

**July 13, 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, July 13, 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, and McComb. Fulk was absent.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fine, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

**Audience to Visitors**

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

**Administrative Reports**

Mr. McNeal, Middle School Principal, reported:

1. My family has moved and we are enjoying getting to know the community. I am familiarizing myself with the middle school building and staff.

Superintendent Honnold reported:

1. Summer projects are proceeding as planned. The freshman lockers have been painted, the middle school dock drive has been redone, the art room and locker room floors have been stained, and work on the manhole at the football field has been completed. Window replacement at the high school will begin soon and the last of the new carpet will be laid this weekend. The new smart boards and the hoods required by the fire marshal are currently being installed.
2. We will hold a special meeting Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> to approve a bid on the high school auditorium wall/gym wall project.
3. New staff will be reporting on August 14<sup>th</sup> and will meet with the board at noon for lunch.
4. The entire staff will report on August 17<sup>th</sup> and if board members are available, you are welcome to join us for lunch in the high school commons.
5. The Cardinal Funds Foundation Committee would like board members to develop a wish list of specific items potential donors might consider contributing toward.
6. We continue to wait on the finalization of the sale of the New Market School Property. Our attorney is working with the attorney for the City of New Market and we hope to wrap things up soon.
7. The City has indicated they may consider charging the district a fee for the use of the softball and baseball fields. We have paid for several equipment items, made donations to the new restrooms and the resurfacing of the tennis courts, and provided buses and bus drivers for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams. I've made contact with several Hawkeye 10 schools and if they use city-owned fields, they pay a minimal amount for use.

**Consent Items**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the following consent items:

- A. Minutes of the June 3, 2009, June 8, 2009, and June 26, 2009 meeting.
- B. Bills in the amounts of:

General Fund	\$241,210.14
Activity Fund	\$13,845.78
Management Fund	\$134,866.00
Capital Projects Fund	\$14,311.20
Physical Plant & Equip	\$1,659.45
Nutrition Fund	\$3,219.19
Trust & Agency	\$33,756.41
New Market Trust	\$970.41

- C. June 30, 2009, Financial Statements, Activity Fund report, Hot Lunch report, and open enrollment application(s).

Board member Turner informed she had audited the bills and found them in order for payment. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Old Business**

Board members had no old business to consider at this time.

### **New Business**

#### **Approve Funding Request from Clarinda Education Association**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fine, to approve the funding request from the Clarinda Education Association to fund the Phase I teacher salary money eliminated by the state legislature. Chris Campbell, representing the Clarinda Education Association, distributed and then read a letter prepared by the Association asking the board to amend the Master Contract for 2009-2010 and fund \$53,841 of Phase I money eliminated by the Iowa Legislature during the 2009 Legislative Session. The master contract contains language that states, "In the event that the District receives less Phase I and/or Phase II money, the salary schedule shall revert to a base excluding the Phase I and/or Phase II money." President Watkins stated he would vote against the request. Several in Clarinda have seen jobs lost or wages reduced. I regret the legislators cut the funding, but it hasn't been an easy year for our constituents. Your letter suggests using a portion of the federal stimulus dollars that are being made available for special education. Although guidelines allow us to use a portion of that money for general education, in my opinion it is wrong to take money from special needs students for this purpose. Mr. McComb commented, we have spent many hours negotiating a fair contract with the association and the last contract was signed in good faith. We should abide by the wording set out in the contract. I mirror Mr. Watkins comments. The teachers will not see a pay decrease; in fact, they will still receive an increase of over 3%. Mrs. Turner expressed gratitude to the teachers for what they do for the students, but asked that they consider the economic times we are in. We, as a district, have not had to eliminate any programs or teaching positions. We should be thankful and proud we are able to maintain the staff we have. Mr. Fine said he took offense at one comment in the letter suggesting teacher morale would suffer without the approximately \$50 each teacher would have received in Phase I dollars each month. "I know teachers aren't overpaid, but you are professionals. I would hope your teaching would not suffer because the legislators decided not to fund Phase I." Following comments by each board member present, the motion was denied on a 0-4 vote.

#### **Approve Revenue Purpose Statement**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to adopt the Revenue Purpose Statement as written: Pursuant to the provisions of Section 423F.3, Code of Iowa, the Clarinda Community School District hereby adopts and submits to the Commissioner of Elections of Page County, Iowa, this Revenue Purpose Statement to be submitted to the electors at an election to be held September 8, 2009.

