

The Board of Directors of the Cedar Falls Community School District in the County of Black Hawk, State of Iowa, met in regular session pursuant to the laws and rules of said Board at the City of Cedar Falls City Hall, 220 Clay Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the President and the roll being called there were present Joyce Coil in the chair, and the following named Directors: Eric Giddens, Jeff Hassman, Susie Hines, Jenny Leeper, Jeff Orvis and Sasha Wohlpert. Others in attendance were: Dr. Andrew Pattee, Superintendent, Denelle Gonnerman, Chief Financial Officer, Daniel Conrad, Director of Secondary Education, Pam Zeigler, Director of Elementary Education, and Dr. Adrian Talbot, Director of Human Resources. Others in attendance: Larry Wyckoff and Traci Mallaro.

President Coil called the meeting to order and reported that we are here to focus on students and student achievement.

Item No. 1 – Approval of the Following Consent Agenda Items:

Director Hines moved and Director Leeper seconded the motion that the Board approves the following consent agenda items:

1. The agenda of the February 25, 2019 Board of Education
2. Approval of the January 28, 2019 Board of Education minutes
3. Approval of the bills as presented for payment as reviewed by the designated Board member, Jeff Orvis
4. Approval of Human Resource Report
5. Cooperative Agreement with University of Iowa
6. Cooperative Agreement with UNI for Pre-Service Clinical Placement
7. McLeod Center Agreement for Graduation

Human Resources Report
February 25, 2019 revised

2018-19 School Year

Resignations – Recommended for Approval

Teacher:

Dagan Robertson Holmes JH Art EOSY

*Pursuant to Iowa Code 279.19A, 8(b) termination of or resignation from a contract with a teacher constitutes an automatic termination of or resignation from an extracurricular contract in effect between the teacher and the Board.

**EOSY: End of School Year is the final day of teacher service, as determined by the official school calendar. In the event the school year is extended due to weather make up days, or other unanticipated causes, the Superintendent may, at his sole discretion, approve an employee request to terminate employment prior to the end of the school year if the request had been previously approved by the Board to take effect at the end of the school year.

Directors voting in favor of the motion Coil, Giddens, Hassman, Hines, Leeper, Orvis, and Wohlpert. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 2 – Public Comment

Dr. Pattee reminded the public that school board meetings are open meetings. An open meeting means the meeting is open to the public to observe and listen to the proceedings of the meeting. At the public comment section of the agenda, time is granted to citizens to make brief statements to the Board. To make a public comment, the District needs to be notified by 4:00 p.m. the day of the Board meeting; comments must be less than 3 minutes and should be germane to school district business.

Larry Wyckoff of 4241 East Park Rd., Cedar Falls, commented on the increased cost projections associated with the discussion for remodeling the current high school building and building a new high school. Mr. Wyckoff expressed his concerns and dissatisfaction to the Cedar Falls Community School Board. Mr. Wyckoff indicated he was insulted and does not believe the cost of remodeling the current high school could increase to \$84 million dollars.

Dr. Pattee commented the costs of remodeling the current high school, as well as building a new high school has increased. In a meeting with community leaders it was discussed that inflationary costs of construction were increasing approximately 10% to 20% per year. Dr. Pattee indicated if the district just looks at remodeling the current high school, with a ten-year vision of enrollment growth, the cost is roughly 75% of new construction. Within 10 years due to enrollment growth, the current site would be at capacity. The acquisition per acre around the current high school site is projected at \$1.5 million per acre. The amount of land needed is financially out of reach. Dr. Pattee indicated this is not insulting; it is maximizing our tax payer dollars in a way it is most effective short, medium and long term.

Tracy Mallaro, resident of Cedar Falls commented on the need for a new high school. Ms. Mallaro shared a story regarding her husband's attempt to hire a new candidate for a position at VGM from outside the Cedar Valley. Ms. Mallaro stated the candidate was excited about Cedar Falls and prior to his decision requested a tour of the current high school. After touring the high school the candidate was not impressed and expressed many concerns; safety, parking and despair of building. Ms. Mallaro indicated the individual was no longer interested in the position and VGM lost the candidate. Ms. Mallaro stated it is hard for businesses to grow if they cannot get qualified people to move to here. Ms. Mallaro commented that Cedar Falls is one of the premier communities of Iowa and it does not measure up to other high school facilities. She encouraged the Board to tour other schools such as Waukee, Linn Marr, Ankeny, and Waverly. These communities all have more progressive and advanced high school facilities and we are competing with these communities for jobs, scholarships and work force. Ms. Mallaro commented that our kids are not getting the same opportunities and we need to do what is best for our kids, as well as the economic development of our community. We need this new high school now.

Dr. Pattee commented that it is important to note when we talk with our community members we are told we have excellence in our education, but there is so much more we can do for our kids with our facilities. Our kids deserve every opportunity available to be competitive when making their way in life. We are limited in what we can do, should do, and need to do and are in competition with District's all over for these opportunities.

Item No. 3 – Secretary's Monthly Financial Report

Mrs. Gonnerman reviewed with the Board the January 2019 fund balances for general, schoolhouse, student activity, and food service. President Coil stated the report would be filed subject to audit.

