

## September Board Meeting Notes

4c. Monthly financial reports—nothing too remarkable as we're still at the beginning of the new school year. Notice the SAVE funds as the main parking lot bill has come out, but we still have the downtown roof and masonry bills to pay.

4e. We have the following personnel recommendations. We have a resignation from Macie Njus as the JJV softball coach. We have recommendations for Kyra Lewis as the co-letterettes sponsor, Jordan Rommes as co-lettermen sponsor, Gretchen Johnson transfer to Activity Director Secretary, Bob Vorwald as assistant cross country coach (we have over 30 participants), Derek Wight as food service, Stephanie Nystel as food service, Cody Gott as custodian, and Judy Lechtenberg as High School Wellness TLC coach. I would also recommend we give Norb Geerts \$1 per hour for his role in assisting with bus maintenance issues, checking road conditions, and being the liaison between the district and our bus mechanics. I see this as an ongoing position that will be transferred to another person when Norb leaves the district.

4f and 4g. Just a note about the 400 series policies. This is a big one so we will spread these out over at least 3 and possibly 4 months to keep them manageable.

9a. Mrs. Schmitt will be here to talk about the FCS program and the student organization she is starting in conjunction with it. All of our CTE programs are now required to have a student organization associated with their programs in order to meet some funding and certification criteria. This would be similar to FFA in the agriculture area. She will also request permission to do some fundraising to get the program started.

9b. Mr. Adam will be present to discuss a proposal to purchase some new band instruments for the high school band program. He will be asking to purchase instruments over a 6 year period to make this manageable. We did a similar thing for the middle school band program several years ago. He will have more details at the meeting.

9c. The FFA group would like to once again attend the National FFA convention in Indianapolis, Indiana from November 1<sup>st</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be approximately 15 students attending and they will be taking a tour bus with students from other schools. Since it's an out of state trip, it requires board approval for them to attend.

9d. The parking lot project is wrapped up and looks great. We have one final change order for \$5,529.55. It's for some additional dirt work and concrete removal around the edges. It falls within our contingency amount so I recommend we approve this.

9e. We also have pay estimate #3 for the parking lot which is \$8,501.65. We are at 99.72% of the project cost with \$32,923.88 retained for any issues that may come up. I recommend we pay this

9f. We raised our teacher sub pay and it has made a difference, we have not changed our support staff sub pay for some time. I have attached my recommendations. I basically recommend a \$3 per hour increase for hourly positions, \$5 per trip for bus drivers, and \$30 for nurses. We hope it will make a difference in recruiting substitutes for our other positions.

9g. I have a request from a student who open enrolled to the South Winneshiek school district for us to waive the 90 day sitting out period to participate in activities in that district. I will have additional information at the meeting for your review.

9h. If a patron challenges one of our library books or some part of a curriculum, we are required by law to have a reconsideration committee review the materials and make a recommendation going forward. With the recent publicity of this, I would like to have a committee in place so that if a challenge comes out, we can say we have the committee ready to go and didn't create it just for the specific challenge. I will have a list of people at the meeting.

9i. Dave Randall has completed the masonry work downtown. He plans to have the final billing to me by noon on Monday so I thought I would add this as a separate item. I will post the billing as soon as I receive and review it.

9j. Last month I handed out the 2022 audit. Hopefully, you've had some time to review it. I will review the concerns from it and then will be looking for your approval.

9k. Our current mileage reimbursement rate is 39 cents per mile. The current state rate and IRS rate is 65 cents per mile. We have not changed our rate in quite some time. I think it's time to increase it. I will have a recommendation at the meeting; however, if you do change it I would ask that you include the following language in your resolution: "Mileage reimbursement will only be made if a school vehicle is not available".

9l. Our current meal reimbursement rates are \$6 for breakfast, \$8 for lunch, and \$12 for supper. I recommend we go with \$6 for breakfast, \$10 for lunch and \$15 for supper.

9m. Last year you may remember we talked about emphasizing sportsmanship in conjunction with some things the IAHSAA and the IHSAA were doing. I wanted to share that it has paid off as New Hampton was rated #1 in the NEIC Sportsmanship ratings this past year. I have attached the ratings to the board materials for your review.

9n. We need to request our Modified Allowable Growth and Supplemental Aid from the School Budget Review Committee for our Special Education Deficit. This past year our deficit was \$500,579. This is primarily because of lowered special ed weightings and having a number of students attending other facilities. Last year it was \$424,742 and we've slowly been seeing it creep up over time. A reminder this is not money, but rather spending authority that is added to our unspent authorized budget. If we want the money, we would levy it next spring when we do our budget, we would levy for this via our cash reserve levy. Officially, you are approving the administration to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee for excess costs in special education of \$500,579.

9o. Now that the CAR is complete, I will share our estimated Unspent Authorized Budget Level for the end of the 2022-2023 school year. It has improved a good amount, but notice it is almost exactly the amount of the ESSER funds we spent this year. We have one more year of ESSER funds, but with the salary increases we did this year, I don't expect this large of an increase again. I will share more at the meeting.