

Minutes for May 17, 2023 Regular School Board Meeting

Chair Feia called the regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:00 PM in the meeting room.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Sarah Binek, Ed Feia, Lori Opatz, Rob Knettel, and Pat Meier.

Member absent: None

Also attending was: Superintendent Chris Swenson, Business Manager Garrity Gerber, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, Secondary Principal Tim Wege, Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka, Summer School Principal Kristina Clem Student Board Rep Morgan Pellett and Hans Lammeman from Star Publications.

Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Opatz, second by Knettel, to approve the amended agenda. Items added: 6.5. Call for a Special Board Meeting prior to the June 7th Work Session; 6.6. Call for a Special Closed Meeting to follow the June 7th Work Session; 6.7. Acknowledge Intent to Negotiate with Custodians and Ed Assistants; 7.5. Authorization to hire Breanne Skroch for Husker KidZone Assistant; 7.6. Accept the resignation from Elementary Para Kimberly Haugerud; 7.7. Authorization to hire Michelle Schumer, a Tier 2 licensed teacher for the Secondary Special Education Teacher; 7.8. Authorization to hire Carrie Jendro, a Tier 2 licensed teacher for the Secondary Language Arts Teacher; and 7.9. Authorization to hire Summer 2023 Grounds Helper & Cleaners. Motion carried. All In Favor (AIF).

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from the April 19th School Board Meeting and May 3rd Work Session; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$446,732.09. Computer checks approved #54040 through #54187 and #30608 through #30625 in the amount of \$5,405.16; approval of the electronic transfer for April 2023, \$1,591,442.04; acknowledgement of the Treasurer's Report balance per books \$5,814,929.30; called for a closed meeting to follow the June 21st board meeting; approved Policy 506 Student Discipline; Policy 606 Textbooks and Instructional Materials; Policy 613 Graduation Requirements; Policy 806 Crisis Management; accepted the following donations \$200 United Way to Backpack fund, \$200 Resurrected Artists to Drama, \$1000 St Wendel Sportsman Club to Trap, \$2000 American Legion to F+Gift of Sight towards vision screening machine, \$10,000 Booster Club, \$230 FAN club to Art Club. 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: Hans Lammeman introduced himself as a new reporter for Star Publications Newspaper.

Reports

Superintendent Swenson summarized the Education Omnibus Bill that the Legislature has passed. Administration will work through the details to process and determine the effect on our District.

Student Board Rep. Morgan Pellett reported on Spring Fling which included a career and college fair, track team successes, fall play, youth track clinic, 6th grade activity fair, and yearbooks are out. Mr. Wege added that both the boys and girls track teams will have a send off on Friday to participate in the State True Team Meet.

Secondary Principal Tim Wege reported on the upcoming Choir Concert for grades 8-12, the seniors have six days left and the rest have two weeks, and the Graduation Ceremony is June 2nd at 7:00 PM.

Elementary Principal Jim Stang reported Grandparents Day was a huge success and he thanked everyone that had a part in the successful event. He informed the Board that MCA testing is complete and he thanked all the folks involved in the preparing, testing and rewards. Mr. Stang added that field trips are back and are being enjoyed by all, the Bounce Party and Sixth Grade May Madness are coming up next week.

Mr. Swenson extended kudos to everyone that had a part in Grandparents Day including many of the Board members and a shout out to FFA on their plant/flower sales and exquisite Banquet.

Ebnet reported BSED meeting was canceled.

Business Manager Garrity Gerber reported he is working on the FY24 Budget while deciphering how the new legislation will impact it and the MASBO Conference he attended was very informative.

Business Items:

Mr. Gerber summarized the pool project and explained the funds being used are a combination of funds raised by the swim team \$7,500, a Booster Club donation of \$8,345, and general fund dollars of \$17,000. Motion by Knettel, second by Ebnet, to approve the contract with Horizon Commercial Pools to purchase and install new Starting Platforms on the pool deck at a total cost of \$32,845.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Gerber explained this will replace furniture in all Elementary SPED Room. Motion by Martini, second by Binek, to enter into contract with Innovative for Elem SPED classroom furniture and install at a total cost of \$32,784.20. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Opatz, second by Binek, to enter into contract with Innovative to replace and install furniture in three highschool classrooms at a total cost of \$42,762.81. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Gerber recommended tabling the approval for freezer and cooler general construction until a future meeting.

Motion by Knettel, second by Opatz, to Call for Special Meeting to take place prior to the 6/7/23 Work Session. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Ebnet, to Call for Special Closed Meeting to take place following the 6/7/23 Work Session to discuss negotiations. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Binek, to acknowledge the intent to negotiate with Custodians and Ed Assistants. Motion carried. AIF.

Personnel:

Mr. Stang summarized the hiring process and recommended Ms. Timm for the Second Grade Teaching position. Motion by Ebnet, second by Opatz, to hire Mackenzie Timm for the Second Grade Teacher position for the 2023-2024 school year. Hire at MS Step 2 pending documentation of Masters Degree completion prior to 8/21/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Ebnet, to hire Denise Waletzko for Fifth Grade LTS Teacher from approximately 10/4/2023-12/21/2023. Hire at 21-22 Teachers Salary Schedule at MS Step 17. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Binek, to Re-Authorize Jason Bruns, Activities Director/Dean of Students as a Teacher on Special Assignment for 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried. AIF.

Summer School Principal Kristina Clem explained the Summer School Staffing. Motion by Opatz, second by Ebnet, to hire Summer School 2023 Staff as presented. Mr. Stang thanked Ms. Clem for her work coordinating Summer School. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Binek, to hire Breanne Skroch for a Kid Zone Assistant 18+position, starting pay of \$16.25/hour with a start date of 5/23/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Opatz, to accept the resignation from Elementary Para Kimberly Haugerud effective 5/10/2023. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Binek, second by Ebnet, to hire Michelle Schumer, a Tier 2 licensed teacher for the Secondary Special Education Teacher position for the 2023-2024 school year at BS Step 2. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Opatz, to hire Carrie Jendro, a Tier 2 licensed teacher for the Secondary Language Arts Teacher position for the 2023-2024 school year at BS Step 2. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Binek, to hire Summer 2023 Grounds Helper & Cleaners as presented. Motion carried. AIF.

A review of the upcoming meeting dates took place.

Special Board Meeting June 7, 2023 @ 5:30 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

School Board Work Session June 7, 2023 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

Special Closed Meeting June 7, 2023 to follow Work Session

School Board Meeting June 21 2023 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

Special Closed Meeting June 21 2023 to follow Board Meeting.

Adjourn

Agenda completed at 6:47 PM. A motion to adjourn was made by Opatz, second by Binek. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by

Clerk Patrick Meier