Item No. 4 – Communications

The Cedar Falls Community School Board of Education student board liaison member, Marika Yang reported on the following:

- Student center raised \$300
- School musical "Cinderella" March 8 & 9 at 7:00 p.m.
- Cards of support for student William Reinart
- Rocket Team full scale launch
- Student Senate activities

Janelle Darst reported on the following District news activities:

- Informational session on High School, February 29, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in HS cafeteria; all are welcome to come
- Orchard Hill opened cafeteria and new spaces
- 100th day of school activities
- National School Counseling Week
- Ms. Chambers at North Cedar was the winner of Cedar Valley Tools for Schools
- Peet Junior High 8th grade band has been selected to perform at Iowa Band Masters Conference
- AJ Jackson, Senior Trumpet offered full time position in the US Marine Corp.
- Both High School Jazz bands earned 1st place at UNI Jazz Festival
- Summer CAPS program

Item No. 5 – Approval of Summer 2019 Roofing Project Bids

Dr. Pattee reviewed the history of the District's facilities/roof area and the 10 year construction plan. Dr. Pattee reported a total of four bids were received for the Peet Junior High roofing project and it is the recommendation of the Administration and Terracon consultant to approve the low quote from Service Roofing Co., Waterloo, Iowa in the amount of \$263,300. This project includes three sections of roof over the Peet Junior High school. After discussion, Director Hines moved and Director Orvis seconded the motion to approve the Peet Junior High 2019 roof improvement base bid of \$233,000, in addition Alternate #1 of \$30,300 for a total bid of \$263,300 from Service Roofing Co. of Waterloo, Iowa. This project will be funded through the 2019-2020 Physical Plant and Equipment Levy. Directors voting in favor of the motion Coil, Giddens, Hassman, Hines, Leeper, Orvis, and Wohlpart. Those voting "no" none. Motion carried.

Item No. 6 – Approval of Substantial Completion of Aldrich Elementary Kitchen Equipment

Dr. Pattee reviewed the substantial completion of the Aldrich Elementary kitchen equipment project. The original contract was awarded to Rapid Foodservice, Marion, Iowa in the amount of \$270,000. The final cost for the project was \$268,500. This is \$1,500 under originally estimated budget. After a brief discussion, Director Giddens moved and Director Wohlpart seconded the motion that the Cedar Falls Community School District Board of Education accepts as complete the Aldrich Elementary kitchen equipment project. All claims for materials furnished, labor performed and/or services provided on this contract must be filed within the next 30 days. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Coil, Giddens, Hassman, Hines, Leeper, Orvis and Wohlpart. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 7 – Facility Survey Update

Janelle Darst introduced Mr. Jerry Gallagher from the Donovan Group. The Donovan Group was hired to conduct an unbiased survey of the District’s facility needs and provide feedback from our District and community for insight, structure, and guidance.

Mr. Gallagher reported on the survey results and how the District can best meet facility needs. In recent years the District has been evaluating the facility needs and exploring possible solutions. As part of this process the District has met in more than 50 public engagement sessions since 2014. To help determine how to meet the facility needs the school Board requested a survey be conducted. Mr. Gallagher reported 1,724 completed responses. Strong consensus that the facility needs at the high school should be addressed. Mr. Gallagher commented given the level of turn out of the survey the District needs to continue to be transparent and informationally accessible. Mr. Gallagher commented, as he works with a lot of school districts, he found the District’s informational website to be the most robust one he has seen. The Board thanked Mr. Gallagher for his presentation and reported that the survey report is located on the school’s website.

Item No. 8 – Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Pattee reported on the following:

- Thoughts are with the family of High School counselor Amy Denholm as she recently passed away
- March 11, 2019 board meeting to include the preliminary budget
- Learning Conversation: Article from Dr. Nair “Blue Print for Tomorrow: Redesigning schools for student centered learning.” The article highlights how to put a building out that is useful, productive and focused as our core mission (student learning) through the following 6 educational strategies:
 - Student centered learning
 - Teacher collaboration
 - Positive school culture
 - Inter connected/connectivity
 - Flexible Scheduling
 - Correction to environment
- Levy Rate Update
 - 2006/2007 to 2016/2017 Growth of 19.94 % in certified enrollment: 18th largest increase in Iowa
 - 2018/2019: Largest 25 Iowa School Districts Cedar Falls has the third lowest tax rate
 - Recent Bonds passed in other districts

Item No. 9 – Questions, Comments, and Concerns from Board Members

Director Hassman inquired about the last day of school due to the inclement weather.

Director Leeper inquired about the local control Districts have versus what is dictated by the State and the Dept. of Education.

Dr. Pattee commented this has been his worst winter in the 18 years since becoming a school administrator. He indicated the District must abide by the code and are limited by the policies and requirements of the State and Department of Education for school attendance.

Susie Hines reported that due to inclement weather Parent organization meetings have been rescheduled and Peet and Holmes Junior High will be having their variety shows.

Item No. 10 – Closed Session of the Board of Education - Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i)

Director Orvis moved and Director Hines seconded the motion that the Cedar Falls Board of Education enter into closed session to evaluate the professional competency of individuals whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session under 2011 Code of Iowa 21.5(1) (i). Directors voting in favor of the motion: Coil, Giddens, Hassman, Hines, Leeper, Orvis, and Wohlpart. Those voting "no" none. Motion carried.

Board room was cleared at 6:54 p.m.

Board entered closed session at 6:55 p.m.

Board returned to open session at 8:15 p.m.

Item No. 11 – Adjournment

Director Hassman moved and Director Giddens seconded the motion to adjourn. Directors voting in favor of the motion Coil, Giddens, Hassman, Hines, Leeper, Orvis, and Wohlpart. Those voting "no" none. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Secretary

President