

July School Board Notes

We will start with a work session where we interview our two student school board member candidates. I have them scheduled with one coming at 6 and the other at 6:15.

At 6:30 the regular meeting will start.

4a. The only thing to note in the financial sections is the expense section looks good, but note that it will change as the books are not yet closed for the year. The biggest thing to still come in will be special education billing. It shows an increase of \$70,000 over last year, but it will be larger than that. No concerns, but know that it will change.

4d. We have several personnel items to address. First, we have resignations from Paula Gorres, Bill Boyd, Juana Para, Nancy Willadsen, and Susie Troyna from their paraeducator positions. We also have resignations from Mary Jo Parson from food service, Dan Haggerty from his custodian position, and Spencer Schmitz from his position of middle school interventionist. We have recommendations for Emily Sanford as a part-time 3 year old preschool teacher, Austin Hemesath as a bus driver and Ashley Lester as an academic interventionist. We may have another bus driver to hire by the time of the board meeting.

6a. We need to do the second reading of the board policies from last month. These are a result of legislation that went into effect with the last legislative session.

6b. The negotiations committee met with the Transportation director to discuss some changes related to transportation duties when bus driving and other duties. Members of the negotiations committee will present what was discussed.

7a. We need to approve milk and bread bids. Anderson Erickson is the low bidder for milk and our food service director says she is happy with their service and recommends going with them for the bid. We only received one bid for bread which was from Pan O Gold. So I recommend we go with Anderson Erickson and Pan O Gold.

7b. We need to appoint First Citizens as our school depository for up to 10 million dollars for the 23-24 school year.

7c. We need to appoint Christy Roethler as the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the 23-24 school year.

7d. I recommend we appoint our School Nurses and our building principals as our Level I investigators and the Chief of Police and the Sheriff as our Level II investigators.

7e. I recommend we appoint our Chief of Police and the Sheriff as our truant officers.

7f. Area districts are making some changes to their substitute pay rates. Howard-Winneshiek is going to \$175 per day for substitute teachers next year. Riceville is at \$150, South Winneshiek is looking at \$175, NFV is looking to go to \$140 or \$150. In order to remain competitive and

attract substitute teachers, I recommend we go to \$150 per day for substitute teachers. We won't be the highest, but we won't be the lowest. I'm still investigating in other sub positions and may have recommendations for substitute paras and substitute custodians at the board meeting.

7g. We will have a list of fund-raisers for the 23-24 school year for your approval. It may not be added to the site until Sunday night.

7h. During our meeting with support staff one of the things came up as a request from the support staff was a request to switch to an electronic time clock and away from paper time cards. I've been doing some research on this topic and I can see some advantages. We can control the time a staff member punches in—i.e. set a clock in time between 7:40 and 7:50 which would help manage when staff members clock in. It would also calculate the time worked for us which would save some time in my office. I'm also looking at a system that will integrate with our current payroll software which would save some steps. I believe the staff in my office will have some concerns as we like the paper trail offered by traditional time cards, but we can still print time sheets for each employee if we choose to. I'm waiting for some quotes but it sounds like it will cost about \$6,500 per year with about a \$3,000 set up charge. We could do multiple years and use ESSER funds to take this into the future and limit ongoing costs for awhile.

7i. I've been working with the representatives from Little Sprouts to get a lease agreement in place with the Daycare. I believe we have an agreement we can live with. I've sent it to Steve Weidner for his final review. It is a long-term agreement with a time line that matches what they are doing with the church. I've assigned a nominal fee in recognition that they are providing a service to our parents and to us. Everything else is pretty straightforward. I do suspect they may be looking to use our gym for more space for before and after school. I've been working with Jodi on the lunch program and they will use our lunch program for breakfast and lunch during the school year. Jodi thought she could do a summer program with them that could also be used by other students as well and we have a plan to provide breakfast and lunch on snow days and during holidays as well. I feel good about this and see many benefits with little to no ongoing cost to us once our \$100,000 is paid.

7j. We need to renew our Powerschool software. This is the software used by teachers and the district to keep track of our student information including grades, discipline, etc. The cost is \$12,182.98. This can come from PPEL.

7k. We need to renew our Schoology software. This is an online platform used by teachers to deliver and collect materials to and from students for their classwork. The cost for this is \$6,564.30 for the coming year. We will use ESSER funds for this.

7l. Achieve3000 is an intervention program that will be used by the Middle School to help with literacy instruction. We are looking at a 3 year license and plan to use ESSER III funds for Learning loss to pay for this. We have a lot of money (\$156,972.96) to spend in this category.

7m. We need to renew our Accelerated Reader service for next year. This is used in 5th and 7th grade in the middle school. Again, this will come from ESSER III funds for Learning Loss. The cost is \$1,982

7n. We need to approve transfers within the activity fund. This will be so that our negative accounts are at zero or above as of June 30th.

7o. You may remember you approved purchasing polycarbonate for the high tunnel after we lost two of the plastic covers. Mr. Russ did a great job of finding grants and other resources to help with the cost, but as you can see, they are \$9,968.91 negative. They have \$7,300 in non-covered expenses related to the high tunnel. I would recommend we cover the \$7,300 out of PPEL and the alumni will be covering the rest. This will give our new FFA sponsor a positive place to start. This is much less than I thought we would be covering so I feel good about this.

7p. We have our first change order from the parking lot project. This work is already done as I wanted to keep the project moving. The net increase is \$5,195.37. It involves some additional cost to add tile where the existing asphalt was and also where the big water puddle was they found a clay tile that was crushed so they ended up removing it and replacing it with modern tile. There was some savings as you can see as they didn't need to bring in as much sub base as they thought. I'm expecting one more by the time of the board meeting for squaring up the concrete by sawing along the edge near the building. They wanted a squared up edge. The change order will be for \$750 which made sense to me.

7q. We also need to approve our first pay application for the parking lot project. It is for \$114,391.43.

7r. We need to approve my contract and raise for the coming year.

7s. We need to choose our 4 legislative priorities for the coming session. Please select your top 4 choices and bring them to the meeting.