Independence Community School Board Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
February 22, 2010

A regular meeting of the Independence Community School Board was called to order at 6:43 p.m. by Chairperson Dawnye Sturtz in the Administration Office, Independence, Iowa.

Members Present: Chairperson Dawnye Sturtz, Vice-President Charlie McCardle (arrived at 8:50 pm), Director Kathryn Jensen, Director John Christensen (left at 9:45 pm), Director Stacy Henderson

Superintendent Present: Devin Embray

Board Sec./Treas. Present: Charmaine Wickwire

Press Present: Steven Smith ÒThe NewsÓ  
John Klotzbach ÒIndependence Bulletin JournalÓ

Visitors Present: Interested Patrons

**SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION**

Jake Freeman was recognized and honored for his work on an inspirational assignment for Real Living class which resulted in a video ÒParkersburg TragediesÓ On behalf the district, the Board of Education would also like to thank teachers John Neil and Teresa Nennig for helping Jake with this project.

Dustin Toale was recognized and honored for being a finalist in the Iowa State Bar AssociationÓYoung Lawyers Division ÒKnow Your Constitution ProjectÓ DustinÔs teacher, Joel Dinger, was also recognized by the Board of Education on behalf of the district.

The following students were recognized for being selected to participate in OPUS Honor Choir: Rachel Barloon, Mitch Ciesielski, Devan Cummings, Sydney Embray, Hayden Reynolds, and Peter Thedens. Teachers Roger Barloon and Tim Purdum were thanked for their assistance with these students.

The following students were recognized for their participation in the All State Festival in Chorus: Hannah Butler, Mari Butler, Luke Crawford, Kasey Domer and Christopher Kurt. The following students were recognized for their participation in the All State Festival in Band: Kayla Fleming, Christian Junker, Whitney Schommer and Kristin Thompson. Teachers Roger Barloon and David Lang were thanked for helping the students in their All State Festival preparation.
FRIEND OF EDUCATION
The First Presbyterian Church was thanked for their donation of school supplies to West Elementary.

CONSIDERATION OF ACTION ON CONSENT ITEMS

4-A APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion Christensen, second Jensen to approve the January 14, 2010 Special Session, the January 18, 2010 Work Session, the January 18, 2010 Public Hearing, the January 18, 2010 Regular Meeting, the January 27, 2010 Special Session, and the February 8, 2010 Public Meeting. All voted "aye."

Motion Henderson, second Jensen to approve the following Agenda Items B, C, D, and E. All voted "aye."

4-B APPROVAL OF AGENDA with the amendment to replace the words "Girls Track Coach" with "Girls Tennis Coach" in Item D.

4-C APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICIES

Second Reading Approvals
802.5 Buildings & Sites Adaptation for Persons with Disabilities
802.6 Parking
802.7 Vandalism
802.8 Energy Conservation
802.9 Contract for Maintenance Services
803.1 Disposition of Obsolete Equipment
803.2 Lease, Sale or Disposal of School District Buildings and Sites
803.3 Vacant Facilities
804.1 Facilities Inspections
804.2 Warning System & Emergency Plans
804.3 First Aid
804.4 Facilities Security
804.5 Employee Safety Inservice
804.6 Bomb Threats
804.7 Asbestos Containing Material

First Reading Approvals
900 Principles and Objectives for Community Relations
901.1 Public Examinations of School District Records
901.2 Board of Directors and Community Relations
902.1 News Media Relations
902.2 News Conferences and Interviews
902.3 News Releases
902.4 Students and the News Media
902.5 Employees and the News Media
902.6 Live Broadcast or Videotaping

4-D NEW HIRES
Amanda Bock Asst. Var. Girls Tennis Coach $2,967 2/23/10
Joe Schmitz Head Var. Volleyball Coach Cat 8, Step 8 7/1/10
Scott Soukup Head Var. Boys Track Coach $2,810 2/23/10

4-E RESIGNATIONS
Dan Lawless Asst. Var. Girls Soccer Coach 1/29/10
Loren Pink Asst. Var. Softball Coach 2/11/10

4-F TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS – CERTIFIED STAFF
Motion Christensen, second Henderson to terminate the following staff as a result of budgetary decisions for the 2010-2011 school year:

Jason Drucker, High School Science
Sonia Himlie, Early Childhood Center Four Yr. Old Preschool
Brian Loughren, East Elementary Physical Education
Byron Reeder, High School Math
Amanda Sedlacek, High School Spanish
Lori Simon, West Elementary Fifth Grade
Kathy Thein, High School Special Education
Rachel Thomsen, Buchanan County Success Teacher

Roll Call Vote: Henderson voted "aye," Jensen voted "aye," Christensen voted "aye," Sturtz voted "aye." Motion carried 4-0.

4-G TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS – CLASSIFIED STAFF
Motion Christensen, second Jensen to terminate the following staff as a result of budgetary decisions for the 2010-2011 school year:

Rick Alber, High School Custodian
Jeanne Bachmann, Middle School .5 FTE Secretary
Stewart Bagley, Middle School Custodian
Cynthia Barenz, East Elementary Media Associate
Nichole LaMarsh, ECC Special Education
Pamela O' Loughlin, West Elementary/Middle School Medical Assistant

Roll Call Vote: Henderson voted "aye," Jensen voted "aye," Christensen voted "aye," Sturtz voted "aye." Motion carried 4-0.

