

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: Jim Brown, Jenny Leeper, and Doug Shaw. Others in attendance were: Dr. Pattee, Superintendent, Douglas Nefzger, Director of Business Affairs, Dr. Adrian Talbot, Director of Human Resources, Dan Conrad, Director of Secondary Education and Pam Zeigler, Director of Elementary Education. Also in attendance: Sarah Eastman, Dawn Ask Martin, Darrell Smith, Jill White, Tracy Johns, Monica Haag, Andrew Stensland and Liz Kressig.

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 Brown moved and Director Leeper seconded the motion to approve the following items:

1. The January 26, 2015 Board of Education agenda as presented
2. Approval of the January 12, 2015 Board of Education meeting minutes as presented
3. Approval of the bills as presented for payment as reviewed by the designated Board member, Joyce Coil
4. Open Enrollment

**Open Enrollment  
January 26, 2015**

Brandin Carlson	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Current resident district:	Cedar Falls
District requested:	Janesville
Effective date:	2014-2015 - C
Elle Carlson	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Current resident district:	Cedar Falls
District requested:	Janesville
Effective date:	2014-2015 - C
Joseph Carlson	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Current resident district:	Cedar Falls
District requested:	Janesville
Effective date:	2014-2015 - C
Nevaeh Foster	1st Grade
Current resident district:	Cedar Falls
District requested:	Waverly-Shell Rock
Effective date:	2014-2015 – C

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

Item No. 2 – Public Comment

No public comments.

Item No. 3 – Communications

Student Representative, Andrew Stensland reported on the following:

- Dance marathon scheduled for February 15, 2014: An online donation option has been set up for individuals that would like to make a contribution to the dance marathon. The group has set a goal to raise \$5,000 for the event.

Winter athletic competitions are coming to an end.

- Wrestling: Cedar Falls High School wrestling team wrestles Linn- Mar CSD on Thursday, January 28, 2015. The conference tournament is Saturday, January 31, 2015 at Dubuque Wahlert High School.
- Boys and girls basketball: The teams play Iowa City West on January 27, 2015 and Dubuque Senior on Friday, January 30, 2015.

Item No. 4 – RSP & Associates

Dr. Pattee introduced Clay Guthmiller and Ryan McKay from RSP & Associates. Mr. Guthmiller reviewed the history of RSP & Associates and their expertise on educational planning, including boundary line and enrollment studies. Mr. Guthmiller outlined the process for reviewing the District's current boundary lines with the selection of a committee to review the process, as well as holding a public forum. Mr. Guthmiller asked the Board to consider boundary line criteria. The following criteria should always be considered:

- Exceptional education must take place at every facility and in every option.
- A goal of minimizing subjective comments and rumors in order to obtain Board of Education goals and priorities, yet provide for the educational needs of these students.

Other examples of potential criteria that can be included for the committee to consider would include:

- Contiguous planning area
- Demographics
- Feeder system
- Capital considerations
- Neighborhoods
- Projected enrollments
- Transportation

Community values will need to be a part of the final criteria, including special program relocations, best use of schools, number of class sections per facility, attendance areas, etc. Conversations ensued with the Board. Questions included were on the process and community involvement, committee membership, timelines for the boundary line process, communication and transparency during the process. Board members discussed the possibility of holding a special work session to consider all the variables associated with establishing criteria for the boundary committee.

Item No. 5 – Informational Report: Student Services

Dr. Pattee introduced Jill White and Tracy Johns, Coordinators of Student Services. Ms. White and Ms. Johns presented an overview of student services throughout the District. Student Services include the following:

- Special Education
- English Language Learners
- Section 504
- Mental Health
- Alternative Program
- Early Intervention Services
- Chapter 103B
- Transition Alliance Program
- Homebound Instruction

The current special education enrollment was reviewed. The District is serving approximately 525 students from PreK-12 grades, including 56 special education teachers. A review of the special education continuum was presented including the following from least to most restrictive environments:

Medicaid Billing has become a very large part of the District's overall budget. Total Medicaid dollars have increased from approximately \$200,000 in the 2010-2011 school year to just over \$1.3 million dollars in the 2013-2014 school year.

English Language Learners (ELL): Currently the District has three ELL teachers with 84 active students and 15 students transitioning out of the program. The District is currently helping students with over 20 different languages from 30 different countries. Enrollment in the ELL program has increased dramatically from 30 students in the 2010-2011 school year to 100 students in the 2014-2015 school year.

Section 504 Plan: Physical and mental health services provided throughout the District.

Board members thanked Ms. White and Ms. Johns for their informational presentation.

Item No. 6 – Approval of the 2013-2014 School Year Audit Report

Mr. Nefzger introduced Ms. Monica Haag from Carney, Alexander & Marold, Co. Ms. Haag reviewed the summary of the independent Auditor's results reporting that this audit was an unqualified opinion and the audit did not disclose any deficiencies in internal controls or non-compliance that are material to financial statements. Ms. Haag highlighted the notes to the financial statements, required supplementary information, other supplementary information and the internal control portions of the audit. Ms. Haag expressed her gratitude and thanks to the business office for their courtesies that they offered during the audit. Director Leeper moved and Director Brown seconded the motion to approve the 2013-2014 audit report as presented. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Coil, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting "no" none. Motion carried.

