

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 James L. Robinson Administrative Center, 1002 West First Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the President and the roll being called there were present James Kenyon in the chair, and the following named Directors: Jeff Hassman, Susie Hines, Susan Lantz, Jenny Leeper and Doug Shaw. Others in attendance were: Dr. Andrew Pattee, Superintendent, Douglas Nefzger, Director of Business Affairs, Dan Conrad, Director of Secondary Education, Dr. Adrian Talbot, Director of Human Resources and Pam Zeigler, Director of Elementary Education. Also in attendance: Joni Krejchi, Joyce Coil, Kris Klinehart, Sarah Eastman, Nancy Barsic, Carol Ann York, Jen Hartman, Kim Abbas, Joyce Wellhouse, Pamela Bellows, Michelle Peters, Susan Armstrong, Linda Moore, Doreen Steil, Traci Mallan, Brian Cross, Yvette Linck, Jill Brodahl, Paul farmer, Jodi Olsen, Melanie trees, Dave Deavers, Stacy Gary, Leslie Lancy-Wensman, Jim Young, Deepanee Samarakoo, Brent Maul, Jamie Castle, Rebecca Rial, Andrea Christopher, Jenna Mark Miller, Dawn AskMartin and Heidi Guse.

President Kenyon stated the mission of the Cedar Falls Community School District is to educate each student to be a lifelong learner and caring responsible citizen.

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

Director Shaw moved and Director Lantz seconded the motion the Board approve the following consent agenda.

1. Approval of the December 14, 2015 Board of Education agenda
2. Approval of the November 9, 2015 special work session and November 23, 2015 regular Board of Education meeting minutes as presented
3. Approval of the bills as presented for payment as reviewed by the designated Board member, Director Hines
4. Jesup CSD River Hills Consortium Agreement

Directors voting in favor of the motion: Hassman, Hines, Kenyon, Lantz, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 2– Public Comment:

Dave Deaver addressed the Board on the need to correct the current elementary school capacity issues. Mr. Deaver commented that the District should move forward with improvements and get out and vote. The plan has been reviewed. The financial plan for the financing proposed projects has found. The completion of the elementary school project would provide a safe and comfortable environment for students and teachers. New facilities would enable the community to be able to recruit and retain the best possible teachers throughout the State. Mr. Deaver also briefly mentioned the Cedar Falls School Foundation’s \$5,000,000 Beyond Great campaign that will provide additional funding to support other components that lead to educational greatness throughout the school district.

Item No. 3 – Secretary’s Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Nefzger reviewed the monthly balances for November 2015 in the general, schoolhouse, student activity and food service funds. President Kenyon reported that the report would be filed subject to audit.

Item No. 4 – Communications

High School Student Senate representative Michael Flanscha presented to the Board on the following activities:

- Students will be Christmas caroling at Allen Hospital on December 20, 2015.
- The dance marathon is scheduled for February 19, 2016 with a goal of raising \$2,500 towards University of Iowa Children’s Hospital.
- Other fundraising activities that in the plans during the month of December 2015
- Update on sports activities including: Girls and boys basketball, wrestling, swimming and bowling

Board members thanked Mr. Flanscha for his report.

Item No. 5 – Approval of Recommendation from District Facility Committee

District Facility Committee member Jim Moody addressed the Board. He thanked the Board for their work and support towards the facility issues throughout the District. Mr. Moody stated he appreciated the Administration bringing more information to the committee for consideration. The committee reviewed and prioritized issues and stated equity and capacity are equal and cannot be separated. The committee reviewed enrollment projections, as well as current actual enrollment data. Mr. Moody reported it is the recommendation of the District Facility Committee to go with the same facility plan that was presented to the community in June of 2015, which would include the construction of a new Pre-K through 6th elementary school and renovation and remodeling to both North Cedar and Orchard Hill Elementary buildings. The District Facility Committee voted 19 to 1 in favor of this plan. The committee recommends an April 2016 bond vote. President Kenyon and Director Leeper thanked the committee for all their work and all their efforts.

