

**February 23, 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, February 23, 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, and McComb. Board members Fine and Fulk were absent.

**Open Hearing on 2009-2010 Early Start Calendar**

At 7:01 p.m. President Watkins declared the start of the open hearing on the 2009-2010 early start calendar. Hearing no verbal and receiving no written objections to the early start calendar, President Watkins closed the hearing at 7:02 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the agenda. The motion was approved 3-0.

**Audience to Visitors**

President Watkins welcomed all visitors to the meeting. Dave Carper and Roger Williams were at the meeting. No visitors chose to address the board at this time.

**Administrative Reports**

Mrs. Boysen, Special Programs Director, reported:

1. We will be giving the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills beginning the week of March 2<sup>nd</sup> and should be completed by March 13<sup>th</sup>.
2. The Preschool Grant Committee will meet March 2<sup>nd</sup> to complete work on the grant. We will submit it to the Department of Education for consideration for the 2009-2010 school year.
3. We are preparing for Kindergarten Roundup, which will be held April 29th-May 1st.
4. To celebrate Daniel Lemus Sliger's winning fight against Luekemia, Garfield students collected dimes to donate to The Foundation for Children with Cancer. Garfield students raised a total of \$814.02.

Mr. Ruffing, High School Principal, reported:

1. Congratulations to Daniel Carroll, Matt Hansen, Brittany VanFosson, Gabriel Buesing, Trevor Goodpasture, Jacob Hicks, and Ashley Sunderman. These students produced the one act play, Tone Clusters, by Joyce Carroll Oates. Not only were they one of only 8 plays invited to perform at the IHSSA All State Festival, but also their performance was named as the Critic's Choice and received the One Act Play Banner to display at CHS for one year. A further distinction is that Clarinda High School has won this banner more than any other school in the State of Iowa.

Mrs. Nordland, Middle School Principal, reported:

1. Holly Crawford, a seventh grade student, won both the spelling bee and the geography bee.
2. The Science Fair will be held February 26<sup>th</sup>.
3. Several middle school staff members will be working at McDonalds the evening of March 3rd. The restaurant will donate a portion of the sales to the school.

Mr. Schieffer, Activities Director, reported:

1. The National Honor Society induction of new members will be held February 26<sup>th</sup> in the high school auditorium.
2. Winter sports have concluded. Athletes, parents, and coaches are enjoying end-of-the-season banquets the next two weeks.

3. The CHS Jazz Band was selected to perform as one of the top 15 bands in Class 2A at the Iowa Jazz Championships in April.
4. The Brokaw FFA Chapter celebrated FFA week February 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. Their annual banquet will be held March 19<sup>th</sup>.
5. Congratulations to Bryant Hummel for winning a state wrestling championship at 215 lbs.
6. Cy Williams has been named a Mc Donalds All American Nominee. He was selected as one of 1500 basketball players in the United States to receive this honor.

Superintendent Honnold reported:

1. Congratulations to Mr. Schieffer for receiving the Athletic Director of the Year Award during the state wrestling tournament.
2. The well found under the boiler room of the New Market School Building has been evaluated and will be filled with bentonite. Mr. Watson will begin hauling dirt onto the site later this week, weather permitting.
3. The School Improvement Advisory Committee meeting has been moved to Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
4. Several parents completed the online survey during Parent-Teacher conferences at the K-8 building last week.

### **Old Business**

Board members had no old business to discuss or act on.

### **New Business**

#### **Approve 2009-2010 Early Start Calendar**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the early start calendar for the 2009-2010 school year. By Iowa law, school districts cannot start prior to the Monday in which September 1<sup>st</sup> falls without a request for an early start waiver. For 2009-2010 that means school could not start prior to August 31<sup>st</sup> without the waiver. The proposed calendar for 2009-2010 shows a start date of August 20<sup>th</sup>. Following a short discussion of the change of dates of the Iowa State Fair, the motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

#### **Approve Additional Track Coach for 2009 Season**

Currently the district employs a total of 4 track coaches. Jerry Lane and Suzette Reed are the girls' coaches and Dave Carper and Mike Smith are the boys' coaches. Board members discussed both the positives and the negatives in adding an additional coach. Mr. Schieffer spoke in favor of the additional coach; stating seven of the ten conference schools have 5 or more track coaches. President Watkins told those in attendance he could not vote to add a coach when we have already been handed a 1.5% reduction in state funding for the school year and it appears it may be worse next year. Following discussion, a motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the request for an additional track coach to be shared between the boys' and girls' programs. The motion failed on a 0-3 vote.

#### **Report on Regional Vocational School Concept**

Mr. Ruffing shared with board members a Regional Vocational Academy concept. Mr. Honnold and Mr. Ruffing have been meeting with administrators from schools in Southwest Iowa to discuss options that would allow sharing opportunities between districts in vocational programs. Using Clarinda, Shenandoah, and Red Oak as possible delivery centers, each of the three schools would offer a distinct program to reduce duplication and increase opportunities. Programs would be offered in a three-hour afternoon block. Senior students would attend their resident high school in the morning and then attend one of the three centers in the afternoon for advanced vocational courses. This concept is in the early developmental stage, but the chance to work cooperatively with other school districts to share resources and offer increased opportunities for our students is exciting and necessary as schools in our area deal with declining enrollments.

#### **Approve Distribution of Funds for 2009-2010 Certified Staff Contract**

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by McComb, to approve the money distribution for the 2009-2010 certified staff contract. A two-year agreement between the Clarinda Education Association and the Board of Directors was reached last year and the total package increase for 2009-2010 was set at 4.5%. After receiving insurance rates for fiscal year 2009-2010, it was decided that each teacher would receive \$665.48 a month for their insurance/annuity benefit. A beginning teacher will earn \$29,423 under the new contract. Total cost of the increase in teacher salaries and benefits over the current year will be \$189,773. The motion was approved on a 3-0 vote.

**Approve SBRC Application for Special Education Administrative Costs**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the School Budget Review Committee Application to charge special education administrative fees. Approval of the application allows us to charge an administrative fee to each school district that has a student being served at the Clarinda Academy. The fee offsets the cost of sending contracts and billings to the districts, in addition to covering a portion of salary of our Special Programs Director who oversees the special education program at the Academy on an on-going basis. The motion passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Correspondence From Board Members**

Turner: Congratulations to all who have received special recognition recently, including Mr. Schieffer, the One Act Play, Jazz Band, the FFA, and Bryant Hummel. Lots of hard work has gone into their efforts.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by McComb, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. The motion was approved on a 3-0 vote.

Cindy L. VanFosson  
Board Secretary