Item No. 7 – Approval of Plans, Specifications and Set Public Hearing Date for the 2015 Roofing Project

Mr. Nefzger introduced Darrel Smith from Terracon Engineering. Mr. Smith reviewed the plans and specifications for the 2015 roofing project. The portion of roof scheduled to be replaced is over the bus garage, warehouse and bakery areas of the Central Services building. The original roof is a standing metal roof that was installed approximately 50 years ago. The District will take two bids on two options. The base bid will be for replacing the standard metal roof with a new metal roof and option B would be to cover the existing metal roof with a single ply 30 year rubber roof. The total budget including contingency for the project is \$149,668. This project will be funded through the 2015-2016 Physical Plant and Equipment Levy. Director Leeper moved and Director Shaw seconded the motion that the Cedar Falls Community School District Board of Education approve the proposed plans, specifications, proposed form of contract, and set February 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. as the date and time to hold a public hearing for the 2015 roofing project. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Coil, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting "no" none. Motion carried.

Item No. 8 – Approval of School Bus Bids

Mr. Nefzger reviewed the school bus bids received for the purchase of two 84 passenger transit school buses for the 2015-2016 school year. After review of the two bids it was the recommendation of the administration to accept the bid from Thomas Bus Sales of Des Moines, Iowa at a total cost for both busses after trade in of \$160,692. The District is also requesting to replace a wheel chair bus. Two bus bids were received and it is the recommendation of the Administration to accept the bid from School Bus Sales of Waterloo, Iowa at a total cost after trade in of \$98,384. The bid from School Bus Sales is \$2,079 higher than the bid from Thomas Bus Sales. The Thomas bus uses a different brand of passenger seating, does not have front air ride suspension and does not meet the minimum axel load requirement for the front axle of the school bus. After discussion, Director Brown moved and Director Leeper seconded the motion to approve the bid from Thomas Bus Sales for the purchase of two 84 passenger school buses in the amount of \$160,692 after trade and one wheel chair bus at a cost of \$98,384 after trade, as presented. The buses will be funded through the 2015-2016 Physical Plant and Equipment Levy. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Coil, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting "no" none. Motion carried.

Item No. 9 – Informational Report: World Language Update

Dr. Pattee provided an update of the expansion of a world language program throughout the District. Dr. Pattee reviewed the process of the world language committee, the different schools the committee visited and the best practice that should be used if expanding the program. The committee took the "end in mind" process when making the decision concerning the world language program and is recommending to expand down to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2015-2016 school year. This top down expansion does allow a flexibility to expand the program in the future and is considered a first step in a long term plan to expand world language into the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and elementary grades in the future. The Board discussed with Dr. Pattee the possibility of expanded use of technology to help the world language program, the speed at which the program would move into 7<sup>th</sup> grade and the elementary grades, as well as a review of required courses in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The Board also discussed the pros and cons of an eighth period school day at the junior high level.

Item No. 10 – Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Pattee reported on the following:

Calendar Waiver: Provided an update on the guidance of all Districts throughout the State of Iowa have received on the 2015-2016 calendar waiver from the Department of Education.

Attendance Center Rankings: Dr. Pattee informed the Board that attendance center rankings will be available to the public on January 30, 2015. This is a searchable data base website that will share growth and proficiency rates for all schools in Districts throughout the State of Iowa.

Dr. Pattee announced that the Cedar Falls Community School District is the 22<sup>nd</sup> District across the United States that is designated a Professional Learning Community (PLC) model school district. Cedar Falls is the third District in the State of Iowa to receive this designation. This is an annual qualification program in order to maintain status or placement on the model PLC list. More information concerning the District’s PLC inclusion can be found at [www.allthingsplc.info](http://www.allthingsplc.info).

Dr. Pattee announced Director of Business Affairs, Doug Nefzger has been nominated and awarded the 2015 Financial Superstar Award by the Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier and will be featured in the March issue of Cedar Valley Business Monthly.

Item No. 11 – Questions, Comments, and Concerns

The Board discussed the potential of lengthening the current school day if the District’s application for early start waiver is rejected.

Director Leeper reminded the Board the Cedar Heights PTO meeting is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and the Southdale PTO meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2015.

President Coil informed the Board of a Legislative forum that will be held on January 30, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. at AEA 267. The UEN Lobby Day is scheduled for February 24, 2015 in Des Moines.

Item No. 12 – Adjournment

Director Brown moved and Director Leeper seconded the motion to adjourn. Directors voting in favor of the motion: Brown, Coil, Leeper and Shaw. Those voting “no” none. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The Board then entered into a negotiation strategy session

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Secretary

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President