

Independence Community School Board Minutes
Regular Meeting
December 16, 2013

A regular meeting of the Independence Community School Board was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Chairperson Brian C. Eddy at the Administration Building, Independence, Iowa

Members Present: Chairperson Brian C. Eddy, Shelly Whited, Heather Meador and Eric Smith

Members Absent: Rusty Donnelly

Superintendent Absent: Jean Peterson

Board Sec./Treas. Present: Lynnette Engel

Visitors Present: Interested Patrons

1. Friends of Education:

1-A. Independence Light and Power – Mrs. Sornson thanked Independence Light and Power, Telecommunications for the \$47,624.00 rebate for using the New Construction Design Assistance Program.

1-B. Women’s Auxiliary – Dr. Blaisdell thanked the Women’s Auxiliary for donating \$100 Walmart gift cards to East and West Elementary.

1-C. First Presbyterian Church – Dr. Blaisdell thanked the First Presbyterian Church for donating winter weather items to East Elementary.

1-D. Hi-Crew Kiwanis – Mrs. Merritt thanked the Hi-Crew Kiwanis for donating dictionaries for the 3rd grade students at West Elementary.

1-E. Shalom Circle – Immanuel Lutheran Church – Mrs. Merritt thanked the Shalom Circle from Immanuel Lutheran Church for donating winter coats, boots and snow pants to East and West Elementary.

2. Spotlights on Education:

2-A Kyle Zieser – Mrs. Sornson recognized Kyle Zieser for placing 5th at the 2013 Special Olympics State Bowling Tournament. Kyle was coached by Stephanie Yonkovic.

2-B. Girls Volleyball – Mr. Arnold recognized the Independence girls volleyball team for qualifying for the 2013 State Volleyball Tournament. Congratulations went to Ashley Cappel, Katelynne Coonrad, Paige Davis, Mandi Felan, Brittney Fuller, Suzi Grover, Alyssa Hawkins, Chloe Henningsen, Megann Kinseth, Shelby Lehman, Stephanie McMillan, Sarah Morkel, Kaitlin Niedert, Karlie Niedert, Jenna Price, Hope Staker and Paige Stoner. The team was

coached by Joe Schmitz, Angie Jenkins and Jess Chesmore. Shelby Lehman was also recognized for being named 2nd Team All-State and Coach Schmitz was honored for being named 2013 WaMac (West Division) Coach of the Year.

2-C. All-State Musicians and Opus Honor Choir – Mr. Arnold recognized the following students for being named All-State Musicians. Mickayla Burk, Devan Cummins and Aunna Marzen were selected for All-State Band and Madison Diesburg was selected for All-State Choir. These students are coached by David Lang and Roger Barloon. Ryan Adams and Jenessa Barloon were selected for the 28th Annual Iowa Opus Honor Choir. They were coached by Roger Barloon and Christian Heasley.

3. Consideration of Action on Consent Items:

Motion Smith, second Whited to approve consent items 2-A, 2-B, 2-C, 2-D and 2-E with corrections to 3-A and 3-B. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

3-A Approval of Minutes Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on November 18, 2013 and the special session on December 9, 2013 (with a correction showing Eric Smith joined the meeting at 12:02).

3-B Approval of Agenda (With a correction to delete the closed session.)

3-C Approval of Board Policies

Second Readings:

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	501.9*	Student Absences - Excused
2.	502.1	Student Appearance
3.	502.2	Care of School Property/Vandalism
4.	502.3	Use of Bicycles
5.	502.4	Use of Motor Vehicles
6.	502.5	Freedom of Expression
7.	502.6	Student Complaints and Grievances
8.	502.7	Student Lockers

First Readings:

