

Minutes for October 21, 2020 School Board Meeting Holdingford Public School

Chair Christensen called the regular meeting of the school Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:03 PM on October 21, 2020 in the HS Meeting Room using social distancing.

Pledge was recited.

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

Also attending was Superintendent Chris Swenson, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, Secondary Principal Angela Safran, Business Manager Beth Heinze, Luke Selken with ICS, Mike Kosiak with Star Publications and Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka. Guest(s) in attendance: Carin Pedersen, Ashley Koester and Chad Haugen.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Opatz, to approve the amended agenda. Items added: 6.7. Approve amended agenda; 7.4. Approve extended workdays for paraprofessionals; 7.5. Approve JH Coaches. Motion carried. All In Favor. (AIF)

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to remove item 3.1 from the consent agenda to be amended under item 6.7. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Feia, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: approval of the October 7, 2020 Work Session minutes; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$1,795,661.16; computer checks 85046-85231; approval of the electronic transfer for August \$2,830,744.40; approve lane change for Lauren Volkers to MS20 Step 9; and approve 2020-21 Advisors. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Ebnet, Feia, Christensen, Opatz, and Knettel. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

No citizen participation.

Reports

Mr. Selken reported building project is 99% complete. He reviewed the final change order #013, which includes miscellaneous items throughout the building by Liberty Electric; painting commons display case; and Boiler penetrations at boiler stacks. He presented a proposal for a complete track renovation estimated to be approximately \$736,625. In addition to the new track it includes a fence around outside of track and trench drainage. The timeline Mr. Selken recommends is to start design phase soon, bid project in winter, start project in spring and complete in time for football season. New lighting is not included. An estimate to replace the lighting on the football field is approximately \$350,000. Mr. Selken estimated the cost to be \$475,000 to redo the rest of the parking lots around the back of school and on the elementary end. He will get an estimate to just do a mill and overlay.

Mr. Swenson reported on the Regional COVID Consult meeting where he presented the District COVID data and rationale. They agreed the District could stay in Hybrid Learning Model through Nov. 6th. He explained a Facebook Live was conducted to update the public and keep communication open. It was well received with over 200 participating in the event.

Ms. Safran introduced teachers in attendance and reported hybrid learning is going good for the most part. She asked the staff in attendance to share the difficulty in teaching the in-person students at the same time as the students at home due to hybrid day and the distance learners. Ms. Pedersen does a flipped classroom in order to accommodate hands on experiments. Ms. Koester explained that they are constantly fixing and tweaking plans to make things work. The teachers all emphasized that they want students in the building; it is better for students and staff.

Ms. Safran noted a great thing that has come out of this crazy time is the staff has really collaborated to help each other solve problems. She explained that Wednesdays students have class in the mornings and the afternoon is when staff reach out to the distance learning students and to students who have questions that they can't answer in the middle of classes while dealing with the three different learning models.

Ms. Opatz asked what the Wednesday afternoon student expectations were. Mr. Haugen explained the difficulty is keeping all learning levels engaged, not overwhelmed, and challenged and that there are going to be some students that complete all their assigned work and will have free time just like if they were in class full time. The Board thanked the group of staff members for attending the Board meeting!

Mr. Stang reported morale is good in the elementary, kids are learning, virtual conferences went well and things are constantly changing to be best for kids. He thanked his entire staff for adapting to the needs and supporting each other. Mr. Stang reiterated he is asking staff to live small and stay well.

Ms. Ebnet reported on the BSED meeting. They are currently in hybrid learning and trying to get K-5 back in person. Training and Corrective Action Plans were discussed. Mr. Swenson added congratulations to the SPED Team for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Ensuring that Individual Due Process Records Meet or Exceed Requirements and he updated the Board on the Level 4 Program expansion. Ms. Heinze summarized the 5-year history analysis used for federal entitlement and billing.

Ms. Heinze reported the Annual Audit is complete and she has received the draft statements for review. The full report will be at the Nov. meeting. She also updated the Board on COVID dollars.

Business

Motion by Martini, second by Ebnet, to approve Building Project Change Order #013 as presented. Total amount \$8,154.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Opatz, second by Knettel, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement effective for the 2020-2021 school year regarding Personal Day Compensation to reduce the need for subs. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Ebnet, to approve the current fundraising requests for 2020-2021 as presented. Mr. Swenson noted there might be more requests as the year progresses. Motion carried. AIF.

Meeting continued with the first reading of Policy 620 Credit For Learning.

Acknowledgement of the Treasure's Report balance per books as of September 2020 is \$6,531,238.50.

Motion by Ebnet, second by Feia, to accept donations for \$250 in gift certificates from Cherry Berry to be used by the Husker Strong PBIS Team, \$1,214.64 from Coborn's More Rewards to be used by the Elementary PBIS Team, \$10,000 from the Husker Athletic Booster Club to be used for Husker Athletics and dirt work from Tri-County Excavating and Max Posch. Ms. Safran added appreciation to Janelle Notsch and Delphine Brown along with Affinity Credit Union for providing a wonderful meal and individual pie to each of the secondary staff members! The Board acknowledged the various donators and thanked them for their generosity! Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini to approve the 9/16/2020 school board minutes as amended to read Motion by Meier to approve Policy 808 COVID-19 Face Covering Policy with IV. C. 12. added, second by Knettel. Motion passed with board members Martini, Ebnet, Christensen, Opatz, Knettel and Meier voting in favor, and board member Feia voting against. Second by Opatz, Motion carried. AIF.

Personnel

Motion by Feia, second by Knettel, to hire Carrie Jendro for a Daily Substitute Teacher from 9/28/2020-12/22/2020. This is being covered by COVID dollars and will help cover absences. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Opatz, second by Ebnet, to approve retirement resignation from Denise Waletzko to be effective at the end of first semester (1/22/2021). With many thanks from the Board and Administration for her 35+

years with the Holdingford School District. Mr. Stang applauded Ms. Waletzko for her service to the District. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Feia, to approve FMLA Leave for Paraprofessional Karey Gerads from 10/21/2020-12/3/2020. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Opatz, to approve extending length of work day by 15 minutes for the 2020-2021 school year on in-person student days for Paraprofessional Melanie Klisch, Lisa Welle, and Alicia Nierenhausen. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Opatz, to approve Junior High Football and Volleyball Coaches as presented with one correction putting Lydia Brandt at step 1. Motion carried. AIF.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Football gamed moved to Sat. 4 PM in Sauk Centre on a turf field due to the snow.

Work Session Nov. 4, 2020 @ 6:00 PM in the Meeting Room. Goal setting.

Regular Board meeting Nov. 18, 2020 @ 6:00 PM in the Meeting Room.

The agenda was completed at 7:33 PM with a motion to adjourn by Opatz, second by Ebnet. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by
Evelyn Martini, Clerk