

**Independence Community School Board Meeting**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 15, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Independence Community School Board was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Eric Smith at the Administration Building, Independence, Iowa on January 15, 2018.

Members Present: Chairman Eric Smith, Brian C. Eddy, Kim Hansen, Jennifer Sornson and Gina Trimble.  
Superintendent Present: Jean Peterson  
Board Secretary: Laura Morine

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
  - A. Call to Order
  
2. FRIENDS OF EDUCATION
  - A. United Auto Workers Local 838 – for donating Presidential Calendars for the school buildings.
  
  - B. Presenting the American Flag at our Mustang Football Games - Roger Allen, Jim Lawler, Glen Mills, Bob Hughes, Don Shonka, Tom Short, and Mike Smock for presenting the American Flag at our Mustang Football games.
  
  - C. First United Methodist Church of Rowley – for donating hats, mittens and gloves to West Elementary students.
  
3. LIVE THE MUSTANG WAY EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION
  - A. Successful is the person who gives his/her best always. We would like to recognize the following employees for Living the Mustang Way:
    1. Brook Carey: going above and beyond in leading the After School Intervention Program at the JSH, both students and staff benefit from how much heart she puts into the program
    2. Christine Juhl: showing kindness by going out of her way to help a student at the JSH obtain clothing and other personal items
    3. Lonnie Hammond: taking time to arrange to have a guest speaker come to the JSH so the students could have the opportunity to share this positive experience
    4. Andria Anderson: being warm and friendly to students, parents, and guests when they come to the JSH making it a better place because of the time and energy she puts into her job
    5. Sherry Stevens: being friendly and welcoming to all who enter the JSH and having a positive attitude and willingness to help out whenever she is needed
    6. Rick Alber: taking the time to connect and build a relationship with a student at the JSH and making a positive impact on education
    7. Becky West: being kind and flexible and having a positive attitude that contributes to productive solutions in order to best meet student needs in the West Media Center

8. Cindy Michels: being a caring, dedicated person who encourages students to participate in activities while playing with good sportsmanship and positive teamwork at East Elementary
9. Shirley Cocking, Linda Hanna, Joyce Prentice, Wendy Schoenfield, and Angie Williams: being patient and friendly with students and making sure they get all their fruits and veggies in East's cafeteria

4. **CONSIDERATION OF ACTION ON CONSENT ITEMS**

Motion by Hansen, second by Eddy to approve items 4A-D. Motion carried unanimously.

A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on December 18, 2017, the work session on December 18, 2017, and the special meeting on January 8, 2018.

B. Approval of Agenda

C. Approval of Board Policies (\*changes noted)

**Second Readings:**

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	603.7 and 603.7R1	Teaching About Religion and Teaching About Religion Regulation – Religious Holidays
2.	603.8 and 603.8R1	Academic Freedom and Teaching Controversial Issues
3.	603.9	Global Education
4.	603.10	Citizenship
5.	603.11*	Summer School Instruction

**First Readings:**

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	603.5*	Physical Education
2.	604.1	Private Instruction
3.	604.2	Individualized Instruction
4.	604.3	International Study
5.	604.4	Program For Talented and Gifted Students
6.	604.5	Program For At-Risk Students
7.	604.6	Religious-Based Exclusion From a School Program

D. New Hires (*pending acceptable background checks*)

Motion

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Justin Putz	JH Boys Basketball Numbers Coach	\$2,096	01/02/2018

E. Approval of Financial Reports - Moved by Sornson, second by Trimble to approve the financial reports. Smith, Trimble, Sornson and Hansen voted "aye", Eddy abstained. Motion carried 4-0.

1. Approval of Bills – Director Sornson reviewed the bills
2. Vendor Report
3. Board Report
4. Budget Report

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS and PRESENTATIONS**

A. Comments from the Public. None

B. Comments from the Board/Superintendent. Trimble reported she had attended the Coaches vs Cancer game and what a fun evening and a great way to support the community. She also heard that Heather Stewart did a great job speaking to the students. Hansen also enjoyed the Coaches vs. Cancer tribute. She would publicly like to thank Carly and Sophie Michael for their work with Champ's Cupboard. Eddy wanted to acknowledge the volunteers that work in the concession stand as they put in a lot of long hours. Eddy reported that he hears a lot of positive feedback on our facilities, even after three years. Thanks to Jenny Reuther for all the work she does for the concession stand. Also, thanks to Rick Alber for the long hours and hard work on the facilities. Smith reported he will be going to the "Day on the Hill" the end of January to meet with legislators to encourage timely funding, 1.5% increase in new monies and also transportation funding. Supt. Peterson hopes the legislators stick with at least 1.5% increase in funding. She has also been trying to keep ahead of schedule with the weather.

### C. Presentations

1. Junior-Senior High Class Proposals for 2018-2019 – Garry Anderson and Erin Burmeister presented the two classes that the SIAC had approved. Earth Science for two credits and Child Development for one college credit.
2. Counseling Updates – Shalon Frye, Brandon Drew and Christie Litterer presented their quarterly update.
3. LAU Plan (English Language Learners) – Erin Burmeister presented the LAU plan to the board.

## 6. REPORTS

### A. Building Administrator Reports

1. Junior-Senior High School Principal
2. Junior-Senior High School Assistant Principal
3. West Elementary Principal
4. East Elementary/Early Childhood Center Principal

### B. District Director Reports

1. Activities Director Report
2. Director of School Improvement Report
3. Director of Technology Report
4. Director of Food Service Report
5. Director of Buildings & Grounds Report
6. Director of Transportation Report

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Superintendent Search Update – Smith and Morine gave an update on the search process. The candidates were narrowed down and phone interviews will take place January 22<sup>nd</sup> during a closed session. The final candidates will interview in the District on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Trent Grundmeyer said this was the best candidate pool he had ever seen.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Junior-Senior High School Class Proposals for 2018-2019 – Hansen moved to approve the Earth Science as a 2 credit course and Child Development as a 1 credit course with Hawkeye College credit. Eddy second, motion carried 5-0.

B. Travel Request Form – Sornson moved to approve the out of state travel in January, March, and April, 2018 for Brandon Drew and students to Blaine, New Ulm, and Champlin, MN for Destination Imagination Training and Competition. Hansen second, motion carried 5-0.

C. Hawkeye Community College Textbooks - John Howard and Shalon Frye discussed how the cost of textbooks for the college classes keeps increasing. Many districts require students co-enrolled in college classes to purchase their textbooks. Trimble moved to discontinue paying for college textbooks beginning Fall 2018. Eddy second, motion carried 5-0.

D. Employee Severance Plans – Board discussed the employee severance plan. Eddy moved to revise Board Policies 407.3 and 407.4. Licensed Employee Early Retirement Plan to pay 75% of the certified base salary with a 40/60 split between a HRA/Special Pay Plans and to revise Board Policies 413.2 and 413.3 Classified Employee Early Retirement Plan to pay 50% of their contract amount with it all going to a Special Pay Plan. Sornson second, motion carried 5-0.

9. ADJOURNMENT. Eddy moved to adjourn, second by Hansen. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

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Eric B. Smith  
Board President

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Laura Morine  
Board Secretary