

Independence Community School Board Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
May 18, 2015

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 Building, Independence, Iowa

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

Members Absent: Rusty Donnelly

Superintendent Present: Jean Peterson

Board Sec. /Treas. Present: Lynnette Engel

**1 FRIENDS OF EDUCATION**

**A. Iowa School Board Recognition Month**

Superintendent Peterson honored our current Board of Directors for their time, resources and energy in helping make our district the best it can be.

**B. First Presbyterian Church**

Dr. Blaisdell thank the First Presbyterian church for donating clothes to the nurse's office at East Elementary.

**C. Scott Kinseth**

Mr. Hupke thanked Scott Kinseth for promoting outdoor activities for the students at West Elementary.

**D. Joe Olsen**

Mr. Hupke thanked Joe Olsen for taking time to read to Ms. Luke's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom this year.

**E. Jim Roper**

Mr. Hupke thanked Jim Roper for showing students at West Elementary that learning is fun.

**F. Bart Campbell**

Mr. Hupke thanked Bart Campbell for his generous donation that was used to purchase lunch and dessert for the Math Bee students while participating at the State Math Bee.

**2 SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION**

**A. Ava Blaker**

Dr. Blaisdell recognized 1<sup>st</sup> grader, Ava Blaker for placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Old Creamery theatre Kids Writing Contest. Ava's story, "Tree Library" was selected for a skit in the Old Creamery theatre play that was performed for students of East and West Elementary. Special thanks went to Mega Rawlins for sponsoring Ava.

#### B. Iowa Reading Association Creative Writing and Poetry Contest

Dr. Blaisdell, Mr. Hupke and Mr. Howard recognized seven students for reaching the state level for the Iowa Reading Association Creative Writing and Poetry contest.

Poetry Contest State Qualifiers included:

- Aila Anderson, 3rd Grade – West Elementary – Placed 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Sydney Schwartz, 4th Grade – West Elementary
- Courtney Kelly, 6th Grade – West Elementary – Placed 1st
- Dominic Black, 7th Grade – Junior-Senior High School – Placed 2nd
- Josie Fischels, 9th Grade – Junior-Senior High School – Placed 1st
- Shane Eder, 11th Grade – Junior-Senior High School – Placed 1st
- Lily Neumann, 12th Grade – Junior-Senior High School – Placed 1st

Creative Writing Contest State Qualifier included:

- Garret Hoglan, Kindergarten – East Elementary
- Ava Blaker, 1st Grade – East Elementary
- Ryan Goldenstein, 3rd Grade – West Elementary
- Lily Giddings, 5th Grade – West Elementary
- Jazlyn Smith, 6th Grade – West Elementary – Placed 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Holly Cooksley, 8th Grade – Junior-Senior High School

Special thanks also went to Jackie Berryhill and Megan Rawlins for sponsoring the students.

#### C. Future Problem Solving

Mr. Hupke recognized the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Future Problem Solving Team for placing 5<sup>th</sup> for their packet and 6<sup>th</sup> for their skit at the Future Problem Solving State Bowl. The team included Jazlyn Smith, Molly Rothman, Jacob Elzey and London Stoner. A special thanks went to Jackie Berryhill for sponsoring these students. .

Mr. Howard also recognized the high school Problem Solving Team for qualifying for the Future Problem Solving State Bowl. The team included Cecily Corkery, Denver Studebaker, Michael Meyer and Lauren Jimmerson. Special thanks went to Megan Rawlins for sponsoring the students.

#### D. Battle of the Books

Mr. Howard recognized Grace Bertelli, Cindy Huang, Regan Liss, Kirstie Martina and Karlie Michael for finishing 14<sup>th</sup> at the Iowa High School State Battle of the Books Competition. Special thanks went to Megan Rawlins for sponsoring these students.

#### E. Math Bee

Mr. Hupke recognized Spencer Campbell, London Stoner, Jacob Elzey, Cameron Ridder and alternate Tyler Osborne for qualifying for the State Math Bee. Special thanks went to Jackie Berryhill for sponsoring these students.

#### F. National Merit Scholars

Mr. Howard recognized Adam Goedken and Ross Thedens for being recognized as Nation Merit Scholars.

#### G. Borlaug Scholar for World Food Prize

Mr. Howard recognized Brynn Martin as a Borlaug Scholar for World Food Prize. Special thanks also went to Rachael Emig and Megan Rawlins for sponsoring Brynn.

#### H. FFA

Mr. Howard recognized the FFA students on their contest achievements this year.

Competing in Sub-District Contest:

- Conner Horn, Greenhand Quiz, Bronze
- Tristan Schminkey, Chapter Test, Bronze
- Leah Rosauer, Individual Ag Sales, Bronze
- Syd Etten and Eric Lympus, Chapter Program, Silver

Competing in District Contest:

- Conner Horn, Greenhand Quiz, Bronze
- Haylee Lau, Chapter Website, Silver

Competing in State Contest were:

- Leah Rosauer, Chapter Display, Bronze
- Jarret Orr and Conner Horn, Greenhand Quiz, Bronze
- Emily Robinson, Haylee Lau and Syd Etten, Ag. Communications, Gold 2nd place overall.

