

**March 24, 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, March 24, 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 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Audience to Visitors

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

Administrative Reports

Superintendent Honnold reported:

1. The bus drivers are continuing to consider preliminary bus routes for next year. A seventh route is necessary to cover the additional area added from New Market.
2. Superintendents from New Market, Bedford, and Clarinda will be meeting at least once a month to discuss the ongoing processes dealing with the New Market Dissolution. The Clarinda District will be responsible for all permanent records of the New Market District after July 1, 2008.
3. Mr. Schieffer, Mr. DeGroot and I have begun investigating alternatives for our current local area network. The district's ICN and Internet access are received at the high school via a fiber optic cable. The other buildings are connected via radio transmitters at the top of towers situated at each site. We have received word that the company we've been using for maintenance and repair, Heartland Technology Solutions, from Harlan, will no longer provide technicians to climb the towers. With the number of computer workstations we have in the district, service is vital. In addition, most, if not all the communication we have with the Department of Education is done on their web site. We also have parents who check lunch balances, attendance, and grades on the district web site constantly. I will be reporting all possible alternatives in very near future.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Approve FFA Overnight Trip Request

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by Fulk, to approve the request for the FFA group to leave on Sunday afternoon to attend their state conference. The advisor and students will leave Clarinda during the afternoon on Sunday, April 13th. They will travel to Ames in order to be prepared for early morning contests at the Convention on Monday. The motion passed on a 4-0 vote.

Review of Fiscal Year 2009 Budget

Rescheduled Date, Time, and Place for Budget Hearing

A motion was made by Watkins, seconded by Fulk, to set April 14, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the McKinley Central Office Board room as the date, time, and location for the 2009 fiscal year budget hearing. The proposed 2009 fiscal year budget will be published Wednesday, April 2, 2008, in the Clarinda Herald Journal. The levy rate for 2009 will be a decrease of \$1.92 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, as compared to the current rate for 2008. Following discussion, the motion passed on a 4-0 vote of the Board.

Review of Professional Development Program

Mr. Ruffing, High School Principal, spent time sharing with Board members the basis of the professional development program the teaching staff has begun to utilize this year. The major concept of the new program is the use of Professional Learning Communities. Professional Learning Communities are groups of teachers who collaborate to share ideas, expectations, and teaching styles for the purpose of improving student learning and skill mastery. Studies indicate that students tend to challenge themselves toward higher learning when they see adults working together with a shared vision for student learning, behavior, and overall success. All teachers, K-12, will be using professional development times to improve their skills in this area and will be practicing the concepts each day.

Correspondence From Board Members

Turner: Attended the FFA annual banquet. It was nice to see the students being recognized for their achievements in FFA. The contests they attend build strong leadership skills.

Fulk: The publicity in the Clarinda Herald Journal for the spring play is very much appreciated.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Watkins, seconded by Fulk, to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. The motion was approved on a 4-0 vote.

Cindy L. VanFosson
Board Secretary