

## March School Board Notes

4—We will start the meeting with our public hearing on our budget. We will open it and ask for any comments either in person or in writing. Then we will close the hearing.

5c. Nothing too exciting to report on financial reports.

5e. In personnel matters, I have a resignation from Morgan Renfer as an elementary special ed teacher. We have appointments for Tate Hofmeister as Head Softball Coach and Conner Rochford as a JJV baseball coach pending him obtaining appropriate licensure.

9a. I will share the updated school calendar on the website before the meeting and also at the meeting. I'm currently surveying the staff for their input and expect some changes—specifically around conference days.

9b. I will have an update on the invitation from the Upper Iowa Conference and on the NEIC conference. It gets a little interesting as half of the NEIC schools will have new superintendent's next fall.

10a. The Spanish trip to Panama was pushed back because of COVID. It will be this year and the group needs to use school vehicles to get to the airport in Minneapolis. Since this involves taking school vehicles out of state, it needs to have board approval. The trip to Panama has already been approved, this is just to use our vehicles to go to the airport.

10b. We need to approve the handbook changes as noted. I propose that items 1 and 2 go into effect immediately and 3 and 4 will go into effect the next calendar year.

10c. We need to approve our agreement with the New Hampton Education Association Support Group. You can see the details in the attachment.

10d. I'm sharing the Health insurance costs with you for your information. The district currently provides support staff with \$747 per month and the certified staff \$781.50 per month. If the district added \$20 per month to the amount they paid this would cover the majority of the increase for the single policy. This would add \$11,040 to the support staff salary/benefit costs. It would add \$20,332 to the certified staff salary/benefit costs. This does not come up in negotiations as it is an illegal topic of bargaining and the district has complete control over what we do with health insurance. For a paraeducator, this is equivalent to nearly an additional 20 cent per hour raise on his/her hourly payroll.

10e. The governor approved a plan to provide \$1,000 in retention payments to most full-time certified staff. None certified staff are not a part of this program along with

counselors, librarians, TLC staff, part-time staff and those who didn't teach last year. I propose that we include these other people as we've all been in this together. I will have more details by the time of the staff meeting as far as overall costs to the district, but we will be taking this out of ESSER funds—You need to be aware, we could take this out of the General Fund as well and reduce our Unspent Authorized budget. The School Budget Review Committee has put out a statement that they will consider requests for the spending authority if schools do this; however, we must show clear reasons why we wouldn't use our ESSER funds, so I may have some thoughts on this as well.

10f. The Letterettes would like to do a fundraiser during the April 14<sup>th</sup> home track meet. I believe it is a bake sale and will have more details at the meeting.

10g. A few years back, a group redid the stands and press box on the baseball field at Mikkelson Park. That same group is now working on some renovations at the softball field involving the press box. The district provided \$5,000 for the work on the baseball field and the group is requesting the same amount toward the softball field.

10h. Last year we did half the sinks and cabinets in the elementary and this year we would like to do the other half. I've held off as I tried to project our needs for equipment and projects for the year. We are looking at \$32,200 for the cabinets, \$7,875 for removal of old and installation of new, and \$11,370.13 for plumbing work.

10i. We need to get our IPADs purchased for our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students next year along with the cases and carrying bags. IPADs are \$26,460, cases are \$2,660.40, and bags are \$4,725.

10j. We have some excess items at the bus barn we'd like to get rid of later this spring. You can see the list attached. Note we will also likely have some items from downtown as well.

10k. This is where you will decide if you want to levy 0, 25, or 45 cents per thousand next year. The final resolution will be published over the weekend.

10l. We need to approve the 2022-2023 School budget. The budget that was published includes the 45 cents pre-levy. Based on what you decide with the previous item the final number may change. I recommend you approve the budget as presented.

10m. We need to appoint someone to the CWC board. They would prefer it would be someone who is a member so there is some familiarity with the operation of the facility. Normally they meet once per quarter, but with a new director they will likely be meeting monthly for a while.