

Independence Community School Board Minutes
Regular Meeting
January 16, 2012

A regular meeting of the Independence Community School Board was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chairperson Brian C. Eddy at the Administration Office, Independence, Iowa.

Members Present: Chairperson Brian C. Eddy, John Christensen- by phone, 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 Mrs. Merritt thanked Lynda Fiester and the First Presbyterian Church for their donation of hats, mittens and gloves to the students at East Elementary.

1-B Mrs. Merritt thanked Gina Trimble and the Independence Rotary Club for donating I Can Read DVDs to all Kindergarten students at East Elementary

2. Consideration of Consent Items:

Motion Smith, second Henderson to approve the following consent items 3-A (with a correction to the December 19, 2011 regular meeting minutes), 3-B (with an amendment to remove 7E from the agenda), 3-C, 3-D, 3-E, 3-F and 3-H. Mr. Christensen, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Smith all voted "aye". Mr. Eddy abstained from the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

2-A Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on December 19, 2011 (with a correction), the work session on December 19, 2011 and the work session on January 5, 2012.

2-B Approval of Agenda

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

First Readings:

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	411.8*	Classified Employee Probationary Status (I am requesting the Board waive the second reading of this policy.)
2.	407.5	Licensed Employee Suspension
3.	407.6	Licensed Employee Reduction in Force
4.	408.1	Licensed Employee Professional Development
5.	408.2	Licensed Employee Publication or Creation of Materials
6.	408.3	Licensed Employee Tutoring
7.	409.1	Licensed Employee Vacation ó Holidays ó Personal Leave
8.	409.2	Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave
9.	409.3, 409.3E1, 409.3E2, 409.3R1 & 409.3R2	Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave, Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave Notice to Employees, Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave Request Form, Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave Regulation and Licensed Employee Family and Medical Leave Definitions

2-D Transfers/Reassignments

NAME	PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT	NEW ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Nichole LaMarsh (Recall)	West Elem 5.75 hr Special Education Student Associate	East Elem 5.75 hr Special Education Student Associate	01/03/2012
Carol Smith (Recall)	East Elem 5.75 hr Special Education Student Associate	JSH 7.0 hr Regular Education Student Associate	01/03/2012

2-E New Hires

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Beckie Andersen	East Elem 2.5 hr/day, 3 days/wk After School Assoc	\$8.75/hr	02/06/2012
Susan Palmer	East Elem 2.5 hr/day, 3 days/wk After School Assoc	\$8.75/hr	02/06/2012
Tami Corbin	East Elem 6.5 hr Special Education Associate	\$8.75/hr	01/09/2012
Loren Pink	Jr High Boys Basketball Numbers Coach ó 8th Grade	\$2,034	01/06/2012
Sue Ann Raymond	East Elem After School Interventionist Teacher	\$18.98/hr	02/06/2012

2-F Resignations

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Stewart Bagley	West Elementary 8.0 hr Custodian	01/06/2012
Bill Duffy	Head Football Coach ó Grades 9-12	01/09/2012

2-G. Termination of Contract – Classified Staff

Motion Smith, second Christensen to approve the termination of Cheryl Close pursuant to board policy 411.8 effective December 21, 2011. Roll call vote: Donnelly - aye, Eddy ó aye, Henderson ó aye, Smith ó aye and Christensen ó aye. Motion carried 5-0.

2-H 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

3. 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. Henderson attended the recent Booster Club meeting. School Spirit Week will be held the week of January 23rd with multiple events available for students/staff and community members to attend. The alumni basketball tournament will be held on February 4th.

Mr. Smith attended the Advanced Culinary Class presentations with Superintendent Peterson. He was impressed with everything that was included in those presentations.

Mr. Eddy cleared up an earlier statement about making decisions on what to do if the new project bids come in lower than budgeted. Even though property tax relief is still top on the his list, he clarified that we will have to wait until the entire project is completed before knowing for sure whether the project truly did come in under budget. He also recently attended a girls basketball game that went into double overtime. He felt it really showed the great strides that program has been making.

Superintendent Peterson agreed with Mr. Eddy regarding the basketball team as well as Mr. Smith and the Advanced Culinary Class presentations. She also shared with the board copies of the Governor's new Education Platform that was recently released and stressed to them the importance of them knowing what is getting proposed and how it might affect our district.

Presentations:

Mrs. Brown, 4th grade teacher and students, Landry Jones and Brooklyn Arnold, presented to the board the interactive science journals they use in class. The students brought their copies with them and went around to the board members to show them what was in them and how they use them in their studies.

Ms. Whitaker, 6th grade teacher and student, McKenna Wilson, showed the board how they use digital story-telling to help with learning spelling words. An example story was shown to the board.

Mrs. Merritt provided the board the results from the annual teacher/parent/staff surveys. At the request of the board, she will be discussing the results in more length at the February board meeting.

4. 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.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5-A New Junior-Senior High School Facility

Mr. Eddy, Mr. Smith and Superintendent Peterson travelled to Wisconsin last week to meet with HSR & Associates regarding the new Jr/Sr High School. They have asked the company to meet certain timelines to keep the project on schedule to open August 2013. The board discussed the status of using a geothermal well system vs. a hybrid system. Mr. Eddy noted that the board will need to make a decision on the HVAC system and certain interior design decisions prior to the initial bid letting.

5-B Board Goals

The board reviewed the five goals they created at the last work session. They set a February 1, 2012 work session date to finalize the goals by creating the steps, measurements and targets associated with each new goal.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6-A 2012-2013 School Calendar

The public hearing for the proposed calendar will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. at the Administration Building. The calendar committee consists of administrators, teachers and parents.

6-B Travel Request - Speech

Motion Smith, second Donnelly to approve the speech team to travel to Minneapolis, MN in March of 2012 for the Speech field trip. The team will be leaving Friday, March 2, 2012 and returning Sunday, March 4, 2012. All voted aye. Motion carried.

6-C Buchanan County Success Center Early Graduation Applicants

Motion Smith, second Donnelly to approve the two early graduation applicants from the Buchanan County Success Center. All voted aye. Motion carried.

6-D Fusion Forward Contract

Motion Christensen, second Henderson to approve the contract for marketing and public relations with Fusion Forward, LLC. All voted aye. Motion carried. Mr. Eddy abstained from the vote due to a 5% ownership in the company.

6-E Removed from Agenda

6-F Disney Destinations Agreement

Motion Smith, second Henderson to approve the agreement with Disney Destinations as part of the 2012-2013 Band/Choir trip to Florida. All voted aye. Motion carried.

6-G Cooperative Agreement with Iowa State University

Motion Smith, second Donnelly to approve the agreement with Iowa State University to be a clinical placement site for students. All voted aye. Motion carried.

6-H Agreement with Grosh Scenic Rentals

Motion Henderson, second Donnelly to approve the agreement with Grosh Scenic Rentals for the Spring Musical backdrops. All voted aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Smith, second Donnelly to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Brian C. Eddy
Chairperson

Lynnette Engel
Board Sec./Treas.