Proficiency Awards:

- Eric Lympus, Diversified Ag Production, Silver
- Leah Rosauer, Beef Production, Gold

Thanks also went to Rachael Emig for sponsoring these students.

- 3 **CONSIDERATION OF ACTION ON CONSENT ITEMS** – Motion Meador, second Smith to approve consent items A-F. All voted “aye”. Motion carried.

A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on April 20, 2015 and the minutes from the special meeting on May 8, 2015.

B. Approval of Agenda

C. Approval of Board Policies

**Second Readings:**

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	900	Principals and Objectives for Community Relations
2.	901.1	Public Examination of School District Records
3.	901.2	Board of Directors and Community Relations
4.	902.1	News Media Relations
5.	902.2	News Conferences and Interviews
6.	902.3	News Releases
7.	902.4	Students and the News Media
8.	902.5	Employees and the News Media
9.	902.6	Live Broadcast or Videotaping
10.	903	Other Intradistrict Relations

**First Readings:**

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	904.1	School – Community Groups
2.	904.2	Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
3.	904.3 and 904.3E1	Visitors to School Districts Buildings & Sites and Volunteer Interest Information
4.	904.4	Public Conduct on School Premises
5.	904.5 and 904.5R1	Distribution of Materials and Distribution of Materials Regulation
6.	905.1	Transporting Students in Private Vehicles
7.	905.2	Advertising and Promotion
8.	906.1 and 906.1E1	Community Use of School District Facilities & Equipment
9.	906.2	Tobacco/Nicotine-Free Environment

D. Resignations

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Erin Blasberg	West Elementary Special Education Teacher	05/26/2015
Matt Haddy	Head Boys Basketball Coach	04/21/2015
John Johnson	JSH Special Education Teacher	05/26/2015
Chris Juhl	Prom Advisor	05/26/2015
Jason Lang	JSH Science Teacher	05/26/2015
Mary Meister	West Elem 8.0 hr Custodian	06/30/2015
Stephanie Sheldon	BCSC 7.0 hr/3days/week Sp Ed Para	05/20/2015
Craig Warmuth	Bus Garage 3.5 hr Bus Driver	05/19/2015
Tammy Warmuth	Bus Garage 4.25 hr Bus Driver	05/19/2015

E. Transfers/Reassignments

NAME	PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT	NEW ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Tara Anderson	West Elem 3rd Grade Teacher	East Elem 2nd Grade Teacher	BA Step 1	08/26/2015
Kim Chesmore	Interim Dir of Transportation/ Assist Dir of Bldg & Grnds	Director of Transportation/ Assist Dir of Bldgs & Grnds	TBD	07/01/2015
Liola Ciesielski	PK4 4.0 hr Secretary	PK4/ECC 8.0 hr Secretary	TBD	08/11/2015
Julie Flickinger	East Elem 2nd Grade Teacher	East Elem 1st Grade Teacher	BA+30 Step 15	08/26/2015
Lonnie Hammond	Assist Boys Basketball Coach	Assist Girls Basketball Coach	Cat 7 Step 11(2)	Fall 2015
Michelle Kuper	JSH 5.0 hr Custodian	West Elem 5.0 hr Custodian	TBD	07/01/2015
Mary Meister	West Elem 8.0 hr Custodian	West Elem 4.0 hr Custodian	TBD	07/01/2015
Karen Sherrets	West Elem 3.5 hr FS Worker	West Elem 3.0 hr FS Worker	TBD	08/28/2015

F. New Hires

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Kimberly Hennings	JSH 3.0 hr Dishwasher/Food Service Worker	TBD	08/28/2015
Amanda Sedlacek	BCSC Summer School Teacher	\$27.19/hr	06/08/2015
Matt Shannon	JSH Science Teacher	BA Step 3	08/25/2015
Angela Webb	BCSC 4.0 hr Summer School Para	\$11.85/hr	06/08/2015

G. Termination of Contracts – Classified Staff – Motion Smith, second Meador to approve the termination of contract for classified staff due to inability to perform job duties for the 2015-2016 school year. Roll call vote: Smith – aye, Meador – aye, Whited – aye and Eddy – aye. Motion carried 4-0.

Fayla Cannon, JSH 7.0 hr. special education paraprofessional

H. Approval of Financial Reports – Motion Smith, second Whited to approve the financial reports. All voted “aye”. Motion carried.

