

Independence Community School Board Minutes
Regular Meeting
December 19, 2011

A regular meeting of the Independence Community School Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson Brian C. Eddy at the Administration Office, Independence, Iowa.

Members Present: Chairperson Brian C. Eddy, John Christensen, Stacy Henderson, Rusty Donnelly and Eric B. Smith

Superintendent Present: Jean Peterson

Board Sec./Treas. Present: Lynnette Engel

Press Present: John Klotzbach, "Independence Bulletin Journal"

Visitors Present: Interested Patrons

1. Friend of Education

1-A Val Maximovich, mentoring coordinator, thanked Independence Light & Power, Telecommunications for their donation to the Independence Schools Mentoring Program.

1-B Mrs. Merritt thanked Buchanan County ISU Extension and Outreach for their donation of pencils to the students of the District.

1-C Mrs. Merritt thanked the Shalom Circle from the Immanuel Lutheran Church for their donation of hats, gloves, coats and snow pants to the students of the District.

1-D Mrs. Merritt thanked Elizabeth Luebbers for donating ice pack covers to East and West Elementary and book bags for the backs of student chairs for two classrooms.

2. Spotlight on Education

2-A Mrs. Sornson recognized and honored seven Independence High School students for being named All-State Musicians. Devan Cummings, Jasmine Fischels, Whitney Schommer and Austin Wright were selected for All-State Band and Rachel Barloon, Hannah Butler and Madi Diesburg were selected for All-State Choir. These seven musicians were selected to be in the 2011 Iowa High School All State Concert held Saturday, November 19th in Ames. She also recognized their sponsors David Lang and Roger Barloon.

3. Consideration of Consent Items:

Motion Smith, second Christensen to approve the following consent items 3-A, 3-B, 3-C, 3-D, 3-E, 3-F and 3-G. With Correction to the November 21st minutes to show Rusty Donnelly attending the IASB convention, not Eric Smith. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

3-A Approval of Minutes of the regular meeting on November 21, 2011 and the special session on November 30, 2011.

3-B Approval of Agenda

3-C Approval of Board Policies (all policies may be reviewed in the Admin. Building)

Second Readings:

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	405.1	Licensed Employee Defined
2.	405.2	Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection
3.	405.3	Licensed Employee Individual Contracts
4.	405.4	Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts
5.	405.5	Licensed Employee Work Day
6.	405.6	Licensed Employee Assignment
7.	405.7	Licensed Employee Transfers
8.	405.8	Licensed Employee Evaluation
9.	405.9	Licensed Employee Probationary Status
10.	405.10	Licensed Employee Organization Affiliation

First Readings:

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	406.1	Licensed Employee Salary Schedule
2.	406.2	Licensed Employee Salary Schedule Advancement
3.	406.3	Licensed Employee Continued Education Credit
4.	406.4	Licensed Employee Compensation for Extra Duty
5.	406.5	Licensed Employee Group Insurance Benefits
6.	406.6 & 406.6E1	Licensed Employee Tax Shelter Programs and Letter to Collective Bargaining Representative
7.	407.1	Licensed Employee Resignation
8.	407.2	Licensed Employee Contract Release

3-D Transfers/Reassignments

NAME	PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT	NEW ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Diane Shonka	East Elem 5.75 Sp Ed Assoc	JSH 7.5 hr Sp Ed Assoc	12/05/2011
Brenda Zimmerly	West Elem 4 hr Food Service	West Elem 5.75 hr Food Service	12/01/2011

3-E New Hires

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Melissa Appleby	East Elem 2.0 hr Dishwasher/Food Service Assistant	\$8.75/hr	12/7/2011

3-F Resignations

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Kathy Eilers	East Elem 6.5 hr Special Education Associate	12/21/2011

3-G Approval of Financial Reports

1. Approval of Bills ó Director Henderson will have reviewed the bills
2. Vendor Report
3. Board Report
4. Budget Report

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

This time is reserved for patrons and Board members to speak to items not on the agenda and to request to speak to any items on the current agenda.

Mr. Smith ó Attended the artist showcase at the public library. Commented how nice it was to see some our local Junior/Senior High School students art on display. He also attended both the 5th-6th grade band concert and the elementary Christmas concert. He appreciates all the work the teachers put in to make these events happen. He reminded the community the Sunday Trivia Night to be held on January 15th at Billø Smokehouse. All proceeds will benefit the new Junior/Senior High Facility. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Mr. Christensen attended the Junior/Senior High vocal concert and enjoyed listening to the music.

Ms. Peterson reported that her and Mrs. Engel attended a two day ISFLC conference in Des Moines on financial health analysis. She also read öThe Polar Expressö to the Kindergarten classes last Friday and really enjoyed her time back in the classroom.

Mr. Eddy reported that he attended the Mentor meal put together by Val Maximovich at the Junior High where mentors waited on the children during lunch periods. It was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Presentations:

Ms. Dietzenbach and Ms. Elzey gave a presentation to the Board about the öX-Read Programö they are teaching at the Junior High School. This is the third year for the program and it is designed to help children that are below the 50% ranking on their ITBS scores with extended reading time and strategies.

Mrs. Merritt also presented to the Board regarding student data and the No Child Left Behind Act. She is working on a format to help publicly communicate the numbers behind the data and what drives those figures.

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. OLD BUSINESS

6-A New Junior-Senior High School Facility

Discussion was lead by Architect, Brad Simonson of HSR Associations. Mr. Simonson presented an updated drawing of the site plan. More detailed talks will begin in January 2012 regarding the site plan. The Board gave Mr. Simonson the öthumbs upö for the final physical location of the new building.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7-A Changes in GLE's

Motion Smith, second Donnelly to approve to delete the 3rd grade LA GLE, LA3.08, which states "The student will develop cursive writing and incorporate it in reading and writing." We are also seeking approval to delete the 4th grade math GLE, MA.04.08 which states "Students will gather and organize data to construct graphs and evaluate the data." Finally we are also seeking approval of the 6th grade math GLEs as presented to the board in the November and December board packets. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7-B Junior-Senior High School Early Graduation Applicants

Motion Christensen, second Henderson to approve three additional seniors for early graduation. They will graduate in January of 2012, at the end of 2nd term, if they have earned the required fifty-four (54) credits. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7-C Mustang Foundation Auction Items

Motion Christensen, second Smith to approve the Mustang Foundation's request to auction off four free passes as part of a package with four reserved seats to all home sophomore/varsity football games in 2012 and a Family Activity Pass for 2012-2013 at the Foundation Banquet on January 21, 2012. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7-D Employee Severance Plans

Motion Donnelly, second Christensen to approve the Licensed and Classified Employee Early Retirement Plan Policies (Policies 407.3, 407.4, 413.2 and 413.3). I am requesting the Board waive the second readings of these policies. Henderson, Donnelly, Christensen and Eddy voted "aye", Smith voted "nay". Motion carried 4-1.

7-E Solvency Ratio Policy

Motion Smith, second Christensen to approve new Policy 703.3, Recommended Solvency Ratio. I am requesting the Board waive the second reading of this policy. All voted "aye". Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Smith, second Henderson to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

Brian C. Eddy
Chairperson

Lynnette Engel
Board Sec./Treas.