

**Independence Community School Board Meeting
Regular/Annual Meeting
November 18, 2019**

The regular/annual meeting of the Independence Community School Board was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair Eric Smith at the Administrative Office, Independence, IA and the pledge of allegiance was recited. Board members attending: Eric Smith, Kim Hansen, Brian Eddy, Jennifer Sornson and Gina Trimble. Along with Superintendent Russell Reiter and Board Secretary Laura Morine, Admin/Directors: Howard, Hupke, Burmeister, Reed, Donnelly, Noyes, Putz, Harbargh and Chesmore.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA– Trimble moved to approve the agenda. Sornson second, motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDERATION OF ACTION ON CONSENT ITEMS – Eddy moved to approve consent items A-D. Hansen second, motion carried 5-0.

A. Approval of the minutes of the work session on October 21, 2019 and the regular meeting on October 21, 2019.

B. Approval of Resignations

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Samantha Ofstad	Assist Girls Basketball Coach	11/06/2019
Cole Trimble	.5 FTE Assist Softball Numbers Coach	11/04/2019
Brenda Zimmerly	West Elem 5.75 hr Cook/FS Worker	10/31/2019

C. Approval of Transfers/Reassignments

NAME	PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT	NEW ASSIGNMENT	SALAR Y	DATE
Wendy Noe	West Elem 3.0 hr Dishwasher/FS Worker	West Elem 5.5 hr Cook/FS Worker	\$10.55/hr	11/04/2019

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

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Cassidy Bendickson	East Elem 5.5 hr Sp Ed Para	\$10.10/hr	10/24/2019
Gail Burlage	West Elem 3.0 hr Dishwasher/FS Worker	\$10.10/hr	11/18/2019
Jenna Cooksley	Assist Boys Tennis Coach	\$2,771	03/16/2020
Sue Hogan	JSH 5.5 hr Cook/FS Worker	\$10.10/hr	11/11/2019
Bryce Ridgon	Assist Boys Basketball	\$2,873	11/18/2019

E. Approval of Financial Reports – Sornson moved to approve for financial reports. Trimble second. Supt. Reiter reported to the board that there has been an issue with the Independence Light & Power bill and still working out the details. Motion carried 4-0 with Eddy abstaining

1. Bills – Director Sornson reviewed the bills
2. Vendor Report
3. Board Report
4. Budget Report
5. Financial Settlement Statement as of June 30, 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS and PRESENTATIONS

A. Comments from the Community – None.

B. Comments from the Board/Superintendent – Eddy congratulated the band on their performance at BOA and also congratulations to the football and volleyball teams for successful seasons. Eddy

indicated that he hopes to stay involved in the district. Sornson indicated she had done walk throughs at East and West Elementary and saw lots of use of technology. She will give a further update at a later time. Trimble attended the joint city, county and school meeting as well as the fall choir concert. She also congratulated the football and volleyball teams on their great seasons. Hansen congratulated those students that made Allstate Honor Band and attended the Bands of America (BOA). She indicated there are a lot of great things going on in the district. Thanks to the Lang's, Fisher's and Paul Upmeyer on all their work with the band. Hansen thought the fall play was outstanding. Smith indicated that the School Board Convention is this week and if the Administrators or Directors had any vendors that the board members should check out while they were there to let them know. Smith will attend the Delegate Assembly and the board's legislative priorities were pretty much in line with the state's legislative priorities. Superintendent Reiter was a chaperone for the BOA trip and was impressed by the band's performance and the band members represented the district and community very well. The Iowa Big program is looking at spring for another session with a minimum of 4 local companies. Jesup and East Buchanan will also be invited to participate in Iowa Big. A new Salary Compensation Advisory committee will have their first meeting on December 2nd to look at different compensation models. The ISASP scores go out to parents this week. Overall the school's scores were better than expected but there is room for improvement. A work session is set for December 5th to look at school finance and a potential building project. Certified enrollment is not yet completed but it is getting closer as the Dept of Education continues to work out their kinks with the system.

C. Presentations

1. Iowa Statewide Assessment for Student Progress (ISASP) – Erin Burmeister. The test results came back from the tests taken last April. These test scores can't be compared to any other type of tests the students have taken in the past and these scores will be considered our baseline scores. The administration and staff are starting to analyze the results and make plans on moving forward. The ISASP test will be taken again this spring.

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 – Kim Chesmore will become an Iowa delegate for the National Congress of School Transportation in May 2020.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Canvass of Board Election from November 5, 2019 – Secretary Morine presented the canvass from the election. Trimble moved to accept the canvass, Eddy second, motion carried 5-0.
- B. Comments from Outgoing Board Member(s) and Recognition of their service. Retired Superintendent Jean Peterson personally thanked Brian Eddy for his service to the Independence Community School District as they served 6 years together. She credits Eddy for his

organizational skills to help get the bond passed for the JSH building and sports complexes. Sornson appreciated Eddy's efforts and support in getting an ag program started in the district during his tenure. Trimble thanked Eddy for being a great mentor to her as a newer board member. Hansen thanked Eddy for all he has done for the district and for mentoring her as well. She hopes he continues to be involved in the district. Smith recalls that Eddy was part of the People for Progress Group 15 years ago as well as part of the TEAM group to get the new JSH school built. He thanked Eddy for all his time and efforts. Eddy said it was a privilege to be on the board and his mission when he moved back to town was to improve the facilities as he had three children attending in the district. He was proud how everyone works together. There has been significant growth in the solvency ratio as well as stronger relationships built between the administration, staff and board. Thank you, Brian Eddy, for your eight years of service to the district as a board member and your stints as Board President. We know you are strong supporter of our school and community.

AJOURNMENT OF RETIRING BOARD and ANNUAL MEETING. Eddy moved to adjourn the annual meeting. Hansen second, motion carried 5-0 and meeting adjourned at 6:17 pm.

Eric Smith, Board President

Laura Morine, Board Secretary