Superintendent Pattee and Mr. Nefzger reviewed the projected budget for the project. The construction costs have increased and are now estimated to be \$40,000,000. Four potential funding options for the project were reviewed, which include the issuance of general obligation bonds in the amount of \$35,000,000, \$32,000,000, \$31,000,000 or \$30,000,000 dollars. Current and future undesignated statewide one cent sales tax funds would be used to make up the difference. The Board and the administration discussed the proposed executive order that would potentially reduce the annual revenue from the statewide one cent sales tax for schools, as well as the potential of bonding against future statewide one cent sales tax revenue projects in conjunction with a general obligation property tax bond issuance.

Mr. Nefzger stated he felt it would be important that the District finance the project in such a way that would leave the most flexibility possible for the Board and the District in the future. Dr. Pattee stated it is the recommendation of the Administration to ask the community to support a \$32,000,000 general obligation bond to finance the proposed project with the remaining \$8,000,000 to come from current and future undesignated statewide one-cent sales tax receipts. Board members discussed future bonding and needs for the school district, as well as potential for additional bonding capacity through the statewide one cent sales tax fund if the 2029 sunset in place for those funds is extended. Director Hassman commented he believes the range of bonding the District and the Board needed to look at was between \$22,000,000 and \$40,000,000. He shared the belief the District should be using the capacity in funds the District has on hand first.

The conversation then focused on large future needs within the District that include:

1. Junior high school capacity
2. Need for new central kitchen
3. Bus maintenance facility
4. Classrooms at Southdale Elementary have not been remodeled since 1973
5. Certain sections of Hansen Elementary have not been remodeled since original construction in 1974. Classrooms are air conditioned very usable, but the District will need to be making improvements to those classrooms in the near future.
6. 21st century spaces for all of the schools throughout the District

Director Hassman stated that he wants to be as fiscally responsible that we can be, but making sure the bond issuance passes with flying colors, reserve the community capacity and ability to upgrade the high school in the near future, as well as giving ourselves the best chance for success. At the end of the discussion it was the general consensus to agree to move forward with funding the recommended elementary project with the \$32,000,000 general obligation bond issuance and using current and future undesignated statewide one cent sales tax dollars to complete the financing of the project.

Item No. 6 – Informational Report: Teacher Leadership Compensation TLC

Dr. Pattee provided an update on the teacher leadership compensation program (TLC). Dr. Pattee briefly reviewed the history of the TLC system, which began with the Legislative education reform process in 2013. The District's first meeting on TLC was in November 2013. The Cedar Falls Community School Board of Education submitted the application to the Iowa Department of Education for TLC funding in late October 2014. The District will receive approximately \$1,550,000 in TLC categorical funding beginning with the 2016/17 school year. The TLC committee consisted of 15 District employees who conducted a great amount of research on curriculum and educational processes. It was determined that TLC dollars will be used to fund up to 15 instructional coaches, one community Partner/STEM coordinator, and one curriculum and Professional Development coordinator. These positions will be full time contracts. In addition there will be supplemental assignments of up to 45 building technology instructional leaders, 90 building leadership teams and 30 mentor/peer coaches. The final number of positions is dependent upon TLC grant funding. Sub-committees reviewed different role descriptions process and time lines for the application and hiring process.

Mr. Conrad reviewed the next steps in the process including recruiting and advertising. According to TLC guidelines established by the Department of Education, all TLC funded employees must previously been an employee within the Cedar Falls Community School District for at least one school year. Once the new TLC positions have been filled the District will need to recruit for the replacement of those individuals. The goal of the District is to fill all TLC positions end of January 2016 with replacements for those teachers entering into the TLC positions by April 2016.

Committee member Jim Sprau commented that instructional coaches will help collaboratively with the PLC process that is in place within the District and will raise the educational bar for our students. Committee member Jim Young commented on the positive relationship between the Cedar Falls Schools administration and the Cedar Falls Education Association in putting this process together.

