

March 23, 2009
Regular Meeting
Board of Directors
Clarinda Community School District

The Board of Directors of the Clarinda Community School District met in regular session on Monday, March 23, 2009, 7:00 p.m., at the Board Room located in the McKinley Building, 423 East Nodaway, Clarinda, IA 51632.

Call to Order

President Watkins called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present: President Watkins, Vice President Turner, Fine, Fulk, and McComb.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the agenda. The motion was approved 5-0.

Audience to Visitors

President Watkins welcomed all visitors to the meeting. No visitors chose to address the board at this time.

Administrative Reports

Mrs. Nordland, Middle School Principal, reported:

1. The Lied Public Library will be exhibiting an Art show March 30 - April 3 for young artists from preschool - 12th, around the community and schools.
2. Members of the Leadership Team will attend training in Shenandoah on Tuesday, March 24th.

Mr. Ruffing, High School Principal, reported:

1. Results from the Iowa Tests of Education Development given to juniors in February show an increase in the percentage of students proficient in reading and math when compared to last year. There was a slight decrease in the percentage of students proficient in science.
2. Each year Hawkeye 10 high school principals recognize 20 seniors as part of the Hawkeye 10 All Academic Team. This year 52 students from Hawkeye 10 schools met the criteria, with four of those students attending Clarinda High School. Matt Hansen was selected to the Hawkeye Ten All-Conference Team by the President, Vice President, and Secretary of the Hawkeye Ten Board of Control plus one non-school committee member selected by the President. Bryant Hummel was selected to represent CHS as a recipient of the Hawkeye Ten Conference Character Award. A special awards banquet will be held at the Cass County Community Center in Atlantic on April 8, 2009.
3. During the FFA banquet on March 19th Mr. Johnson made a special point of recognizing the senior class for their outstanding performance during their high school career. This class set several new standards for number of awards earned in FFA.
4. The spring play, Almost Maine, will be held March 27th and March 28th at 7:30 P.M. each evening in the high school auditorium.

Superintendent Honnold reported:

1. Watson Excavating, contractor on the New Market Demolition Project, has finished the dirt work and will be seeding the ground as soon as weather permits.
2. The architect was here to further evaluate the south wall of the auditorium and the hallway wall of the band/wrestling room addition. He will be generating specifications and assist us with bid documents for the needed repairs.
3. The Fire Safety Grant application, written by Mrs. Boysen and Craig Hill, was not selected as one of the fifty-one projects funded with the \$2,276,484 available this year. We appreciate the time spent by Mrs. Boysen and Mr. Hill in writing and submitting the application.

Old Business

Approve Second Reading of Board Policy Revisions

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Fine, to approve the final reading of the Board Policy revisions as presented by the Board Policy Review Committee. The review committee of Dale Fulk, Brian Fine, Superintendent Honnold and Board Secretary VanFosson reviewed Sections 500 Students and 600 Education Programs. The recommendations of the review committee were brought to the board on March 9, 2009, for the first reading. The motion was approved on a 5-0 vote.

New Business

Approve Textbook Purchases for 2009-2010

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the purchase of science textbooks and curricular materials as proposed by the Science Curriculum Committee. Kindergarten teachers, Alisha Jobe, Marla Mattes, and Lori Wiebesiek, were at the meeting to recommend the purchase of instructional kits from Seela Science for grades K-2, which will provide hands-on learning opportunities for their students. Mrs. Comer presented science textbooks for use by 7th and 8th graders that are an update of the text they are currently using. Simat Whipp and Dave Seela recommended high school textbooks for Biology, Health, Earth and Space, Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, and Physics. The district maintains a textbook cycle which allows new textbooks to be purchased every 6-7 years depending on need and rotation. The Iowa Core Curriculum requirements are pushing for greater science emphasis at the elementary level. The science curriculum committee met several times to make sure all content areas were being taught in sequence. Following presentations by the teachers, the motion was approved on a 5-0 vote of the board.

Receive Update on Gifted and Talented Program

Mrs. Nordland, administrator responsible for overseeing the TAG Program, reviewed with board members the updated identification process for placing students in the program. She also explained the services provided to students using Personal Plans written for each individual student in the TAG Program. Thirty-six students are receiving TAG services this school year. Some examples of the types of services being provided are higher-level math and reading instruction and Advanced Placement Courses online. Mrs. Farrell serves as the TAG coordinator at the K-8 building and Mrs. Carper assists with TAG instruction at the high school.

Appoint District Developed Special Education Plan Committee

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the appointment of Rita DeGroot, Diane Campbell, John Greenwood, Carleen Perry, Karen Hess, Karen McClarnon, Denise Slough, Mary Collier, Brooke VanFosson, Shirley Volkmar, Andy Harris, Susan Lauritsen, and Lea Ann Huckins to the Special Education Plan Committee. Our district developed special education plan, which sets guidelines for services provided in our district and at the Clarinda Academy, was originally written fifteen years ago. A new state requirement forces school districts to evaluate the effectiveness of their plan by infusing it into the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). The committee will meet, complete the new special education plan, and present it to the Board of Directors for approval before the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. Following Mrs. Boysen's power point presentation outlining the procedure the district must follow, the motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

Set Open Public Hearing for 2010 Fiscal Year Budget

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Fine, to set April 13, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the McKinley Central Office Board room as the date, time, and place for the open public hearing on the 2010 fiscal year budget. The proposed budget will be published in the April 2nd Clarinda Herald Journal. The motion was passed on a 5-0 vote of the board.

Approve Classified and Administrative Raises for 2009-2010 School Year

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by McComb, to approve a 2% raise for classified and administrative staff for the 2009-2010 school year. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

Approve Administrator Contract

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fulk, to approve the contract with Teresa Nook to serve as high school principal for the 2009-2010 school year. The contract will begin July 1, 2009, and is for 240 days of service annually. Ms. Nook was a principal in the West Central Valley School District in Redfield, Iowa, and is currently the superintendent for the Villisca Community School District. Following discussion of Ms. Nook's contract, the motion was approved on a 5-0 vote.

Correspondence From Board Members

Fine: Thank you to Mrs. Boysen for the special education report this evening.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by McComb, to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. The motion was approved on a 5-0 vote.

Cindy L. VanFosson
Board Secretary