1. Approval of Bills
2. Vendor Report
3. Board Report
4. Budget Report

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS and PRESENTATIONS**

4 A. Comments from the Public. No one from the public requested to speak.

B. Comments from the Board/Superintendent

Mrs. Whited chaperoned the recent JH band to Adventureland where they won the best overall 2A band award. She was extremely impressed and proud of the behavior of the students. Mrs. Meador recently attended the wonderful graduation ceremonies and also thanked the many students and coaches involved with all the activities throughout the school year. Mr. Smith enjoyed seeing the

passionate staff helping our students reach their goals at the Buchanan County Success Center graduation. He also recently attended commencement, the National Honor Society induction and the FFA banquet. Mr. Eddy also attended both graduation ceremonies as well as the Dollars for Scholars awards ceremony. Superintendent Peterson thanked the administrators and secretaries for putting on a wonderful graduation ceremony. She also recently attended the Silver Cord recognition breakfast and the Dollars for Scholars awards ceremony.

#### C. Presentations

1. Mrs. Budzine and Mr. McBride reported to the board the huge success the HOPE group had with bringing in the Church Basement Ladies performance of The Last Supper to the Junior-Senior High School. They presented a check for \$400 to the District for the mentoring program and a check for \$500 for the AV Tech Club.
2. Ben Kelly, Jacob Burns and Brian Smith showed and explained the Virtual Reality Educational Pathfinders course they are currently taking with Mrs. Rawlins.
3. Dr. Blaisdell, Mr. Hupke and Mr. Howard presented their respective buildings' Iowa Assessment Information and student learning goals for the 2015-2016 school year.
4. Dr. Blaisdell, Mr. Hupke and Mr. Howard presented their respective buildings' bullying and harassment prevention goals for 2015-2016.

A recess was taken from 7:55-8:02 PM

#### **5. REPORTS**

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

#### **6. OLD BUSINESS**

- 6A. Independence Community School District Trademark License Agreement  
Motion Smith, second Meador to approve the Independence Community School District trademark license agreement. All voted "aye". Motion carried.
- 6B. Agreement for Participating in the Prairies to Schools Program  
Motion Meador, second Whited to approve the agreement for participating in the Prairies to Schools program. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

#### **7. NEW BUSINESS**

- 7A. Virtual Reality Educational Pathfinders (VREP) Course for Elective Credit for 2015-2016  
Motion Smith, second Meador to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.
- 7B. Agreement for Food Services Operations between Kidsville and ICSD for 2015-2016  
Motion Smith, second Whited to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.
- 7C. Statewide 4 Year Old Voluntary Preschool Contract with Independence Community School District and Wee Care for 2015-2016  
Motion Meador, second Whited to approve with a change to list Title instead of Name for contact. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7D. Statewide 4 Year Old Voluntary Preschool Contract with Independence Community School District and St. John's for 2015-2016.

Motion Meador, second Whited to approve with a change to list Title instead of Name for contact. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7E. Statewide 4 Year Old Voluntary Preschool Contract with Independence Community School District and Kidsville for 2015-2016.

Motion Meador, second Whited to approve with a change to list Title instead of Name for contact. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7F. Tri-County Contracted Services Renewal Agreement for 2015-2016.

Motion Smith, second Whited to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7G. Title 1 Statement of Agreement for 2015-2016.

Motion Meador, second Whited to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7H. Title 1 Compact for 2015-2016.

Motion Smith, second Meador to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7I. Title 1 Compact for 2015-2016.

Motion Smith, second Whited to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7J. Camp Ewalu Ropes Challenge Course Contract for 2015.

Motion Smith, second Meador to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7K. Travel Request Form – Administrators Attending the Professional Learning Communities at Work Workshop in Minneapolis, MN.

Motion Meador, second Whited to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7L. 2015-2016 Independence Teachers' Association Master Contract.

Motion Smith, second Meador to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7M. Approve Bullying/Harassment Prevention Goals for 2015-2016.

Motion Smith, second Whited to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7N. Approve Student Learning Goals for 2015-2016.

Motion Whited, second Meador to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7O. Approve Special Education Plan for 2015-2016.

Motion Meador, second Whited to approve. All voted "aye". Motion carried.

7P. Closed Session

Motion Smith, second Whited to enter into closed session as provided in Section 21.5(1)(e) of the Iowa Code; To discuss whether to conduct a hearing to determine

whether to suspend or expel a student. Roll call vote: Whited – aye, Smith – aye, Meador – aye and Eddy – aye. Motion carried 4-0. Entered into closed session at 8:27 p.m. Came out of closed session at 9:21 p.m.

7P. Motion Smith, second Meador to accept the administration’s recommendation to expel the student for the 2015-2016 school year. Prior to re-entering in the 2016-17 school year, the student must complete the administrators’ recommendations as well as administration will present the board with a reentry plan and statement from professionals for final board approval prior to reentry. Roll call vote: Whited – aye, Smith – aye, Meador – aye and Eddy – aye. Motion carried 4-0.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Meador, second Whited to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m. All voted “aye.” Motion carried.

Brian C. Eddy  
Chairperson

Lynnette Engel  
Board Sec. /Treas.