

## **Minutes for August 21, 2024 Regular School Board Meeting**

Chair Opatz called the regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:02 PM in the meeting room.

Members present: Elissa Ebnet, Nicole Burg, Lori Opatz, Ed Feia, Rob Knettel, and Pat Meier.

Members absent: Evelyn Martini and Ed Feia.

Also attending was: Superintendent Chris Swenson, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, and Administrative Assistant Linda Zapzalka.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Knettel, to approve the amended agenda. Items added: 3.1. Correction on the minutes, under review of upcoming dates regular School Board meeting date should state August 21, 2024; 6.6. Approve the Lighting Project quote with Service Lighting Company LLC for \$109,976.25 after rebates; 6.7. Approve the 2024-25 Husker Targeted Services After School Program and Budget for grades K-8; 6.8. Approve the sale of Tractor Raffle tickets by the FFA Alumni at all home football games this fall; 7.6. Accept the resignation from Bus Driver Arlan Schermerhorn effective 9/2/2024; 7.7. Accept the resignation from Irene & Gary Kajewski from their 1.0 Custodial position effective 8/20/2024; 7.8. Accept the resignation from Secondary ParaProfessional Teresa Leblanc effective 8/20/2024; 7.9. Accept the request from Jennifer Clear to withdraw her resignation and stay present in her current role as an ELA teacher at HHS. Motion carried. All In Favor (AIF).

Motion by Meier, second by Burg, to approve the consent agenda with the correction of meeting date on the 7/17/24 minutes. Items in the consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from the 7/17/2024 Reg Board mtg; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$849,390.04; Computer checks approved #56362 through #56, manual checks 9995630, 99956360, 99956361, and #31050 through #31078 in the amount of \$12,274.56; approval of the electronic transfer for July 2024, \$688,205.89; acknowledgement of the Treasurer's Report balance per books \$5,652,087.20; lane change for Michelle Schumer from BS20 to BS30 effective at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year; lane change for Marian Lyndgaard from BS10 to BS40 effective at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year; approve Fall Com. Ed. Instructors; approve policies 102 Equal Educational Opportunity, 207 Public Hearings, 413 Harassment and Violence, 416 Drug, Alcohol, And Cannabis Testing, 418 Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School; and accepted the following donations: PTA to 4th Grade for MCA Pizzas \$112.62; The American Legion has directed \$2,000 of their previous donation to go toward the greenhouse; The American Red Cross has provided a \$500 scholarship which is Awarded to Jadelyn Rudolph. On Roll Call voting in favor: Ebnet, Burg, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair recognized individually and thanked all the Donors for their generosity!

Chair Opatz welcomed fellow board members and administration.

Citizen Participation: None

### **Reports:**

Superintendent Swenson reported the FFA Alumni has exceeded their \$100,000 donation goal for the Greenhouse Project! He reminded the Board that Open House is next Wednesday, new teacher orientation took place today. Mr. Swenson thanked Ms. Walz for her fabulous job facilitating the day! He presented a plan to sell surplus school owned equipment and supplies. The Public Surplus website will now be used, they will handle all the money keeping a 10.5% commission for their compensation. Next Mr. Swenson presented details on the Strategic Planning process which will be led by Gail from MSBA. He asked the board members to come up with 3-5 names of community members they would recommend to be involved with the planning process and bring those names to the September Work Session. He

also asked them to review the surveys and send any changes/additions to the surveys to him. Meetings will be scheduled to obtain input from students, staff and community.

Elementary Principal Stang reported summer school was fantastic. He thanked the Tech Crew, Custodians, Rodney Ebnet, Bus Drivers, Staff and Families for sharing their kids during the summer. They all contributed to the success of the Summer School Program which included a fully inclusive SPED program. He informed the Board of the three new Elementary Teachers; Alison Harren, Ashley Spanier and Missy Sakry and emphasized that the workshop week will be packed full of training and preparations for the start of the school year. Lastly Mr. Stang invited the Board to Open House and thanked them for all they do.

Secondary Principal Cooper's report was given by Mr. Swenson. He reviewed the Cell Phone Policy letter that parents will receive. Discussion ensued on the new cell phone changes. Then Mr. Swenson presented the School Discipline Matrix which will be used as a guide for administration when dealing with discipline issues.

Meier reported that at the BSED meeting held today the Bylaw revisions and the District Agreements were approved. Mr. Swenson explained that at our September School Board meeting the District Agreement will be brought to the Board for approval.

**Business Items:**

Chris explained the MOU is to provide the required Read Act training. Dollars have been provided to the school by the state for this training. Motion by Meier, second by Knettel, to approve the MOU between ISD 738 And Education Holdingford regarding the READ Act training. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Burg, to adopt the Resolution Relating To The Election Of A School Board Member And Calling The School District General Election. On Roll Call voting in favor: Ebnet, Burg, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Swenson explained that Food Service Director Jan Notch had requested to add this position to help things run smoother. Motion by Meier, second by Ebnet, to approve to add a four (4) hour Food Service Assistant position. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Burg, to approve the Dance Boosters Raffle Fundraiser with the drawing to be held at the 12/14/2024 Dance Show. Motion carried. AIF.

Made aware of legislative action requiring all lights be changed to LED lights within 18 months. With the grants available it makes sense to do it at this time.

Motion by Pat  
second by Rob  
to approve the Lighting Project quote with Service Lighting Company LLC for \$109,976.25 after rebates.  
Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Swenson thanked Principal Stang for preparing the paperwork to get things set for the Targeted Services After School Program. Motion by Knettel, second by Ebnet, to approve the 2024-25 Husker Targeted Services After School Program and Budget for grades K-8. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel second by Ebnet, to approve the sale of Tractor Raffle tickets by the FFA Alumni at all home football games this fall. Motion carried. AIF.

**Personnel Items:**

Motion by Meier, second by Burg, to hire Kristie Kirckof for a 5.75 hour Food Service Assistant position at Grade 3 Step 4 with a start date of 8/21/2024. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Ebnet, to hire Valerie Stanly for a 3 hour Food Service Assistant position at Grade 3 Step 0 and a start date of 8/21/2024. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Burg, second by Ebnet, to hire Joan Boeckermann for a 4 hour Food Service Assistant position at Grade 3 Step 3 and a start date of 8/21/2024. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Knettel, to hire Ashley Spanier for the Preschool Teacher position starting at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year. Hire at BS Step 1. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Burg, second by Knettel, to hire Melissa Armstrong for the Evening Custodian Position with a start date of 8/5/2024. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Meier, to accept the resignation from Bus Driver Arlan Schermerhorn effective 9/2/2024. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Burg to accept the resignation from Irene & Gary Kajewski from their 1.0 Custodial position effective 8/20/2024. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Knettel, to accept the resignation from Secondary ParaProfessional Teresa Leblanc effective 8/20/2024. Motion carried. AIF. Board Chair thanked Ms. LaBlanc for her nine years of service.

Motion by Meier, second by Burg, to accept the request from Jennifer Clear to withdraw her resignation and stay present in her current role as an ELA teacher at HHS. Motion carried. AIF.

A review of upcoming important dates took place.

- Work Session September 4, 2024 @ 6:00 PM in the HS meeting room.
- Regular School Board Meeting September 18, 2024 @ 6:00 PM in the HS meeting room.
- Open House Wednesday August 28th 2024 from 5:00-7:00 PM.

**Adjourn**

Agenda completed at 7:00 PM. A motion to adjourn was made by Knettel, second by Ebnet. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Clerk Patrick Meier