

**Independence Community School Board Meeting  
Public Hearing, Regular Meeting and Exempt Session  
April 20, 2020**

**Public Hearing**

A public hearing was held electronically via Zoom for public comment due the guidance from Iowa Governor Reynolds, on April 20, 2020 beginning at 6:05 pm. The meeting was also streamed live on the district’s Facebook page. Members attending electronically: Eric Smith, Kim Hansen, Matt O’Loughlin, Jennifer Sornson, Gina Trimble, Superintendent Russell Reiter and Board Secretary Laura Morine. Admin and guests also joined the meeting. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public hearing was for the Issuance of Approximately \$10,000,000 Sales Tax Bonds. No public comment.

Trimble moved to adjourn the public hearing, Sornson second. Motion carried 5-0 and public hearing ended at 6:12 pm.

**Regular Hearing**

The regular meeting of the Independence Community School Board was held electronically via Zoom and on Facebook Live. The meeting was called to order at 6:12 pm by Chair Eric Smith on April 20, 2020. Members attending: Eric Smith, Kim Hansen, Matt O’Loughlin, Jennifer Sornson, Gina Trimble, Superintendent Russell Reiter, Board Secretary Laura Morine as well as administrators and guests.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – O’Loughlin moved to approve the agenda. Hansen second, motion carried 5-0.

**CONSIDERATION OF ACTION ON CONSENT ITEMS** – Trimble moved to approve consent items 3A, 3B, 3C and 3E. Hansen second, motion carried 5-0.

Hansen moved to approve 3D, Trimble second the motion. There were discussions that the board wasn’t aware of the new 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teaching position, prior to seeing the hire on the board agenda. Supt. Reiter responded that the need for an additional 2<sup>nd</sup> grade section had been discussed at several meetings over the last year. The position was added in a manner as he had added positions in his previous districts. Motion carried 5-0.

A. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on March 17, 2020, the special meeting on March 20, 2020, the public hearing and special meeting on March 30, 2020, and the special meeting on April 6, 2020.

B. Approval of Board Policies (\*changes noted) **Second Readings:**

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME
1.	214.1	Board Meeting Agenda
2.	214.2 -Rescinded	Order of the Regular Board of Directors’ Meeting- Rescinded
3.	214.3	Consent Agendas
4.	215	Public Participation in Board Meetings
5.	215.1	Public Complaints
6.	216	Public Hearings
7.	217.1	Board of Directors and Superintendent
8.	217.2	Board of Directors and Employees
9.	217.3	Board of Directors and Adjoining District Board of Directors
10.	217.4	Board of Directors and Area Education Agency
11.	217.5	Board of Directors and Elected Officials
12.	218 and 218E1	Board of Directors’ Record and Board Meeting Minutes

	POLICY #	POLICY NAME – Cont.
13.	219.1	Association Membership
14.	219.2*	Board of Directors’ Member Development and Training
15.	219.3	Board of Directors’ Member Compensation and Expenses
16.	219.4	New Board of Directors’ Member Orientation
17.	219.5	Activity Passes for Board Members
18.	220	School Visitation by Board of Directors
19.	221	Gifts to Board of Directors
20.	222	Negotiations

### C. Approval of Resignations

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Bryce Pierce	JSH Health and PE Teacher	End of 2019-2020 School Year
Bryce Pierce	.5 FTE Strength and Conditioning Coach	End of 2019-2020 School Year
Bryce Pierce	Assistant Football Coach	End of 2019-2020 School Year
Bryce Pierce	Head Girls Basketball Coach	End of 2019-2020 School Year
Bryce Pierce	Assistant Track Coach	End of 2019-2020 School Year
Kristin Pierce	Assistant Girls Basketball Coach	End of 2019-2020 School Year
Vicki VanLaningham	Bus Garage 4.0 hr Bus Driver	End of 2019-2020 School Year

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

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	SALARY	DATE
Chris Harbaugh	JSH Professional School Counselor	TBD*	8/17/2020
Hayley Krogh	East Elem 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher	TBD*	8/17/2020
Danielle Miller	East Elem Special Ed Teacher	TBD*	8/17/2020
Matt Miller	Head Baseball Coach	\$5,079	05/04/2020

