

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 Joyce Coil in the chair, and the following named Directors: Jenny Leeper, Doug Shaw, Jim Brown, David Williams, Susan Lantz and James Kenyon. Others in attendance were: Dr. Andy Pattee, Superintendent, Douglas Nefzger, Director of Business Affairs, Dan Conrad, Director of Secondary Education, Pam Zeigler, Director of Elementary Education and Dr. Adrian Talbot, Director of Human Resources. Also in attendance were Carol Ann York, Taylor Webb, Liz Kressig and Sarah Eastman.

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

Retiring Board

Item No. 1 – Approval of September 8, 2014 Board of Education Minutes

Director Kenyon moved and Director Brown seconded the motion to approve the September 8, 2014 board minutes as presented. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Kenyon, Leeper, Williams, Coil, Lantz and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 2 – Approval of Accounts Payable

Director Leeper moved and Director Lantz seconded the motion to approve accounts payable as presented. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Kenyon, Leeper, Williams, Coil, Lantz and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 3 –Adjournment of the Retiring Board

Director Lantz moved and Director Kenyon seconded the motion to adjourn. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Coil, Leeper, Lantz, Brown, Williams, Kenyon, and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried. The old Board adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

New Board

Item No. 1 – Organizational Regular Board Meeting Call to Order

The new Board was called to order by President Coil at 7:02 p.m. and reported that we are here to focus on students and student achievement.

Item No. 2 – Determination of a Quorum

Mr. Nefzger determined that the following Directors were present: Joyce Coil, James Kenyon, Jenny Leeper, Jim Brown, Susan Lantz, David Williams and Doug Shaw. Mr. Nefzger stated seven board members were present, there is a quorum for the Board of Education and the Board may proceed to perfect the permanent organization.

Item No. 4 – Election of the President of the New Board

Mr. Nefzger distributed and collected the nomination ballots for the office of President. Mr. Nefzger counted the ballots and reported that President Coil had received all nomination ballots for the office of President. Mr. Nefzger recommended that the Board enter a motion at this time for the election of the Board President. Director Williams moved and Director Brown seconded the motion that the Board of Education cast a unanimous ballot for Joyce Coil as President of the Cedar Falls Community School District Board of Education. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Coil, Brown, Lantz, Kenyon, Leeper, Williams and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried. Mr. Nefzger then administered the oath of office upon President Coil for the office of President of the Cedar Falls Board of Education. The oath was answered in the affirmative by President Coil.

Item No. 5 – Election of the Vice-president of the New Board

Mr. Nefzger distributed and collected the nomination ballots for the office of Vice-president. Mr. Nefzger counted the ballots and announced that Director Williams received all nomination ballots for the office of Vice-president. Nefzger recommended the Board enter a motion at this time for the election of the Board Vice-president. Director Lantz moved and Director Leeper seconded the motion that the Board of Education cast a unanimous ballot for Director Williams as Vice-president of the Cedar Falls Community School District Board of Education. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Coil, Leeper, Kenyon, Lantz, Williams and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried. Mr. Nefzger then administered the oath of office upon Director Williams for the office of Vice-president of the Cedar Falls Board of Education. The oath was answered in the affirmative by Director Williams.

Item No. 6 – Adoption of Written Policies, Rules, Regulations, and Procedures

Superintendent Pattee reported that under Iowa Code 279.8 the Board of Education may establish the policies, rules, regulations, and procedures that govern the organization. Director Kenyon moved and Director Brown seconded the motion to approve the policies, rules, regulations, and procedures in place for the school district for the 2014-2015 school year. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Coil, Leeper, Kenyon, Lantz, Williams and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 7 – Approval of the Following Consent Agenda Items:

Director Williams moved and Director Leeper seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented:

1. Open enrollment report
2. Midwest Group Benefits: Cedar Falls CSD Flexible Spending Agreement

Open Enrollment Report

September 22, 2014

Luke H.S. Janmes	10 th Grade
Current resident district:	Cedar Falls
District requested:	Waverly-Shell Rock
Effective date:	2014-2015 - C
Caleb Schnell	Kindergarten
Current resident district:	Cedar Falls
District requested:	Janesville
Effective date:	2014-2015

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

Item No. 8 – Public Comment

None

Item No. 9 – Communications

Student Board member Andrew Stensland reported on the following:

- Update on homecoming week activities including the parade, coronation during halftime and the powder puff football game.
- Homecoming dance: Student attendance at the dance was higher than in other years and the dance raised over \$3,000.
- A 5K fundraiser is being planned for teacher Jamie Smith on October 11.
- Student Senate is planning for the upcoming food drive.

