

November 9, 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, November 9, 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, McComb and Rarick.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fine, 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

Mr. McNeal, Middle School Principal, reported:

1. Twenty 8th grade students and fifteen 7th grade students were selected to participate in the Southwest Iowa Honor Band Festival in Atlantic on November 13th.
2. The After-School Tutoring Program will begin tomorrow. We have 23 high school students who will tutor elementary and middle school students four nights a week.
3. The middle school is hosting the Veteran's Day Program on Wednesday at 11:00.
4. Parent teacher conferences will be held Thursday evening and Friday morning.

Superintendent Honnold reported:

1. The Fire Marshall was here last week. He will be inspecting our building every other year instead of every three years. We have several issues to address, but he was impressed with the items we've completed since the last time he inspected.
2. Whether or not Headstart will be using a classroom in our building is still up in the air. If they do ask to rent one of the rooms, we have some remodeling to complete.

Consent Items

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by Rarick, to approve the following consent items:

- A. Minutes of the October 12, 2009, and October 26, 2009 meetings.
- B. Bills in the amounts of:

General Fund	\$125,107.05
Activity Fund	\$17,402.33
Nutrition	\$31,509.43
Capital Projects	\$4,896.30
Management	\$29,323.70
Debt Service	\$7,743.75
New Market Trust	\$1,125.00
- C. October 31, 2009 Financial Statements, Activity Fund report, Hot Lunch report, and open enrollment application(s).

Board member Fine informed he had audited the bills and found them in order for payment. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

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

New Business

Receive Request from Clarinda Education Association

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to proceed with distributing only the teacher quality funds received from the state as stated in the master contract. Chris Campbell, Chief Negotiator for the Clarinda Education Association, and Suzette Reed, President for the Association, were at the meeting to ask the Board of Directors to delay the reduction of teacher quality funds from teacher paychecks until the Department of Education makes a Declaratory Order concerning payment of the funds by local school districts. Governor Culver issued a 10% across-the-board cut to all state appropriations on October 8, 2009. State aid warrants will reflect the 10% reduction beginning in November 2009. Clarinda certified staff contract language states, "Salary will be adjusted should the amount of Teacher Quality Compensation (TQC) received be more or less than the amount included in this contract." Master contract language reads, "...funds will be distributed to certified teaching staff proportionate to the amount of the residual available Educator Quality funds..." Teacher Quality Funding, created by the Iowa Legislature, is additional funding given by the state to increase teacher salary. It is not part of the negotiated contract between the Clarinda Board of Directors and the Clarinda Education Association. Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Reed stated several beliefs of the CEA. Among these points are: 1) The average annual loss per teacher is \$540. 2) Professional Education Associations are recommending school districts wait and see what guidance is given in the Department of Education Declaratory Order. 3) The CEA's interpretation of the master contract is such that they believe the funding should not be cut. 4) The CEA believes the district has the cash and spending authority to cover the reduction in funds by the state. 5) The CEA believes it will appear to the community the district is attempting to balance its budget at the expense of the certified staff. The 10% across-the-board cut means a loss of \$452,845 to the Clarinda School District. Of that total, \$30,399 is a reduction of the amount sent thru the district to the Clarinda Academy. Ten percent of the Teacher Quality Funding, to be reduced being in November paychecks, totals \$39,448.60. Following the presentation and request by Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Reed, the Board of Directors voted 5-0 to proceed with distributing only the teacher quality funds received from the state as stated in the master contract.

Approve Coaching Resignation

A motion was made by Rarick, seconded by Fine, to approve the resignation from Rodney Eberly as head high school baseball coach. President Watkins, speaking on behalf of the board, stated appreciation to Mr. Eberly for his years of service to the district. Motion carried 5-0.

Approve Special Education Contracts

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by Rarick, to approve the contracts with Des Moines Independent, Council Bluffs, Villisca, Bedford and Creston Community School Districts for special education students being served at the Clarinda Academy. Motion carried 5-0.

Receive Report on Special Education Count

Superintendent Honnold reviewed results of the official special education count. This complete count of special education students in the district is compiled each year. The official count determines the special education funding for the 2010-2011 school year. Special education funding is based on the weighted count of resident special education students. The greater the need of the student, the higher the weighted count. The total weighted count for next year's funding is 100.82. The district has a total of 101 students in our special education program, making up 11.3% of our student population. A historical trend line shows the percentage has remained fairly stable for several years. This year ten of our resident special education students are being served outside the district, meaning we will pay another school district or other facility for providing educational services for those students. Seventeen special education students from other districts are being served in our classrooms.

Approve Early Graduation List

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the early graduates for the end of the first trimester pending successful completion of the graduation requirements as set by the Clarinda Board of Education. Iowa Districts must allow early graduation providing students have successfully completed the requirements. One student, Danielle Love, is eligible to graduate at the end of the first trimester, pending final grades. The motion was approved on a 5-0 vote of the board.

Correspondence From Board Members

Turner: Attended the musical this past weekend. The music was awesome, the set was great, and so many students were involved.

Rarick: Congratulations and thanks to Mr. Balster, Mrs. Almeliën, Mrs. McAlpin, and Mr. Aldrich, for the many hours spent preparing students for the musical. It was a wonderful experience for the students and was enjoyed by a packed house both nights.

Fine: Kudos to Mr. Aldrich for the large number of middle school band students selected to the Southwest Iowa Honor Band.

Adjournment

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fine, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote and the meeting was adjourned.

Cindy VanFosson
Board Secretary