

**April 14, 2008  
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, April 14, 2008, 7:00 p.m., at the Board Room located in the McKinley Building, 423 East Nodaway, Clarinda, IA 51632.

**Call to Order**

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

**Roll Call**

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

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Watkins, seconded by Fulk, to approve the agenda. The motion was approved 4-0.

**Open Hearing On 2009 Fiscal Year Budget**

President McComb declared the start of the open hearing to approve the 2009 fiscal year budget at 7:01 p.m. With no verbal or written objections to, or statements in favor of the proposed 2009 fiscal year budget presented, President McComb declared the open hearing closed at 7:02 p.m.

**Audience to Visitors**

President McComb 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. An invitation to an open house the evening of April 17<sup>th</sup> has been extended to all New Market students who will be attending Clarinda next fall in the K-8 building.
2. The annual All-School Party for the middle school students will be held after school on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
3. The scores from the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills have been received. The staff will now spend time reviewing the scores and drawing conclusions on best teaching practices and student learning approaches.
4. The Art and Technology Curriculum Committees are finishing their work of reviewing the current curriculums and making changes as needed. The Technology Curriculum Committee will be reviewing curriculum each year from now on, as technology advances warrant a constant review.

Mr. Honnold, Superintendent, reported:

1. Lois Davison has been hired as a long-term sub in the middle school food service to fill the vacancy left with the resignation of Roxie Smith.
2. The 2008-2009 school calendar is close to completion. Discussion continues to be held on dates and times for professional development. The final draft will be brought to the Board in the near future for approval.
3. Mrs. Boysen and the Preschool Grant Committee are in the process of writing the grant for a 4-year-old program. If approved, the funds would be available for the fall of 2008.
4. A School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) meeting is scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> in the boardroom.

**Consent Items**

A motion was made by Scherf, seconded by Fulk, to approve the following consent items:

- A. Minutes of the March 10, 2008, and March 24, 2008, meetings.
- B. Bills in the amounts of:

General Fund	\$133,980.46
Activity Fund	\$26,798.18
Nutrition Fund	\$28,949.43
- C. March 31, 2008, Financial Statements, Activity Fund report, Hot Lunch report, and open enrollment application(s).

The motion to approve the consent items was unanimously approved by the Board.

## **Old Business**

There was no old business for the Board to consider at this time.

## **New Business**

### **Approve 2009 Fiscal Year Budget**

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Watkins, to approve the 2009 fiscal year budget. The open hearing held at the start of the meeting was part of the budget process. The budget will be filed with the Page County Auditor and sent to the Iowa Department of Management on April 15, 2008. The following is a summary of our levy rates per \$1,000 valuation for the 2009 budget year:

General Fund	\$11.37
Management Fund	\$.73
Physical Plant & Equip.	\$.33
Debt Service	<u>\$2.29</u>
Total Levy	\$14.72

This is a decrease of approximately \$2.10 from the current year. Following discussion, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the 2009 fiscal year budget.

### **Review of District Networking Options**

Currently the district receives its Internet connection through a fiber optic cable that runs to the high school building. The service is then sent to the K-8 Building and the McKinley Administration Building using a wireless signal made possible by the use of radios situated at the top of the towers at each building. When repair is needed on any one of the radios, someone must climb the tower to investigate and repair. The district has experienced several situations when a radio was "down" and at least one building was without service. Heartland Technology, who has been servicing our wireless system, will no longer be available to provide a service person to climb the towers. The radio on the tower at the high school is not working at this time. A back-up DSL connection from the high school to McKinley is being utilized and the signal is then sent to the K-8 building from the McKinley radio to the K-8 radio. Due to the speed limitations of the DSL connection, we have had to disconnect the link to PaySchools for the K-8 lunch program. With over 350 computers in the district and the increased number of parents accessing announcements, news, grades, attendance, and lunch balances via our web site, the Internet connection has become a vital communication tool. Add to that increased use of the computer in classroom instruction and it is apparent that we must maintain a reliable Internet connection. Mr. Schieffer, Dan DeGroot, and Superintendent Honnold have investigated several solutions, both short-term and long-term. Mr. Schieffer and Superintendent Honnold reviewed each option with the Board. Among the options were copper wire connection between the buildings, a higher frequency wireless connection with the radios mounted on the ground with just the antennae in the air, and the installation of fiber optic cable to the two buildings that currently do not have it. After considering all options, the Board decided to table any further discussion until we could further investigate the possibility of partnering with other organizations to run a fiber optic cable on the south side of Clarinda. This item will be brought to the Board for further discussion at the next regular meeting.