Dr. Pattee thanked Mr. Stensland for his leadership in high school student senate.

Item No. 10 – Approval of 2014-2015 Career and Technical Committee

Mr. Conrad provided a list of names recommended for approval for the Cedar Falls Community School District Career and Technical Committee. Mr. Conrad reported that this was a state required committee and reviewed the responsibilities of the committee. Director Lantz moved and Director Kenyon seconded the motion to approve the appointments to the Career and Technical Committee as presented. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Coil, Leeper, Kenyon, Lantz, Williams and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Luann Alemao
Jim Brown
Gayle Bruene
Scott Slee
Dave Williams
Matt Flaherty
John Bates

Dan Conrad
Adam Reilly
Brett Tjaden
Chris Wood
Dirk Homewood
Todd Ellison
Jason Wedgbury

Troy Becker
Brandy McOmber
Connie Smith
Shane Paige
Ray Beets
Jill Dobson

Item No. 11 – Informational Report: Iowa Assessments

Mr. Conrad, Director of Secondary Education and Ms. Zeigler, Director of Elementary Education reviewed the 2014 Cedar Falls Community School District Iowa Assessment results. The State of Iowa requires assessments for grades 3-8 and 11th grades. Cedar Falls Community School District assesses all students in grades 3-11. The assessment testing is administered in the spring of the school year on reading, mathematics and science. In analyzing the results, information was shared in cohort growth, which compares the percent of students in three proficiency levels (not proficient, proficient and advanced proficiency), as well as a new comparison called growth bands that compares the average individual growth within five growth band levels.

Mr. Conrad and Ms. Zeigler reported on the standard score proficiency ranges for not proficient, proficient and advanced proficiency in reading, mathematics and science. Additional data comparing Cedar Falls Community School District students with other schools in AEA 267 and the State of Iowa in the proficiency of reading, mathematics and science in grades 3-11 over the past five school years. The same comparison was done in grades 3-11 in reading, mathematics and science in simple cohort growth that compares the percentage of growth from one year to the next year for that individual grade as it progresses throughout the school district. A new comparison is growth bands where students are categorized into one of five performance levels based on National Standard Score (NSS) and the National Percentile Rank (NPR). The average growth for students within each band is compared with the expected growth of students within that band as determined by the State of Iowa. The expected growth is the realistic growth that is expected for students within that growth band. Mr. Conrad and Ms. Zeigler shared the expected growth for reading, mathematics and science for grades 3-11, as well as the actual number of students who exceeded those growth areas between grades 3rd and 4th, 7th and 8th, 10th and 11th in reading, mathematics and science.

In summary, Mr. Conrad and Ms. Zeigler reported that Cedar Falls Community School students continue to out-perform students within AEA 267 and the State of Iowa. The overall percent of non-proficient students continue to decrease in reading, mathematics and science. While there continues to be gaps in proficiency between sub-groups, the gap is shrinking. The focus on growth (simple cohort and growth bands) will allow staff to sort data and drill deeper into the data in analyzing student by student and skill by skill, as well as by class and building.

Mr. Conrad and Ms. Zeigler also provided the Board with an informational report on adequate yearly progress (AYP) for “No Child Left Behind” (NCLB). Mr. Conrad noted the following NCLB annual goals:

