

Minutes for March 15, 2023 Regular School Board Meeting

Chair Feia 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: Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Sarah Binek, Ed Feia, Lori Opatz, Robb Knettel, and Pat Meier.

Member absent: None

Also attending was: Elementary Principal Jim Stang, Secondary Principal Tim Wege, Business Manager Garrity Gerber, Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka, Mike Kosik from Star Publications and guest Head Swim Coach Jolene Breth and Assistant Swim Coach Jess Westbrook. Absent: Superintendent Chris Swenson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Opatz, second by Martini, to approve the amended agenda. Added Item 6.5. Acknowledge the Notice of Desire to Negotiate from Education Holdingford Teachers; 6.6. Approve Preschool Calendars. Motion carried. All In Favor (AIF).

Motion by Meier, second by Opatz, to approve the consent agenda. Items in consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from Feb. 15th School Board Meeting and Mar. 1st Work Session ; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$427,636.43. Computer checks approved #53727 through #53914 and #30556 through #30573 in the amount of \$5,459.34; approval of the electronic transfer for Feb. 2023, \$1,985,327.20; acknowledgement of the Treasurer's Report balance per books \$5,441,227.03; approval of Policy 708 Transportation of Nonpublic School Students; approval of Policy 709 Student Transportation Safety Policy; approval of Policy 721 Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources; accepted donations from the City of Holdingford to Community Education for summer recreation \$1,500; to Community Education from PTA- \$1000.00 and from Martini Auto Parts- \$250.00 for the Prairie Fire Children's Theater summer program; and approved lane change for Jennifer Clear from MS20 to MS30 effective at the start of quarter 4, 2022-23 school year. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Binek, Feia, Opatz, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously. The Board thanked the Donors for their generosity!

Chair Feia welcomed fellow board members, administration, staff and guests.

Citizen Participation: Jolene Breth and Jess Westbrook addressed the Board summarizing all of the activities, classes, and athletics that use the pool and presented some areas of concern regarding safe equipment in the pool. They spoke about wanting to move forward with raising funds to replace the starting blocks, getting new lane lines and new flags. They are confident they can raise enough to purchase the equipment but will need some help with installation costs. Chair Feia thanked the ladies for coming and assured them that the board will discuss further with the facility committee and get back to them.

Reports

Student Board Rep Megan Pellett reported on the Musical *Wonderland, an Alice in Wonderland Tale*. The shows will be held Friday, April 14th at 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 15th at 2 p.m. and again at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, April 16th at 2 p.m. The cast is excited for the Saturday night show which is the Gala Performance. This includes

dinner, social hour and an auction. This is a fundraiser co-sponsored with the FAN Club. She also informed the Board about the NHS Activity Night, that spring sports have all started, and concerns about the LMC.

Elementary Principal Stang reported that the Targeted Services program has been approved and they will start inviting students to participate, Mathnasium Night is March 25th, Kindergarten Roundup is being done virtually however families wanting to have a tour are welcome to call the Elementary Office and reserve a time to stop in, Grandparents Day will be Friday May 12th and he thanked all staff for staying the course helping to keep the doors open with the shortage of subs.

Secondary Principal Wege reported on the registration process and a few adjustments they are making to help the schedule flow smoother, MCA Testing, new hires Alyssa Rosenberger for the Business Teacher position and Jill Slivnik for the Math Teacher position. He explained the Towards Zero Deaths program that area Principals and Student Councils are working on to help promote safe driving. Mr. Wege mentioned the end of 3rd quarter coming soon and Spring Concerts have been very enjoyable!

Ebnet reported Chris Belmont presented at the BSED meeting and he had a lot of positive words for Holdingford Schools.

Business Manager Gerber reported he spent time at the Capitol Day. School districts are waiting on final legislation. He informed the Board that MSBO presented costs involved with new proposals to the Legislators and that has convinced them to eliminate some of the changes that would cost school districts a ton of money. Free meals for all students has passed however the compensatory funding is still being resolved. Mr. Gerber explained that insurance bids are sought every three years and this is the year to get bids for building, workmans comp, liability and cyber insurances and he is working on the FY24 revised budget and starting prep for the FY25 budget as well as developing negotiation worksheets.

Business Items:

Motion by Ebnet, second by Binek, to approve Targeted Services Summer School 2023 program and budget for grades K-8. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to approve the 7/1/2023-6/30/2026 Achievement and Integration Plan. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Opatz, to adopt the RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS IN PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS AND REASONS THEREFOR. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Binek, Feia, Opatz, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Annual Review of the District Safe Learning Plan took place. No changes.

The Board acknowledged the Desire to Negotiate Letter from Education Holdingford Teachers.

Motion by Martini, second by Opatz, to approve the Preschool Calendars for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years. Motion carried. AIF.

Personnel:

Motion by Opatz, second by Ebnet, to hire Julia (Jill) Slivnik for Secondary Math Teacher for the start of the 2023-2024 school year at BS10 Step 5 pending submission of transcript showing 10 grad credits completed prior to 8/21/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Binek, to hire Elizabeth Haskamp for Husker KidZone Assistant, starting wage of \$11.25 with a start date of 3/8/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Binek, second by Ebnet, to hire Alexis Reis for Husker KidZone Assistant, starting wage of \$11.25 with a start date of 3/7/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Binek, to approve the Spring Coaches as presented. Motion carried. AIF.
Still in need of a JH Track and JH Baseball Coach.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Binek, to accept the resignation from Deborah Ruszat for a School Counselor position at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried. AIF. The Board thanked Ms. Ruszat for her years of service with the District.

Motion by Binek, second by Opatz, to accept the resignation from Shawn Jennings, an Elementary SPED Teacher position at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Binek, to accept the resignation from Secondary Paraprofessional Sommer Arentz effective 2/15/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to approve an Extended Leave of Absence for Secondary Paraprofessional Kim Eikmeier for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year effective 2/24/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Binek, to accept the resignation from Custodian Brittany Hartung effective 2/24/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

A review of the upcoming meeting dates took place.

School Board Work Session April 5, 2023 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

School Board Meeting April 19, 2023 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

Adjourn

Agenda completed at 6:57PM. A motion to adjourn was made by Ebnet, second by Opatz. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by
Clerk Patrick Meier