

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING NOTES

4b. Financial Reports look good. Notice our year to date expenses are back below last year. I expect to end a little over last year, but nothing that will be a concern.

4d. I have resignations from Amanda Madery (preschool and JV Volleyball), Kayla Reetz (elementary/middle music), Abbie Feldman from MS Volleyball pending finding a suitable replacement, and Savannah Anderson from JJV Softball.

8a. I will have a copy of the school calendar for your review. There is no action with this. Just sharing now and will get feedback from staff before March and do final hearing and approval in April.

8b. Last month you approved getting bids for parking lot paving. I'm still working on getting quality bid documents for the concrete so we can get comparable bids. I will ask that we put this off until next month. If we decide to do concrete, it will take us 2 to 3 years to do the entire lot. That's not a bad thing—just a reflection of SAVE and PPEL funding. If we did asphalt we could do it all in one year. I think we all know the benefits of concrete, but the cost is quite a bit more. Not looking for a decision this month as I think we need to have the actual bids to make a final decision.

8c. Last month you asked me to visit with Chief Nosbisch about narrowing down the resolution. After visiting with him, there really wasn't anything to narrow it down to. The language that was brought to the board was what they were looking for as they will stop anyone who is doing inappropriate things in our lot; unfortunately, with limited law enforcement in town, it makes it challenging. Since then I've been working with Mr. Manson, Mr. Cantu and also had some recommendations from some of the board members. First, we've been looking at additional cameras and cameras with better lenses that will help us see the vehicles better. They have them, but they are quite expensive \$1,000 to \$2,000 each. We are looking at a mid-price camera and plan to try a couple of them to see how much better they work. These cameras will be in addition to the existing cameras, but will place them in other locations in the parking lot. Also, it was suggested that I contact the Sheriff's office to help with monitoring the lot from the dispatcher's desk. We have this capability with our current system and it's included in our Crisis Plan in the event of an event in school. I contacted Sheriff Hemann and he indicated he is willing to have his staff do this. So, I will have Mr. Cantu work with the county tech person to get this in place. Since you already approved this as part of the crisis plan, there is no need for any action on your part.

9a. Because we had an increase in enrollment of 13 students, we won't need the budget guarantee, but recommended practice is to pass the resolution every year in case something unusual happens at the state level, we will always have it if we need it.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of New Hampton Community School District, will levy property taxes for fiscal year 2021-2022 for the

regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa.

9b. The Iowa Legislature is working on several bills that will have a great impact on Iowa School Districts. One of the most concerning is the Education Savings Accounts or Voucher Bill. It's not called vouchers in the bill because they've been ruled unconstitutional by the courts. This won't have an immediate impact on us as it only applies to districts with failing school buildings. However, in the states where it's happened, it always rapidly expands across the state and takes dollars from public schools. I will talk more about it at the meeting.

9c. New Hampton Municipal Utility will have their internet service up and running for the next school year. Mr. Cantu put out for bids this service and I have included them below. Working with a local entity and the significant savings I recommend we switch from the ICN to New Hampton Municipal Utilities. This is happening at a number of schools across the state. New Hampton Utilities has bid \$200 per month for a 1 GBPS. Windstream wants \$852 per month for a 5 year contract. Mediacom has also proposed \$895 per month for a five year contract. All of these are substantially below the current ICN amount and will be subject to an additional 60% e-rate discount. However, clearly the local service is the best opportunity right now.

9d. The elementary school normally does their carnival each spring. With COVID they would like to do a different fundraiser this year. They have had some hogs and processing donated to the school and they would like to raffle off ½ hogs instead of doing the carnival. They are looking to sell raffle tickets for somewhere in the range of 5 to 10 dollars. They will be deciding that shortly. With COVID still around, I recommend we approve this.

9e. Because of COVID restrictions, the Jr. Class was not able to do much fundraising for prom last year. They would like to send a letter to parents to ask them to donate an amount to help with Prom this year. Please see the attached letter

9f. National Honor Society would like to do a can drive on March 27th from 10 to noon. These funds would be used to fund post-prom. I believe they are looking for some creative ideas as they feel a little behind the 8 ball and also want to minimize always asking the same businesses. This doesn't mean they still won't approach businesses, but hopefully, this helps some.

9g. We annually approve our service agreement with Daktronics for our scoreboards throughout the district. They will cover them as long as they're under 10 years old. It's worth it as they will overnight things when needed to get us running. I recommend we approve this.

9h. Jostens has a new feature for the yearbook. It is a traditional paper yearbook, but this also allows students to upload their own pictures online. When they receive the yearbook, they can download an app on their phone, hold it over the student's picture in the yearbook and see what pictures that student uploaded. It's a neat feature and Jostens

is taking on the responsibility of making sure the uploaded pictures are school appropriate. Here's a video where you can learn more:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QMI69mgfR3c&feature=emb_logo

9i. Mrs. Kayser-Kemp has found a company willing to scan our yearbooks that are 1988 and older. They will then place them on DVDs, make them searchable and send them back to us. I have some questions to be answered about what they can do with the pictures when they have them. I will have more information on this at the board meeting.

9j. I will have a brief discussion on the budget and budget process. We may have to have a special meeting to hold our public hearing because of issues with the required timing of publication won't allow us to be ready in March. One question I will have for you is do you want to do the extra 25 cents like we did last year. We can keep our rate steady and it will actually decline some even with the extra quarter. The 25 cents would generate \$135,000 in extra payment. That would be put into escrow until 2025 when our bonds become callable. That would save \$68,040 in interest for the tax payers just for the next year. Just an FYI, if we did an extra quarter through the rest of the bond, it would save \$659,905 in interest over the life of the bonds. The bonds would be paid off 3 years earlier as well and be done on 6/1/2035 instead of the current 6/1/2038. We would make the decision year by year, but wanted you to see the impact.

9k. We need to do the book study—we are on Section 4.

10b. Turkey Valley will be coming to meet with us on March 15, 2021 at 6 p.m.