1. All public schools and school districts are held accountable to meet annual measurable objectives (AMOs) in reading and mathematics at grades 3-8, and 11.
2. Beginning in 2011-2012 student proficiency is based on growth for using the National Standards Score (NSS).
3. Beginning in 2011-2012, proficiency is determined through the scores achieved on the Iowa Assessments.
4. All Qualifying subgroups (racial/ethnic, SES, IEP, ELL) within the district/building are subject to the same proficiency percentages in meeting AYP.
5. Iowa NCLB Safeguards may be applied to the AMO by the state (safe harbor, biennium, triennium).
6. Adequate yearly progress also includes the other indicators
 - Exceed the state graduation rate (high School)
 - Exceed the state average daily attendance (elementary and middle schools)
 - At least 95% of all students enrolled must participate in the testing.
7. When a school or district does not meet the AMO for one year, it is referred to as not making adequate yearly progress (AYP). It is then placed on the “Watch List”. If AYP is not met for two consecutive years, the school will be labeled as a school in need of assistance (SINA)
8. Only schools receiving Title I funds are subject to sanctions for not meeting AYP for two consecutive years. Since all districts receive Title I funds, sanctions are applied if a district does not meet AYP for two consecutive years.

Mr. Conrad also noted that in the 2011-2012 school year the Cedar Falls Community School District moved to spring testing, which changed the District’s norming group.

The change to national standard scores proficiency scoring has changed for the spring testing norming group.

A standard proficient score in reading for:

- 3rd grade is 175 or greater
- 4th grade is 189 or greater
- 5th grade is 202 or greater
- 6th grade is 213 or greater
- 7th grade is 226 or greater
- 8th grade is 239 or greater
- 11th grade is 263 or greater

A standard proficient score in mathematics for:

- 3rd grade is 177 or greater
- 4th grade is 189 or greater
- 5th grade is 200 or greater
- 6th grade is 212 or greater
- 7th grade is 222 or greater
- 8th grade is 236 or greater
- 11th grade is 263 or greater

Mr. Conrad then commented on the percentage proficient for the 2013-2014 school year. The reading trajectory needs to be at the 100% percentile. This is an increase from the 94% percentile in 2012-2013. The State of Iowa requested for waiver for “No Child Left Behind” standards has still been denied.

Mr. Conrad and Ms. Zeigler provided information on the testing results from spring of 2014 in the areas of reading, mathematics and science and compared test scores from Cedar Falls Community School District with scores across the State of Iowa and within AEA 267. Based on these reports, the District was informed that no schools were considered schools in need of assistance (SINA). However, because the District was considered a school in need of assistance last year and test scores have improved, the District needs to show consistent improvement for two consecutive years before it will be taken off the school in need of assistance (SINA) list. After discussion, the Board thanked Mr. Conrad and Ms. Zeigler for their time and efforts in preparing the information for the Board.

Item No. 12 - Superintendent's Report

Dr. Pattee reported on the following:

- IASB State Convention is November 19-20, 2014
- Board meetings are scheduled for October 13 & 27, 2014
- October 13th Board meeting will include Board Committee assignments
- October 27th Board meeting will include informational reports on the Technology and Certified Annual Report (CAR)

Item No. 13– Questions, Comments, and Concerns

The Board discussed setting a work session on the next steps due to the results of the recent bond election. Dr. Pattee reported that he had traveled to Johnston Community School District. Johnston CSD voted for a similar size bond issue in 2012 that failed and a revote for a bond issue in 2014 that was approved.

President Coil reported she appreciated all board members working together this past school year. Board members then thanked President Coil for her leadership over this past school year.

Item No. 14 – Closed Session of the Board Under 21.5(1)(c) of the Iowa Code

Director Brown moved and Director Williams seconded the motion to move that the Cedar Falls Board of Education enter into closed session to review or to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation under the 2011 Code of Iowa 21.5(1)(c). Directors voting in favor of the motion: Lantz, Leeper, Coil, Williams, Kenyon, Brown and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Board room cleared at 8:38 p.m.

Board entered closed session at 8:42 p.m.

Board returned to open session at 9:02 p.m.

Item No. 15 – Approval of Board Recommendation

Director Brown moved and Director Williams seconded the motion that the Board of Education of the Cedar Falls Community School District accept the offer from Advanced Environmental Testing and Abatement, Inc. for full and complete settlement and to further approve that the law suit be dismissed with prejudice and further that we authorize the Superintendent to execute all releases and to execute the dismissal with prejudice. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Lantz, Shaw, Coil, Leeper, Williams, Brown and Kenyon. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

Item No. 16 – Adjournment

Director Kenyon moved and Director Brown seconded the motion to adjourn. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Coil, Leeper, Brown, Kenyon, Lantz, Williams and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Secretary

President