

**May 10, 2010
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, May 10, 2010, 6:00 p.m., at the Board Room located in the McKinley Building, 423 East Nodaway, Clarinda, IA 51632.

Call to Order

Vice President Turner called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The following board members were present: Vice President Turner, Fine, Rarick, and McComb. President Watkins 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

Vice President Turner 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. A group of seventh grade boys participated in the State National History Day Competition in Des Moines on May 2nd & 3rd at the Iowa State Historical Building. Jared DeVoe, Austin Smith, Brook Stephens, and Dillon Strait were named finalists and received certificates and pins for their efforts. Over 8000 students across the state of Iowa registered to compete at their local level. Only two in each category move on from the regionals to the state and then the top two from the state move on to Nationals.
2. There were several unique performances during the Middle School talent show on April 30th. A large crowd of parents, grandparents, and students enjoyed the show.
3. The 7th & 8th grade girls' track team has broken seven school records this spring. Jared DeVoe broke the shot put record for the boys'.
4. Nine 8th grade students qualified to participate in the All-State 8th Grade Honor Band on May 13th in Des Moines. Our school qualified more students than any other district in Iowa.
5. The middle school honor assembly for the 3rd trimester will be held on the last day of school.

Superintendent Honnold reported:

1. The Cardinal Fund has graciously agreed to provide funding to purchase a 52" television with wall mount, a laptop computer, and all audio and video cables needed for the high school library, which will be remodeled this summer. Total cost for the items is approximately \$3,000.
2. We are currently interviewing candidates for activities director and elementary teachers.
3. Graduation for the Class of 2010 will be this Sunday, May 16th, at 2:00 p.m.
4. Iowa School Board Recognition Week is May 9th – 15th. Please accept a small token of appreciation for the many hours you, as board members, volunteer in the interest of our students.

Consent Items

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

- A. Minutes of the April 12, 2010, and April 26, 2010 meetings.
- B. Bills in the amounts of:

General Fund	\$216,144.75
Activity Fund	\$15,230.19
Management Fund	\$2,206.04
Nutrition Fund	\$24,305.93
Debt Service Fund	\$432,743.75
- C. April 30, 2010 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. The motion to approve the consent items was approved on a 4-0 vote.

Old Business

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

New Business

FFA Program of Activities Annual Report

Emma Sunderman and Bailie Walters were at the meeting with their advisor, Mr. Andy Johnson, to deliver the presentation they used for the Program of Activities contest. They, with fellow FFA member Nick Comer, advanced from the sub-district and district levels to state competition during the Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference in April where they received a gold rating and 2nd place. The presentation described the many opportunities members of the FFA Chapter are given to improve or expand their leadership skills and served as an overview of the year.

Approve Graduation Lists

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by McComb, to approve the graduation lists from the Clarinda Academy and Clarinda High School pending successful completion of the graduation requirements set by the Clarinda Board of Education. The motion passed on a 4-0 vote.

Clarinda Community High School 2010 Graduates

Katie Aldrich
Kory Aldrich
Aurora Bahn
Ariel Baker
Jordan Barr
Daniel Bates
Jameson Bellairs
Brandon Bergren
Robbie Bierman
Jake Booher
Ryan Booher
Samuel Bradley
Gabriel Buesing
Nicolas Cabeen
Anthony Card
Nicholas Card
Amanda Carlson
Ryan Christie
Nicholas Comer
Candice Crider
Roberto Cruz
Michelle Davidson
Clara Davison
Lyndsay Dean
McKinsey Dow
Jonathon Edwards
James Fallis

Ross Farwell
Allison Gerdts
Cassandra Gibson
James Greenwood
Ethan Grimes
Kelby Harrison
Elizabeth Hartstack
Jordan Havener
Evan Hough
Brandon Hoyt
Talynn Hughes
Jonathan Hurst
Jeana Jago
Garrett Karr
Dillon Kersey
Ryan Kesler
Amanda Kirsch
Julia Lantz
Nicole Lantz
Joshua Leach
Benjamin Lederer
Christine Marsh
Ryan McNeal
Kelsey Mead
Shelby Montgomery
Wesley Mullen
Jessie Patterson

Stephanie Powers
Savannah Race
Kevin Ridnour
Spencer Ripley
Caitlynn Schwab
Avery Shepherd
Cree Slough
Shantika Smith
Megan Snyder
Laura Steinauer
Mark Steinbach
Quentin Sturm
Bryce Sunderman
Emma Sunderman
Ruth Sunderman
Brody Swanson
Dillon Urich
Brittany VanFosson
Alexander Volkmar
Amanda Walters
Bailie Walters
Jacob Walters
Mitchell Walters
Shantel Whipple
Jacob Wilson

Clarinda Alternative High School 2010 Graduates

Kourtney Foster

Salena Ribbey

Kody Whipple

Clarinda Academy 2010 Graduates

Amy Hill
Samantha Peterson

Lucas Pettey
Keethan Roland

Jarron Smith
Davanta Williams

Approve Contract(s)

A motion was made by Rarick, seconded by Fine, to approve the contract with Monica Torres Alvarez to serve as high school Spanish teacher for the 2010-2011 school year. Ms. Alvarez has four years of teaching experience and two Masters Degrees. She will be moving to Clarinda from Spain with her husband and two young children as part of the "Visiting Teacher from Spain" Program. Our current Spanish teacher, Jesus Gutierrez, has been here since August 2007 as part of the same program. Following discussion of the tremendous job Mr. Gutierrez has done, the board voted 4-0 to approve the motion.