Money received by the Clarinda Community School District from the State of Iowa Secure an Advanced Vision for Education Fund may be spent for any one or more of the following purposes:

- To provide funds for property tax relief.
- To provide funds to build and furnish a new school building or buildings; to build and furnish addition(s) to the school buildings in the District; to remodel, repair, expand, and improve the school buildings in the District; to purchase and improve grounds; for demolition work; to furnish and equip district facilities.
- To provide funds for the purchase, lease or lease-purchase of buildings or equipment (including transportation, technology and recreation equipment) as authorized by law, to implement energy conservation measures, sharing or rental of facilities, procuring or acquisition of libraries, or opening roads to schoolhouses or buildings.
- To provide funds for emergency repairs to respond to natural disasters, such as fire, wind damage, flood; unanticipated mechanical, plumbing, structural, roof, electrical system failures; environmental remediation; or to respond to changes in demographics that require construction of additions or improvements to school buildings or new school buildings.
- To provide funds to establish and maintain public recreation places and playgrounds; provide for supervision and instruction for recreational activities; or for community education purposes; and other authorized expenditures and purposes as now or hereafter permitted by law and designated by the Clarinda Community School District.
- To provide funds for the payment of principal and interest or retirement of general obligation bonds issued for school infrastructure purposes, energy improvement loans, loan agreements authorized by Iowa Code section 297.36, sales, service and use tax revenue bonds issued under Iowa Code section 423E.5.

The motion carried on a 4-0 vote.

### **Food Service Report**

Joyce Johansen, Food Service Director, was at the meeting to give an overview of the lunch program for 2008-2009. Overall, 81.58% of our students participated in the district lunch program. 24.46% of the students participated in the breakfast program. She stated, "We were lucky to be renewed for a second year of the Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program in 2008-2009, but are sad to lose such a tremendous benefit for the K-8 students in 2009-2010. We are optimistic our efforts with fresh produce may have moved many of our students to a greater acceptance of healthy fresh foods. We are currently working on creating a snack program for the K-2 students that will utilize our commodity food inventory. I am doing a menu rewrite over the summer to prepare us to compete in the USDA's Healthy US School Challenge. By focusing on increased student wellness, nutritional standards, nutrition education and fitness, our K-8 building can qualify on three levels for USDA recognition. It would give us pride to succeed and would underscore our commitment to the health and wellness of our students."

### **Approve Bread Bid**

	<u>Wonder Bread</u>	<u>Sara Lee</u>
Sandwich Bread, whole grain	\$1.20	\$.98
Sandwich Bread, white	\$1.10	\$.95
Hot dog buns (dozen)	\$1.20	\$1.43
Hamburger buns (dozen)	\$1.20	\$1.02
Whole grain burger buns (dozen)	N/A	\$1.43
Dinner rolls	\$1.20	\$1.15
Footlong buns	\$1.25	\$1.15

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by McComb, to approve the bid from Sara Lee to provide the bread products for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Approve Milk Bid**

	<u>A/E</u>	<u>Roberts</u>
White milk, 1%	\$.1420	\$.1461
White milk, skim	\$.1380	\$.1480
Chocolate milk, skim	\$.1470	\$.1526
Juice, 4 oz. Carton	\$.1100	\$.1666

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the bid from Anderson Erickson to provide the milk products for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Approve Iowa Educators Consortium Contract**

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by Fine, to approve the contract to participate in the Iowa Educator's Consortium food buyers group for the 2009-2010 school year. The program has been beneficial in allowing the district to purchase some food items at a reduced cost because of group buying discounts. The agreement will be in effect until July 31, 2010. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Approve Food Service Prices for 2009-2010**

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by McComb, to approve the increase in adult breakfast and lunch prices for the 2009-2010 school year. This past year the State Consultant strongly recommended increasing adult lunch from \$2.20 to \$2.80 and increasing adult breakfast from \$1.25 to \$1.65 to meet regulations. Board members thanked Mrs. Johansen for the report and for her diligence in maintaining a quality lunch program with the escalating price of food. Following discussion, the motion passed on a 4-0 vote.

### **Approve District Developed Special Education Plan for 2009-2010**

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by McComb, to approve the District Developed Special Education Plan for 2009-2010. Iowa Law requires each school district to develop an updated plan prior to the start of the 2009-2010 school year and post it to the district web site for public review. Mrs. Boysen, Director of Special Programs, thanked the committee of teachers, parents, and community members who worked with her to complete the plan and bring it to the board for approval. The document outlines the District's method of establishing criteria for how a student is identified for the special education program as well as a method of identifying the number of students each teacher will serve. Following a review of the plan by Mrs. Boysen, the motion carried on a 4-0 vote.