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	502.8	Weapons
2.	502.9	Smoking – Drinking – Drugs
3.	502.10, 502.10E1 and 502.10R1	Search and Seizure, Search and Seizure Checklist, Search and Seizure Regulation
4.	502.11	Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies
5.	503.1 and 503.1R1	Student Conduct and Student Suspension
6.	503.2	Expulsion
7.	503.3, 503.3E1 and 503.3R1	Fines – Fees – Charges, Fee Waiver Application and Student Fee Waiver and Reduction Procedures
8.	503.4	Good Conduct Rule
9.	503.5	Corporal Punishment

3-D Transfers/Reassignments

NAME	PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT	NEW ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Mark Geertsma	Junior High Boys Basketball Coach	Junior High Boys Basketball Numbers Coach	\$2,160	12/10/2013
Brandon Krusey	Junior High Boys Basketball Numbers Coach	Junior High Boys Basketball Coach	\$2,160	12/10/2013

3-E New Hires

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Spencer Karr	Junior High Boys Basketball Coach	\$1,800	12/10/2013

3-G Approval of Financial Reports – Motion Smith, second Whited to approve the financial reports. All voted “aye”. Motion carried 3-0. Eddy abstained.

4.ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

4-A Comments From the Public: No community members addressed the Board.

4-B Mr. Smith attended the School Board Convention in Des Moines and sat through some very informative sessions regarding school safety and creative teaching techniques. Mrs. Meador gave an update on the playground committee. She also attended the 5th and 6th grade choir concert and thought it was amazing in the new auditorium. She has also been impressed with the great turn out for the boys and girls basketball games. Mrs. Whited reminded everyone of the Mustang Foundation Dinner being held on January 25th. Tickets are still available through Susan Johnson. Students competed at the Junior High Honor Band in Vinton. The High School concerts have been phenomenal and Travis and the students have done an excellent job. Mr. Eddy updated the Board that the East and West Elementary committees have met as well as the turf and tennis court committee. More information will be presented at the January board meeting.

4-C Independence FFA Chapter presented to the Board a review of their experiences at the National FFA Convention. This presentation was moved to the beginning of the meeting to accommodate for scheduling conflicts.

5. Reports

Building Administrators, Activities Director, School Improvement/Curriculum Director, Technology Director, Food Service Director and Transportation/Buildings and Grounds employees reported on their respective buildings or areas of assignment.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6-A Architectural Proposals for Bus Garage Project

Discussion was held by the board regarding the architectural proposals received from Usher Architecture, LLC and HSR & Associates, Inc. for the proposed new bus garage project.

6-B Selection of Architectural Firm for Bus Garage Project

Motion Smith, second Meador to approve Usher Architecture, LLC as the architectural firm for the bus garage project contingent on Usher Architecture accepting the district's desired project timeline. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

6-C Memorandum of Agreement with Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa

Motion Meador, second Smith to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

6-D Iowa Wesleyan College Agreement for Cooperation in Student Teaching, Teacher Aiding, Observation, Tutoring and Education Methods Classes.

Motion Smith, second Whited to approve the Iowa Wesleyan College Agreement for Cooperation in Student Teaching, Teacher Aiding, Observation, Tutoring and Education Methods classes. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

6-E Awesome School Shows Educational Agreement/Invoice

Motion Smith, second Meador to approve the Awesome School Shows Educational Agreement/Invoice. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

6-F Junior-Senior High School Early Graduation Applicants

Motion Whited, second Meador to approve the Junior-Senior High School early graduation applicants. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

6-G Agent of Record Transfer Request – Group Policy

Motion Smith, second Whited to approve the Agent of Record Transfer Request – group policy. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

6-H Updated Board Goals and Action Plan

Motion Smith, second Whited to approve the updated board goals and action plan. All voted “aye”. Motion carried.

6-I Employee Severance Plans

The Board discussed whether to consider offering an employee severance plan this year. The consensus of the Board was for the administrative team to put together a proposal with figures for the Board to discuss and consider at the January meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Smith, second Whited to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 p.m. All voted “Aye.” Motion carried.

Brian C. Eddy
Chairperson

Lynnette Engel
Board Sec./Treas.