

**February 25, 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, February 25, 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.

Approval of Agenda

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

Audience to Visitors

President McComb 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. Turner arrived at 7:03 p.m.

Administrative Reports

Mrs. Boysen, Special Programs Director, reported:

1. Garfield first and third grade students are swimming at the Lied Center for the next two weeks. We appreciate the willingness of the Lied Center to allow this activity.
2. We will be giving the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills during the weeks of March 3rd and March 10th. Teachers in each grade level select the tests they want to give, but all grades test in reading, math, and science.
3. We are preparing for Kindergarten Roundup, which is April 3rd for the parent meeting and April 9th, 10th, and 11th for the visitation and conference.
4. Jumpstart, a program for area children birth to 5, will be held April 30th. The preschoolers are screened for hearing, vision, health, developmental progress, speech and language, and receive relevant information from community agencies. This year for the first time, Page County Public Health will also be providing lead screenings, a new state requirement for incoming kindergarten students.
5. A meeting to discuss writing a grant for a 4-year-old preschool program was held on February 19th with a collaborative group of interested people throughout the community. The group decided to pursue the grant and will now gather information on how many students are available for the program and where they are coming from. Bernie Wagoner and Pam Herzberg will assist me in preparing the grant application.

Mrs. Nordland, Middle School Principal, reported:

1. Parent-teacher conferences were held last week. We felt attendance was somewhat lower, with only 87% of the fifth grade parents and 78% of the eighth grade parents participating.
2. The MathCounts Team, led by Ms. Norris, competed in a regional contest on February 14th. High school students Pete Lund and Nicholas Cabeen worked with the students prior to the contest.
3. Page County Spelling Bee will be held February 26th at Essex.
4. The Science Fair will be held February 28th.
5. The All-School Parade of Bands will be March 6th in the high school gymnasium.

Mr. Schieffer, Activities Director, reported:

1. The National Honor Society induction of new members will be held February 28th 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 regional large group speech contest was held in our building on January 19th. All Clarinda groups received a I rating and advanced to the state contest in Des Moines on February 2nd.

REW Services Corporation	Ankeny	\$3,532.00
Pro Environmental Abatement	Des Moines	\$5,126.00

The asbestos abatement will take place during spring break in March, well in advance of the start of the boiler replacement project. Superintendent Honnold reminded board members of the additional cost of \$1,800 to be paid to Ames Environmental, Slater, IA, for air monitoring during the abatement process. The motion was approved on a 5-0 vote.

Approve Contribution for Tennis Resurfacing Project

A motion was made by Scherf, seconded by Watkins, to approve contributing \$5,000 to the City Parks and Recreation Department for the tennis court resurfacing project. According to information in the Clarinda Herald Journal, the city is hoping to raise approximately \$20,000 to resurface five tennis courts, four at the City Park and one at the Kiwanis Park. Clarinda High School tennis teams use the city courts for both practice and competition, therefore the district benefits from all maintenance and updating. Superintendent Honnold stated the funds would be taken from the student activity budget. Following the short discussion, the motion was approved on a 5-0 vote.

Approve Coaching Contract

A motion was made by Watkins, seconded by Scherf, to approve the contract with Trevor Arnold to serve as assistant baseball coach for the 2008 baseball season. Mr. Arnold is currently a student at NWMSU and works part time in their recreation center. He has worked in the recreation center at Kirkwood Community College and was assistant baseball coach at Titonka Consolidated Schools for grades 3-8. He earned several honors as a high school baseball player and has played several positions. The board voted 5-0 to approve the motion.

Correspondence From Board Members

Scherf: Congratulations to all winter activity participants.

McComb: The next regular meeting is March 10, 2008.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Turner, to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. The Board approved the motion on a 5-0 vote.

Work Session

Board members spent time discussing the 2008-2009 budget and the possibility of any change in staffing. Given the negotiated 4.3% increase to the certified staff and the decrease in enrollment, which affects state aid, the board must keep a close eye on the financial position of the district. It has been a board goal to maintain an 80% ratio of salaries and benefits to total budget. A preliminary budget will be brought to the board at the next meeting and items such as the cash reserve levy and the instructional support levy will be discussed.

Cindy L. VanFosson
Board Secretary