### **Approve Engineer Consulting Agreement for Fiber Connection Between Schools**

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by Fine, to approve the hiring of Oak Hill Consulting to develop plans and specifications to install a fiber networking connection between district buildings. One of the board's goals has been to revisit the network connection between buildings to assure we have the fastest and most reliable connection to accommodate current and future needs. Oak Hill Consulting is an engineering firm that works with public and private entities to develop network solutions. The firm would advise us and develop plans and specifications for competitive bidding. Following discussion of the role of the consulting firm and the possible fees associated with contracting for their services, it was a consensus of the board to table this item until additional telephone calls could be made to current or past clients. The item will be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

### **Approve Contract(s)**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the transfer of Jon Cole from Middle School track coach to head high school girls track for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by McComb, to approve the contracts with Van Gilmore to serve as Alternative High School teacher, middle school assistant football, middle school assistant track, and head high school boys' basketball coach. Mr. Gilmore has been most recently teaching physical education and was the high school girls' basketball coach at Marceline, MO. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by Fine, to approve the transfer of Bill Gilmore to the high school assistant boys' basketball coaching position for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the contract with Mike Smith to serve as middle school assistant boys basketball coach for the 2009-2010 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Approve Addendum for Cardinal Funds association with Clarinda Foundation**

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by Turner, to approve the addendum for the Cardinal Funds association with the Clarinda Foundation. The Clarinda Foundation will accept funds and contributions to the Cardinal Funds and will hold the funds as endowed or expendable funds for the purpose of improving the educational purposes of the Clarinda community. The Clarinda Foundation will manage the Vernon Baker Scholarship Fund. \$33,756.41, accumulated thus far, will be transferred from the Clarinda Community School District to the Clarinda Foundation. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Adopt Resolution Appointing Board Representative to the AEA District 1 Convention**

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by Fine, to adopt the following resolution:

I, Seth Watkins, president of the Clarinda Board of Education, certify that on July 13, 2009, the Clarinda Board of Education adopted a resolution appointing Seth Watkins as delegate, Pallin Turner as alternate delegate, with full authority to cast our weighted elector votes for district director at the elector district convention number 1 of the Reorganized Area Education Agency that will be created by the merger of Loess Hills AEA 13 and Green Valley AEA 14 effective July 1, 2010, to be held on August 5, 2009.

Director District 1 consists of the following school districts: Bedford, Central Decatur, Clarinda, Clearfield, Diagonal, Lamoni, Lenox, Mormon Trail, and Mount Ayr.

Following discussion of the merger of AEA 13 and AEA 14, the motion carried on a 4-0 vote.

### **Approve Resignations**

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by McComb, to approve the resignation of Denise Ruffing as middle school special education paraprofessional. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the resignation of Dave Seela as science instructor at the Clarinda Community High School. Mr. Seela has been an instructor at CHS for 26 years, teaching advanced science classes. The board acknowledged Mr. Seela's desire to transfer his love of science to his students. While they regretted accepting Mr. Seela's resignation, the Board of Directors wished him well in future endeavors. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Approve Legislative Priorities for 2010 Session**

Board members spent time discussing the list of proposed legislative priorities provided by the Iowa Association of School Boards. Each district is asked to submit its list of top five legislative priorities in priority order. The IASB

delegate assembly will meet in November to establish the IASB legislative priorities, resolutions, and beliefs for the 2010 legislative session. A motion was made by Turner, seconded by Fine, to approve the legislative priorities for the 2010 legislative session. The Board of Directors' list of legislative priorities is as follows: 1) Supports setting allowable growth at a rate that encourages continuous school improvement and reflects actual cost increases experienced by school districts. The allowable growth rate should be set no lower than 6 percent. Equivalent state categorical funding is not a substitute for adequate allowable growth. Our priority is to increase and maintain the state cost per pupil and the spending authority associated with it to build a strong base for future education resources. 2) Supports full funding of public schools before expansion of support to non-public schools. 3) Supports a school foundation formula adequately and timely funds changes in demographics, including declining and increasing enrollment challenges. 4) Supports the locally elected school board as the final authority to utilize and allocate funding that best meets the needs of students and the district. 5) Supports funding to ensure that all three and four year olds have access to a high quality public school preschool program by including preschool students in the enrollment count. Following discussion, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the motion.

#### **Board Correspondence**

Watkins: Welcome to Mr. McNeal as a new administrator in our district and a new member of our community.

#### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Cindy L. VanFosson  
Board Secretary