Item No. 7 – Approval of Board Member Resignation

The District received a letter from Board member Jim Brown. Mr. Brown was recently elected as Mayor of the City of Cedar Falls and has submitted his resignation as board member of the Cedar Falls Board of Education effective December 13, 2015. Director Hassman moved and Director Heinz seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Board member Jim Brown effective December 13, 2015. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Hassman, Hines, Kenyon, Lantz, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 8 – Discuss Board Member Replacement Process

Dr. Pattee updated the Board on the process for filling the vacancy on the Cedar Falls Community School District Board of Education.

The first option is the Board has up to 30 days after notice of the vacancy to appoint a replacement board member. Should the Board choose to move in that direction, the District will need to publish a notice of vacancy on the Board of Education. If the District were to receive a petition from the citizens of the community in excess of 30% of the number of voters that voted in the last school board election, the District will need to hold a special election to fill the vacancy. If they do not receive a petition then the Board can fill the position. That person would remain in that position until the next school election.

The second option would be to not fill the vacancy. By statute if the Board fails to appoint a replacement after 30 days, the Board Secretary is required by to call for a special election. That special election needs to take place between 60 and 70 days of the notice of the board vacancy. In this case, the special election date would be on February 16, 2016. After discussion no decisions were made, although it appeared the general consensus of the Board was to not appoint an individual to fill the vacancy at this time.

Item No. 9 – Set Public Hearing for Peet Junior High School Project

Mr. Nefzger reviewed the proposal from the City of Cedar Falls to purchase approximately 0.38 acre of land along University Avenue at the current Peet Junior High site for the upcoming University Avenue reconstruction project. The loss of the ground need for the University Avenue project will necessitate the school district to turn the current practice fields on that site from north /south to an east/west orientation. This will also require the District to regrade/retile and perform other improvements to this site. The District is currently in negotiations with the City of Cedar Falls and is working towards an arrangement that in exchange of the approximately 0.38 acre the City will need for the University Avenue project, the City would cover all costs associated with accommodating the change in practice field orientation, including retiling, regrading and water runoff improvements. A public hearing is needed in order start the process of the transfer property from the school district to the City. Director Hines moved and Director Lantz seconded the motion that the Cedar Falls Community School District Board of Education set January 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. as the date and time to hold a public hearing for the proposed sale of a portion of property located at 525 East Seerley Blvd. (Peet Junior High School). Directors voting in favor of the motion: Hassman, Hines, Kenyon, Lantz, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 10 – Approval of Southdale Elementary School 2016 Remodeling –Phase III Project Bids

Mr. Nefzger introduced Dan Channer from Struxture Architects. Mr. Channer reviewed the bids for the remodeling of two classrooms and restrooms at Southdale Elementary. A total of six bids were received and it is his recommendation to accept the low quote from Peters Construction Corporation, Waterloo, Iowa in the amount of \$429,429. This project will be funded

through the 2016-2017 Physical Plant and Equipment Levy. Director Lantz moved and Director Leeper seconded the motion to approve the low quote from Peters Construction Corporation for the summer 2016 Southdale Elementary Remodeling Project Phase III in the amount of \$429,429 as presented. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Hassman, Hines, Kenyon, Lantz, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 11 – Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Pattee reported on the following:

- Administrative Council/Board Retreat is scheduled for January 13, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.
- Christensen Grant update: The District court has approved the transfer of the Elna Christensen grant from the Cedar Falls Community School District to the Cedar Falls Community Schools Foundation. In addition to the approval of the transfer of the funds, the court did approve a redefinition of equipment and use of funds.
- Iowa School Report card: The Iowa Department of Education will be releasing the Iowa School Report card also known as Attendance Center rankings as of December 16, 2015. Dr. Pattee distributed information and reviewed talking points should community members have questions concerning the Iowa School Report card.

Item No. 12 – Questions, Comments, and Concerns

None

Item No. 13 – Adjournment

Director Leeper moved and Director Lantz seconded the motion to adjourn. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Hassman, Hines, Kenyon, Lantz, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

President

Secretary