\*Pending 2020-2021 Negotiations

### E. Approval of Financial Reports

1. Bills – Director Hansen reviewed the bills
2. Budget Report

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS and PRESENTATIONS**

A. Comments from the Public – No comments were received via email

B. Comments from the Board/Superintendent – Smith shared his sadness that the Senior class wasn’t able to finish out their senior year with all of their activities. The whole board agreed with that and O’Loughlin commented that we need to remain positive through this. Supt. Reiter also expressed disappointment that we were not able to finish out the school year as we had in previous years. The district administration team reviewed the options available for educating our students and decided on offering voluntary learning opportunities to the students and feels we are on the right path for our students. Burmeister reported that there was 49% participation district wide however, there were a few teachers that hadn’t reported their participation numbers for the JSH. At the May 5<sup>th</sup> board

meeting there will be more information on the 2020 graduating class. A device pickup time has been scheduled for East/West students that need a Chromebook or IPAD to participate in the voluntary learning opportunities. The district will be purchasing a dozen hotspots to provide to some families that don't have internet access along with a couple of months of service. Also working with Independence Light and Power to provide service for those students in Independence. The teachers and administrators are trying to identify who needs internet access. With so many unknowns for next year, the FY 20-21 school calendar may need to be revamped.

## **REPORTS**

### **A. Building Administrator Reports**

1. Junior-Senior High School Principal - Principal Howard is having a zoom meeting with a few parents of seniors to discuss options for graduation. The prom sponsors are also looking to see if there are alternative dates that might work.
2. Junior-Senior High School Assistant Principal
3. West Elementary Principal and 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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Consider Amendment of the March 20, 2020 Resolution: Pandemic Response and Emergency Suspension of Policy to Continue Hourly Non-Exempt Employees on Paid Administrative Leave Until the End of Fiscal Year 2020 School Year. – Hansen moved to approve the amendment to the March 20, 2020 Resolution. Trimble second, motion carried 5-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Consider Approval of the Canvass of Votes for the Revenue Purpose Statement from March 3, 2020 – Receive and File. Hansen moved to approve the Canvass of Votes for the Revenue Purpose Statement. Sornson second, motion carried 5-0.

B. Consider Approval of the Engagement Letter with Piper Sandler & Co. (Placement Agent) – Trimble moved to approve the Engagement Letter with Piper Sandler & Co. O'Loughlin second, motion carried 5-0.

C. Consider Approval of the Engagement Letter with Ahlers & Cooney (Bond Counsel) – Trimble moved to approve the Engagement Letter with Ahlers & Cooney. Sornson second, motion carried 5-0.

D. Consider Approval of the Offering Terms of the School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2020. O'Loughlin moved to approve the Offering Terms of the School Infrastructure Sales, Service and Use of Tax Revenue Refunding bonds, Series 2020. Trimble second. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Consider Approval of the Offering Terms of the General Obligation School Refunding Bonds, Series 2020. Trimble moved to approve the Offering Terms of the General Obligation School Refunding Bonds, Series 2020. Hansen second, motion carried 5-0.

F. Consider Approval of Resolution Supporting the Proposed Issuance of Approximately \$10,000,000 Sales Tax Bonds. Sornson moved to approve the Use of Offering Term for Issuance of Approximately \$10,000,000 Sales Tax Bonds. Trimble second, motion carried.

G. Consider Approval of the Cooperative Sharing Agreement with Cedar Falls Community Schools for Men's and Women's Swimming for 2020-2021. O'Loughlin moved to approve the Cooperative Sharing Agreement with Cedar Falls Community Schools for Men's and Women's Swimming for 2020-2021. Sornson second, motion carried 5-0.

H. Consider Approval of the AEA Purchasing Agreement for 2020-2021. Sornson moved to approve the AEA Purchasing agreement for 2020-2021. O'Loughlin second, motion carried 5-0.

I. Consider Approval of the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Commission Natural Gas Program Participation Agreement. Trimble moved to approve the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Commission Natural Gas Program Participation Agreement. O'Loughlin second, motion carried 5-0.

J. Consider Approval of the Governor's Recommendation to Suspend the State's Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2020 for Those Students on Track to Graduate and Also Suspend the National Career Readiness Assessment for the Class of 2020. Hansen moved to approve the Governor's Recommendation to Suspend the State's Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2020 for Those Students on Track to Graduate and Also Suspend the National Career Readiness Assessment for the Class of 2020. O'Loughlin second, motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT – Trimble moved to adjourn the meeting. O'Loughlin second, motion carried 5-0 and meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.

### **Exempt Session**

The board discussed negotiation strategies. Smith and Hansen will represent the board at the negotiation tables. Session ended at 8:30 pm.

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Eric B. Smith, Chair

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Laura Morine, Board Secretary