed Feia, Ben Christensen, Robb Knettel, and Pat Meier.
Member absent: Lori Opatz.

Also attending was Superintendent Chris Swenson, Business Manager Beth Heinze, Transportation Director Rodney Ebnet, Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka and guest Russ Wolter.

Mr. Swenson reported week two of everyone back in school is going well, very few quarantines and no current cases, testing is available for staff every two weeks, staff vaccinations are in progress for all those who want it. He also informed the Board that sporting events are now allowing visiting fans on a limited basis.

Ms. Heinze presented a quote to purchase a new bus for the FY22 school year. There is a \$15,000 Volkswagen grant that will be used as the down payment. The grant requires scraping one bus with certain criteria in order to qualify. Mr. Ebnet talked about the bus rotation of three new buses every five years. The Board verbally agreed to move forward with the purchase of a new bus. Having eighteen buses, Mr. Swenson asked the Board to consider changing the rotation to a new bus every year to keep the fleet up to date. Mr. Ebnet also reported the State bus inspection took place on 2/2/21 and it went well.

Mr. Swenson presented area school district fund balances. The State recommends a fund balance of 20% and GASB recommends three months of expenses, these recommendations are very similar amounts. Ms. Heinze would like to see 20% fund balance in the District Policy 714. The Board agrees to change it to the recommended 20% moving forward.

Mr. Swenson presented the School Calendars for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

Ms. Heinze presented a proposal to add a Business Office Secretary, she explained all the things that have been added in the six years that she has been here and the new reporting things coming for next year. She purposes adding a twenty hour a week position during the school year on a one-year trial basis. The position would be part of the Secretarial unit with an approximate starting wage of \$17/hr. The Board agrees with the proposal.

The agenda was completed at 7:06 PM with a motion to adjourn by Ebnet, second by Feia. Motion carried. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by
Patrick Meier, Clerk