### **Approve Textbooks**

Textbooks considered for purchase at this time for the 2008-2009 school year include books for four courses in Family and Consumer Science, four courses in Agriculture, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Elements of Music, and a Physical Science book for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Mrs. Whipp was at the meeting to explain the need for a new science textbook at the freshman level to meet our goal of 80% of the new Iowa Model Core Curriculum being taught in the first two years of high school. Samples of the proposed textbooks were available for review by Board members with summaries from textbook and curriculum committees also offered as explanations for the textbook of choice. Following review of the textbooks presented, a motion was made by Watkins, seconded by Fulk, to approve the textbooks as presented. The motion passed on a 4-0 vote.

### **Receive Report on Gifted and Talented Program**

Mrs. Nordland, administrator responsible for overseeing the TAG Program, explained to the Board changes being implemented in the District's Program. She has attended gifted education workshops and has worked with the AEA staff to develop a new plan that includes identification, the writing of action plans, standards of the program, and program evaluation. It is a goal of the district to provide a challenging program for those students who would benefit from an accelerated learning opportunity.

### **Approve Coaching Contract**

A motion was made by Scherf, seconded by Watkins, to approve the contract with Ron Grebert to serve as assistant girls softball coach for the summer 2008 season. The motion was approved on a 3-1 vote. Aye: Scherf, Watkins, McComb. Nay: Fulk

### **Approve Resignation**

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Scherf, to approve the resignation of Pete Stansbury as middle school assistant football coach. The Board voted 4-0 to approve the motion.

### **Approve Special Education Contracts**

A motion was made by Watkins, seconded by Fulk, to approve the contracts Eddyville-Blakesburg, Nishna Valley, Pella, and Des Moines Independent Community Schools for special education students being served at the Clarinda Academy. The motion passed on a 4-0 vote.

### **Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Redemption of School Refunding Bonds**

Board member Watkins introduced the Resolution and moved its adoption. Board member Fulk seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called and the following Directors voted: Ayes: Fulk, McComb, Scherf, Watkins. Nays: none. President McComb declared the Resolution adopted as follows:

#### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDEPTION OF SCHOOL REFUNDING BONDS DATED APRIL 1, 2005**

WHEREAS, the Clarinda Community School District issued \$3,150,000 General Obligation School Refunding Bonds dated April 1, 2005 (the "2005 Bonds"), of which \$2,415,000 are outstanding and of which \$435,000 are being called for redemption on June 1, 2008, which are described in Schedule A attached to this Resolution (the "Redeemed Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the 2005 Bonds which mature on any June 1 after June 1, 2006 may be called in whole or in part on those dates, from Local Option Tax revenues, in inverse order of maturity and within annual maturity by lot by giving 30 days' notice of redemption to the registered owner of the Bonds, the terms of redemption to be par plus accrued interest to the date of call, such notice to be given by ordinary mail to the owner of record of the Bond at the address shown on the books of the Registrar; and

WHEREAS, the School District has accumulated Local Option Tax revenues, and it is in the best interest of the School District to call and redeem the June 1, 2013 maturity of the 2005 Bonds on June 1, 2008, and to call and redeem \$145,000 of the June 1, 2012 maturity of the 2005 Bonds on June 1, 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved:

Section 1. The Treasurer and Paying Agent are authorized and directed to give notice of redemption in substantially the form set forth in Schedule B attached to this Resolution. The Treasurer shall deposit with the Paying Agent, Bankers Trust Company, N.A., \$435,000 to call and redeem the Bonds described in Schedule A attached to this Resolution on June 1, 2008, such call and redemption to be effective June 1, 2008, pursuant to the terms of the 2005 Bonds and the notice to be given to bond holders in the form attached hereto attached as Schedule B. All liability for interest on the Redeemed Bonds shall cease, terminate, and be completely discharged as of June 1, 2008, as provided in Section 7(f) of the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of the 2005 Bonds.

Section 2. The Paying Agent is authorized and directed to select the bonds of the 2012 maturity and to give notice to registered bond holders and to notify the Bond Insuror, Financial Guaranty Insurance Company and service bureaus of the bond redemption.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2008

Scott McComb, President of the Board of Directors, Clarinda Community School District

Cindy L. VanFosson, Secretary of the Board of Directors, Clarinda Community School District

### **Board Correspondence**

Fulk: Attended the Spring Play and thought the students did a fantastic job. All cast and crewmembers should be commended.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Watkins, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. The Board approved the motion on a 4-0 vote.

### **Executive Session**

President McComb declared the Board in executive session at 8:53 p.m. to discuss salaries for employees not covered under the bargaining unit. At 9:11 p.m., President McComb declared the Board out of executive session.

Cindy L. VanFosson  
Board Secretary