A Public Meeting was held at 4:00 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. on February 8, 2010 in the School Administration Office, 1207 First Street West, Independence, Iowa.

Steven Smith, “The News” and “John Klotzbach, “The Bulletin Journal were present representing the press. Several interested patrons were also in attendance.

Gary Buress, Gary Waters and Joel Dinger were present on behalf of the ITA’s (Independence Teachers’ Association) negotiations team. Brandi Klima and Shelly Staker were not present, but were identified as part of the 2010-2011 ITA team.

The ITA presented their initial negotiation proposal to the Board of Education negotiations team. The proposal was accepted by Superintendent Devin Embray and Director of Finance Charmaine Wickwire. Ray & Associates will be conducting negotiations on behalf of the Board of Education along with Superintendent Embray and Director of Finance Wickwire. Stacy Henderson, Board of Education Director will observe.

The ITA’s proposal consisted of Master Contract language changes to Article VII, Payroll Deductions; Article X, Duration; Article XI, Wages and Salaries D-1 Pay Periods and D-4 Direct Deposit; Article XII Supplemental Pay E – Curriculum Pay; Article XIII, Insurance; Article XV B – Leave for Immediate Family Illness; Article XXIV, Staff Reduction C-Procedure and E – Recall; Appendix B, Salary Schedule and Appendix C – Supplementary Schedule.

In addition, the ITA proposed an increase in the regular base salary of $962 (based on an adjusted base salary for 09-10 of $33,338 and the new multipliers) along with the previously asked for increase in insurance to equal a total package increase of 5.93% and a teaching base salary of $34,300. The ITA is open to altering the increases in insurance contributions and base salary, depending upon the amount of the actual insurance increase.

Full disclosure of the proposal may be reviewed in the superintendent’s office.

Charmaine Wickwire
Secretary
Devin Embray
Superintendent