

Minutes for December 16, 2020 School Board Meeting Holdingford Public School

Chair Christensen opened the Truth in Taxation Hearing at 6:00 PM. Ms. Heinze presented the revenue and expenditure dollars from last year and projected dollars for the current year. She also summarized the fund balance history and projections, enrollment foundation for revenue history, property tax levy report, and entertained questions. The proposed Levy is a 12.89% decrease. Hearing closed at 6:18 PM.

Chair Christensen called the regular meeting of the school Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:18 PM on December 16, 2020 in the HS Meeting Room using social distancing.

Pledge was recited.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Elissa Ebnet, Ed Feia, Ben Christensen, Lori Opatz, Rob Knettel and Pat Meier. Member absent: None

Also attending was Superintendent Chris Swenson, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, Secondary Principal Angela Safran, Business Manager Beth Heinze, Mike Kosiak with Star Publications and Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka. No guests.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Feia, to approve the agenda. All In Favor. (AIF)

Motion by Opatz, second by Knettel, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from the Nov. 18th, 2020 Regular School Board meeting and Dec. 2nd, 2020 Work Session; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$352,631.23; computer checks 85381-85490; approval of the electronic transfer for November \$748,316.15 acknowledgement of the Treasurer's Report balance per books for Nov. 2020 was \$6,415,011.53; approval of Policy 514 Tobacco-Free Environment; annual review of Policy 514 Bullying Prohibition Policy. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

Reports

Mr. Swenson congratulated Jason Bruns for being named Region 5 Activities Director of the Year!

Ms. Safran reported midterm grades are due and the end of the semester is quickly approaching. She is gearing up for registration for the 2021/22 school year. Ms. Opatz asked about schedule format for next school year. Ms. Safran is meeting with department heads to discuss the format moving forward. They are looking at block schedule, traditional seven-hour schedule and a schedule that would be a hybrid of the two formats. Ms. Safran will be preparing for testing over the holiday break.

Mr. Stang thanked staff for staying well and all the extra efforts to keep the doors open and students in school. He added the student teachers have been very helpful. Mr. Stang reported on holiday happenings, he thanked the nursing and office staff for handling the frontlines during this pandemic, and Rudolph's Redneck Roost for their generosity providing lunch to the Elementary Staff! Mr. Stang informed the board he has interviewed for Title I position and will have a hiring recommendation next month.

Ms. Ebnet reported on BSED meeting, they are all in distance learning with a return date of January 19. She also reported that the Director has resigned and the process to find a replacement will start soon.

Ms. Heinze reported the business office is preparing for the software conversion that will take place next month.

Business

Ms. Heinze presented the Tax Levy information. The Levy amount will be a decrease of 12.89%. Motion by Feia to Certify the Tax Levy 2020, payable 2021 at \$2,255,589.05, second by Meier. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Opatz to adopt the Resolution Establishing Combined Polling Places For Multiple Precincts And Designating Hours During Which The Polling Place Will Remain Open For Voting For School District Elections Not Held On The Day Of A Statewide Election. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against the same: None. Motion carried.

The meeting continued with the first reading of Policy 516 Student Medication. Revision adds provisions and procedures regarding storage and return of drugs or medication and regarding unclaimed or abandoned prescription drugs.

Motion by Meier to have students pay \$30 to take the ACT Exam and the district will cover the remaining cost, second by Feia. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Ebnet, to approve The World's Best Work Force Report. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Swenson summarized the Governor's new Executive Order announced today. He reviewed the mitigation strategies and tools schools must implement for any in-person or hybrid learning model. He will have a regional Superintendents meeting to get more clarification on the new executive order. Each District has unique characteristics making it difficult to decipher what pertains to the district and what protocols need to be followed. The District and Unions are working together to come up with a plan to meet the requirements. Mr. Swenson is scheduled to have the Regional Consultation on Friday to determine when junior/senior high students come back to school.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Knettel, to accept the donation of \$2,000 from Affinity Plus Credit Union for Technology in Ms. Schmitt's classes, \$250 from United Way for school supplies, \$20,000 from The Husker Athletic Booster Club for athletics, and Chick-fil-A for the lunch for secondary staff. The Board and Administration thanked the donators for their generosity! Motion carried. AIF.

Personnel

Motion by Feia, second by Ebnet, to rescind hiring of Denise Waletzko for the semester 2 Title I Teacher position. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Opatz, second by Knettel, to accept resignation from Kitchen Assistant Kathy Welle effective 12/11/2020. Ms. Welle has worked in food service for 22+ years; the Board thanked her for the years she has dedicated to working in Food Service at Holdingford Schools. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Opatz, to accept resignation from Paraprofessional Shellie Konz effective 12/7/2020. Ms. Konz has been with the District for 14 years. The Board thanked her for the years working in the District. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to extend the hiring of Daily Substitute Teacher, Carrie Jendro through 1/29/2021. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to extend medical leave for an additional two weeks for Elementary Paraprofessional, Karey Gerads with a return date of 12/17/2020. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Feia, to hire Lisa Doucet for Sixth Grade Music Supervisor. 10:05-10:55 AM, student session days from 1/4/2021-2/3/2021. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Opatz, to approve FMLA Leave for Elementary Teacher Abby Wessel from approximately 4/12/2021 through the end of the school year. Motion carried. AIF.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Work Session Jan. 6, 2021 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

Organizational Board meeting Jan. 13, 2021 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

The agenda was completed at 7:20 PM with a motion to adjourn by Martini, second by Opatz. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by
Evelyn Martini, Clerk