

OCTOBER SCHOOL BOARD NOTES  
**Note Time Change of Board Meeting to 6:00**

4c. The only note on financials is that it's early in the year so not a lot to mention. Also, you will notice a large amount under the line item "Capital" in the general fund—the high school staff computers were taken out of this instead of SAVE, so that will be reflected on next month's report when it's reversed in General and subtracted from SAVE.

4e. In personnel recommendations, Mr. Manson Recommends Brittany Hanson as a high school paraeducator. Mr. Frerichs recommends Andrew Aries as the Varsity Bowling Coach and I recommend Justin Adam as a Peer Coach at the high school and Merlyn Hansen as a food service associate for 5.5 hours per day.

8. Last month we heard from Mr. Adam about starting an Esports Program at the high school. You tabled it to this month to give time for anyone to provide any input. At this point, I've not had any feedback on the program. Start-up costs for the first year will be \$2,743.47 plus coaching salary costs. It's important to note that there will be ongoing costs for coaching salaries and you should assume it will continue to grow and at some point, need some upper end desk top computers. At this point, we can use ESSER funds for the initial start-up costs—but you should be aware that there will be ongoing costs with it.

9a. Mrs. Schmitt would like to do a fundraiser for the Family and Consumer Science Program. This would take place during February and March and involves the sale of flats of fresh strawberries. I've included an attachment for your review. She has written several grants to benefit the district and would like to try this as it's something that hasn't been done here previously. She will be present to address any questions you may have.

9b. These are a group of policies that need to be modified to comply with changes in the law that went into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. I've followed the recommended language from the Iowa Association of School Boards. Most changes are around racism/gender education and training and also freedom of speech. You can see the additions highlighted in Yellow and the deletions have a line through them. These are the recommended changes from the Iowa Association of School Boards. This is just the first reading and we will do the second reading in November.

9c. We need your approval for the administration to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee for excess costs in Special Education of \$426,470. A reminder that this is just spending authority and has no cash connected to it. If we want to levy for the cash, we would do that next spring when we do our budget. I recommend we approve this.

9d. Our Food service director would like to update and add to her shelving for the coolers, freezer, and storage area. This will allow everything to be out of boxes and stored up out of the way. I recommend we do this for safety and efficiency reasons. This will come out of the nutrition fund.

9e. Last year, we briefly talked about an early departure incentive for certified staff so that any staff member who knows they're leaving can let us know early enough so we can start hiring. It's better to be hiring in January/February instead of May/June. I recommend we give a set amount per unused sick day at the end of the year, to anyone who is planning on leaving this year if they resign by the end of December. I will have more information and an amount at the board meeting.

9f. We have a small section of roof that had been leaking downtown. We had Northern Cedar come to repair it and they have show the entire section needs to be replaced. It is a fairly small section, so I have asked them to have a quote to me by the time of the board meeting.

9g. We've made some great strides in our Industrial Technology program this year. To help align our program with some of our local industries, an Ironworker would help complete the metalworking portion of our program. An appropriately sized one for the high school with an assortment of dies will cost \$22,710.13. You may review the attached quote.

9h. After every census, we need to review our director districts to make sure they are still balanced. I have been working with Mapping Strategies on this process and I am glad to say they are balanced. This is informational this month, but next month you will need to approve keeping them the same. If you want to change them or the way directors are elected, now would be the time to make a change. I recommend we keep things the way they are.

9i. As you know, we have a bus driver shortage. To help ease this, I would like to offer an incentive to coaches/activity sponsors who are willing to drive a bus to their events. This would apply only to driving a bus and not to a suburban or similar vehicle. Currently, when a sponsor drives a bus, they receive \$15 per hour for the time they drive to the event and back from the event. They are not paid while they're at the event. If a bus driver drove to the activity, they would be paid from the time they start the trip until they return from the trip. When a bus driver takes a trip, it requires us to find a sub for their regular route which causes issues as that is usually a custodian. Currently, this would involve two coaches and one activity sponsor, but my hope is that others may consider getting their bus endorsement.

9j. I will have an update on certified enrollment as it has to be finalized by the 15<sup>th</sup>.