

**September 28, 2015
Regular Meeting
Board of Directors
Clarinda Community School District**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Audience to Visitors
5. Administrative Reports
6. Old Business
7. New Business
 - A. Report on New State Assessments for 2016-2017 School Year
 - B. Presentation on Teacher Leadership Compensation Application
 - C. Approve Home School Assistance Teacher Contracts
 - D. Approve Special Education Contracts
8. Correspondence from Board Members
9. Adjournment

Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Clarinda Community School District met in regular session on Monday, September 28, 2015, 5:00 p.m., at the Board Room located in the McKinley Building, 423 East Nodaway St., Clarinda, IA 51632.

Call to Order

President Sunderman called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The following board members were present: President Sunderman, Vice President McComb, Bond, Jones, and Turner.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried 5-0.

Audience to Visitors

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

Administrative Reports

Miss Nook, High School Principal, reported:

- 1) The Fall production, "The Importance of Being Earnest," will be performed November 6th and 7th in the auditorium.
- 2) Parent-teacher conferences at the high school are this Wednesday, 3-7 pm. Teachers will have professional development in the morning.

Mrs. Wellhausen, Special Programs Director, reported:

- 1) Our special education teachers and paraprofessionals are working together during professional development to review and revise instructional practices for our students.
- 2) At the Academy we are verifying all student residency for enrollment purposes.

Mrs. Opperman, Elementary Principal, reported:

- 1) Garfield students are participating in the FAST Assessment, given 3 times a year, as part of the State's Education Reform. It will provide data on reading readiness.

Superintendent Honnold reported:

- 1) Official student count is October 1st, and we have been working on verifying all students.
- 2) We are actively looking for parents or community members who would like to attend our School Improvement Advisory Committee meetings this year. If you know someone who would like to participate, please ask them to let us know.
- 3) A million thanks to Fareway and Hy-Vee for donating a thousand bottles of water each during the water main break. Everybody pitched in and we had very few issues.
- 4) October 9th will be a full day of technology training for the teaching staff.
- 5) Darin & I attended a meeting today at the City, with information on proposed TIF projects.

Old Business

Board members had no old business to consider.

New Business

Report on New State Assessments for 2016-2017

Mrs. Wellhausen presented a PowerPoint outlining the new assessments that will be required of all schools in Iowa, beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. Smarter Balanced were developed by a consortium of states whose work was guided by the belief that a high-quality assessment system aligned to rigorous academic standards can improve teaching and learning and help prepare students for success in college and career training. The assessments will present an individually tailored set of questions to students based on their responses. This is an improvement over traditional assessments because it gives teachers a more detailed picture of a student's strengths and weaknesses. The Legislature has already approved the use of the Smarter Balanced assessments, but has not yet appropriated any funds. Because the testing will cost about \$30 per student to implement, which is a major cost to the districts, funding must be considered.

Presentation on Teacher Leadership Compensation Application

As part of the 2013 Iowa Education Reform legislation, a four-year process to develop the statewide Teacher Leadership and Compensation System was created, with the goal of all schools districts voluntarily participating by the 2016-2017 school year. The philosophy of the System is rewarding effective teachers with leadership opportunities and higher pay, attracting promising new teachers with competitive starting salaries and more support, and encouraging greater collaboration for all teachers to learn from each other. These components are alleged to improve instruction and therefore improve student learning. Although Clarinda CSD applied for grant money to participate in 2014-2015, we were not one of the 39 schools chosen to participate the first year of implementation. In the fall of 2014, the Board voted to forego applying for the 2015-2016 school year, believing that adding staff and pulling our best teachers out of the classroom when outcomes have not been proven, was not the best thing for our students. Ryan Wise, Director of the Department of Education and Becky Slater, a TLC consultant, traveled to Clarinda and visited with the administrative team to encourage our district to apply for 2016-2017. It is apparent the Governor wants 100% of the schools in the state to participate and after sharing concerns of the system with Director Wise, the administrative team agreed it would be in the district's best interest to submit a plan. Based on our 2014 certified enrollment, the district would receive approximately \$290,000 the first year. One District Instructional Leader would receive a \$65,000 salary and spend 100% of their 220 day contract providing leadership in promoting quality instructional practices for all staff. This position will be selected from among teachers currently on staff who might be interested. The second tier would be designated District Lead Teachers. These four teachers will spend 80% of their time in their normal classroom and 20% of their time as an instructional coach. We would hire substitutes to cover their time away from the classroom and they would receive a \$10,000 stipend for 20 additional days added to their contract.

Twelve Mentor Teachers will provide assistance to the District Lead Teachers in promoting instructional strategies that impact learning. They will each receive a \$5,000 stipend for an additional 10 days.

Twenty-five Model or Career Teachers will receive a \$1000 stipend if they actively participate in book study as identified by the District Instructional Leader or District Lead Teachers and collaborate with school leaders and colleagues to address instructional issues. Initial Teachers will receive a \$1000 stipend for observing career teachers and inviting career teachers into their classrooms for peer review. Teachers Anne Morrison, Dawn Sunderman, Colleen Comer, Linda Vanden Bosch, and Cindy Aldrich were at the meeting to present the application, along with Mrs. Opperman, who chaired the committee. Board member Jones stated he was impressed a group of teachers worked collaboratively to create the plan, believing this would encourage the willingness to participate. Bond also commented on how important it was for the teaching staff to buy into the process. Board member Turner maintained the philosophy is great, but our current teacher leadership program is currently doing a large amount of this already without interference or incentives from the State. The final application must be submitted by October 16th, so the Board will be asked for approval at the October 12th meeting.

Approve Home School Assistance Teacher Contracts

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Bond, to approve the contracts with Lexy Davies to serve as Home School Assistance teacher for the 2015-2016 school year. Seven home school students have documented interest in the Home School Assistance Program. Mrs. Davies will provide 15 hours of oversight per quarter for each student. Motion carried 5-0.

Approve Special Education Contracts

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by McComb, to approve special education contracts with South Page, Stanton, and Villisca Community School Districts for students being served in the Clarinda District. Motion carried 5-0.

Correspondence

Jones: Thanks to everyone who contributed during homecoming week.

McComb: I was not at the previous meeting, so welcome to our new members.

Bond: It was a great homecoming.

Sunderman: Thanks to the staff for their flexibility during the water issue. It sounds like everybody pitched in and things ran as smoothly as possible.

Adjournment

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Jones, to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Cindy L. VanFosson
Board Secretary