Approve Special Education Contracts

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Rarick, to approve the contracts with Ames, Bedford, Des Moines Independent, Marshalltown, and South Tama Community School Districts for special education students being served at the Clarinda Academy. Motion carried 4-0.

Approve Student Handbooks

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by McComb, to approve the 2010-2011 student handbooks with revisions presented, including a change in the high school trimester tests policy. Board members were provided handbooks for elementary, middle school, and high school. Administrators were on hand to review the changes in the handbooks. There were no changes proposed for the elementary handbook. In the middle school handbook the following changes were proposed:

1. A "Message to Parents" and "Classroom Conduct Expectations" was added
2. A student must attend school 51% of the day to participate in school-related activities that day or evening
3. Students too sick to attend school should also be too sick to attend school activities
4. Section on cheating added
5. Section on fighting and self-defense added
6. Section on homelessness added
7. Section on public displays of affection added
8. Rules of student conduct on school transportation were made more descriptive
9. Section on Talented and Gifted added

In the high school handbook the following changes were proposed:

1. "Suspensions" changed to Alternate Placement or suspension
2. Final Exam Options: Discussion was held by board members on the current trimester test policy tying required tests to attendance. Ms. Nook proposed 3 options. 1) No change to current policy. 2) Transitioning the required number of exams each year from current policy by adding one test each year until all exams are required. 3) All students are required to take all trimester tests. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the board to change the policy to #3 beginning with the 2010-2011 school year.
3. Personal Electronic Devices: Students may use personal electronic devices for classroom activities with teacher approval. Electronic devices include, but are not limited to I-Pods, CD players, and cell phones. However, teachers have the option to collect student cell phones and electronic devices at the beginning of each class to reduce the risk of interference.
4. Announcements: Announcements will be sent electronically
5. Visitors: All visitors must wear a visitor badge while in the building
6. Post Secondary Enrollment Option: Changed from junior/senior to any student
7. Emergency and Disaster Plans: Assemble in the designated area with the class you were in when the announcement was made
8. Health and Immunization Certificates: Physical examinations by a health care provider will be required for students participating in athletics or students new to the district
9. BPA will no longer be listed as an extra-curricular activity

Following presentations by Mr. McNeal and Ms. Nook on the changes proposed in the handbooks for their buildings, the motion to approve the 2010-2011 student handbooks with the revisions presented was approved on a 3-1 vote. Aye: Fine, McComb, Turner Nay: Rarick

Approve Memorandum of Understanding for Race to the Top Application

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fine, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Race to the Top application with the support being conditional based on the following items:

- There is no obligation to adopt any of the four improvement models

- The duration/termination clause allows the district to opt out at a later date if there is an “undue burden”
- There is a strong disagreement with the requirement of SF 2033 to negotiate school improvement models for persistently lowest achieving schools
- The teacher association will not play a role in principal evaluation linked to student achievement

Iowa is applying for the second round of federal money for the Race to the Top funding. Several schools in the state are not signing memorandums of understanding to participate because the language in Iowa’s application states an administrator and half the building staff would be removed if student achievement results were not as required. The School Administrators of Iowa (SAI) recommends Iowa districts sign the memorandums of understanding with the statement of conditions attached. Discussion on the Race to the Top federal program by board members included the awareness that Iowa districts may be required to follow the educational reforms mandated by the federal government anyway and unless our board agrees to sign the memorandum of understanding, we will be forced to do it without additional funding. Following all discussion, the board voted 4-0 to approve the motion.

Board Correspondence

Fine: The middle school band concert was great. Mr. Aldrich does a phenomenal job.

Rarick: 1) Congratulations to middle school students for their many accomplishments this school year. 2) Congratulations to Emma Sunderman and Bailie Walters who we heard from earlier this evening. Their presentation on the activities of the FFA was outstanding.

Turner: 1) Congratulations to middle school students who participated in the talent show on April 30th. 2) Congratulations to Mr. Johnson and the Brokaw FFA. They have had a great year with many opportunities for students to gain leadership skills and academic and career experiences essential for success. Mr. Johnson has done a great job with the FFA.

Adjournment

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fine, to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. The motion passed on a 4-0 vote.

Recognition of Retiring Staff

Board members recognized eleven members of the district staff who are retiring at the end of the school year. Cake and homemade ice cream were served and each retiring employee received an engraved clock with their name and dates of service to the district. Vice President Turner, speaking on behalf of the entire board, thanked the group and told it has been a privilege to work together with them in providing a great educational experience for our students.

The following staff members were recognized:

Joy Bitting	27 years	Butch Niehaus	11 years
Gloria Bonjour	33 years	Vicki Prentis	34 years
Diane Campbell	33 years	Susie Rinehart	30 years
Beth Gregory	16 years	Harley Schieffer	16 years
Marla Mattes	23 years	Karen Woodard	24 years
Ann Meyer	18 years		

Cindy L. VanFosson
Board Secretary