4-H APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS
Motion Henderson, second Christensen to approve the financial reports. All voted "aye."
Director of Finance Wickwire noted the following:

The earlier reported $138,132 deficit for the FY09 Special Education balance is now certified as a positive $5,046.

The request to the SBRC for authority to cover the elimination of Phase I was declined for lack of sufficient exhibit.

The second half of the preschool funding has been cut 7% by the state.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
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.

Sandy Merritt, West Elementary Principal/District Curriculum Director, reported on student, parent, and teacher surveys.

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

OLD BUSINESS

TERMINATION OF ADMINISTRATOR
Motion Christensen, second Henderson to approve the contract termination of Activities Director Steve Kalous due to budgetary decisions for the 2010-2011 school year.

Roll Call Vote: Henderson voted Ñye, Jensen voted Ñye, Christensen voted Ñye, Sturtz voted Ñye. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

2010-2011 SCHOOL CALENDAR
Motion Christensen, second Jensen to approve the 2010-2011 School Calendar. All voted Ñye.

BUCHANAN COUNTY SUCCESS CENTER GRADUATE
Motion Jensen, second Henderson to approve an early graduation student from the Buchanan County Success Center. All voted Ñye.

RENEWAL OF SOCCER CONTRACT
Motion Christensen, second Jensen to approve the renewal of the existing cooperative program agreement with East Buchanan for boys and girls soccer for the 2010-2011 school year which includes 2011 summer activities. All voted Ñye.
FUND RAISING REQUESTS

Motion Christensen, second Jensen to approve the following fund raising requests. All voted “aye.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION OF EVENT</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>START UP COSTS</th>
<th>TARGET AMOUNT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Musical</td>
<td>Sell T-Shirts for $11-$13 in school</td>
<td>Musical T-Shirts for the cast and crew</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>03/15/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Elementary</td>
<td>Recycling dumpster to be placed at Wal-Mart</td>
<td>Raise money for projects, field trips, track and field day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Library</td>
<td>Sell withdrawn books from the library for $1.00 - $2.00</td>
<td>Recoup some of the money spent to purchase them for new books</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>02/16/2010 through 05/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Elementary 1st Grade; Mrs. Reidy’s Class</td>
<td>Collect pop cans and do odd jobs for parents to collect money</td>
<td>Symbolically adopt an orca whale to support whale research</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>03/01/2010 through 03/31/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Student Council</td>
<td>Sell Winter Dance Tickets for $7.00</td>
<td>Donate half of profit to Haiti earthquake victims</td>
<td>$75.00 to print tickets at Copy Works</td>
<td>$800 to split between Haiti and Student Council</td>
<td>Week of 02/22/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Boys Soccer</td>
<td>Sell sponsorship, name on poster and program</td>
<td>Raise money for jerseys, poster, balls, and other equipment</td>
<td>$1,000 - $3,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>02/23/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Elem Principal’s Advisory Council (Student Council)</td>
<td>Voluntary donations for a movie being shown in the building</td>
<td>Provide financial support to the Red Cross (Haiti)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Month of March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Football Team</td>
<td>Sell raffle tickets for $2.00 for 2 half hogs &amp; processing and 42” TV (all donated)</td>
<td>Raise money to purchase computer software and new head sets for sidelines</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>When tickets are printed through 04/30/2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Director McCardle arrived at the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

A recess was taken from 8:59 to 9:10 p.m.
CONSIDERATION OF RETIREMENT PACKAGE
Motion Jensen, second Henderson to reopen the severance package to all 2009-2010 employees, ignore the Rule of 88 clause, give employees a ten day window beginning Feb. 23 to make a decision, and not reopen a severance package for the 2010-2011 year. Future severance packages past 2010-2011 will be based on the financial needs of the district.

Henderson voted nay, Jensen voted yea, Christensen voted nay, McCardle voted yea, Sturtz voted yea. Motion carried 3-2.

EAST ELEMENTARY AND NEW HIGH SCHOOL
Three entities have approached the district with an interest in East Elementary. Supt. Embray is to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the board’s review. Any interested entities are to complete the RFP for the board’s consideration.

A meeting is set for Thursday, March 4, 2010 to hold a work session with the architects to discuss the facility options that are available to us as we look at a 7-12 configuration for the high school.

Director Christensen left the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

FARM LAND RENT
Motion Henderson, second Jensen to open negotiations with the current renter for the land owned by the school. All voted yea.

SNOW MAKE-UP DAYS
With the possibility of missing more days, the board may consider lengthening the school day or scheduling Saturdays to lessen the time in June. Superintendent Embray plans to survey staff and parents on this issue. Currently, the district has missed 6 days with June 1, 2010 the last student day.

RENAME ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Discussion was held suggesting that the Board of Education consider renaming West Elementary and the Middle School (the new East and West Elementary buildings). This will be placed on a future agenda for a final decision.

ADJOURNMENT
Motion Henderson, second Jensen to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. All voted yea.

Dawnye Sturtz
Chairperson

Charmaine Wickwire
Secretary