

**November 10, 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, November 10, 2008, 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, Fine, and Fulk. McComb was absent

**Approval of Agenda**

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

**Open Public Hearing**

President Watkins declared the start of the open hearing to adopt the resolution approving the plans, specifications, and bid documents for the New Market School Building demolition project at 7:02 p.m. With no verbal or written objections to, or statements in favor of the plans, specifications, and bid documents presented, President Watkins declared the open hearing closed at 7:03 p.m.

**Audience to Visitors**

President Watkins welcomed all visitors to the meeting. No visitors chose to address the Board at this time.

**Administrative Reports**

Mrs. Boysen, Special Programs Director, reported:

1. Parent-teacher conferences will be held this Thursday P.M. and Friday A.M.
2. Thursday morning will be a professional development session for the K-8 teachers. We will be working on reading vocabulary strategies to use with students.
3. We will hold our first preschool meeting of the year on November 17<sup>th</sup> to begin work on the grant for 2009-2010.
4. Mr. Hill, maintenance supervisor, and I will be working together to complete a Harkin Fire Grant application. The grant, if awarded, would help to address some of the citations listed on the recent Fire Marshall's report. The grant application is due December 15<sup>th</sup>.
5. Christmas concerts will begin the week of December 8<sup>th</sup>, during the noon hour.

Mrs. Nordland, Middle School Principal, reported:

1. The eighth grade band is honored to be performing on the courthouse lawn for the Veterans' Day ceremony tomorrow, November 11<sup>th</sup>.
2. Students who qualified to participate in the Southwest Iowa Honor Band will practice and perform at Lewis Central on November 14<sup>th</sup>.
3. The Middle School Honors Assembly for the first trimester will be held November 17<sup>th</sup>.
4. We are pleased to be hosting a guest artist in Mrs. Stephen's 8<sup>th</sup> grade art class. Students in that class will be observing and receiving hands on lessons in weaving.

Superintendent Honnold reported:

1. The new high school boiler is complete and passed all preparatory inspections.
2. One of the two cooling tower pumps at the K-8 site has been replaced and is working.
3. I will be traveling with a group of school administrators to Maryville on Thursday to visit a vocational program, observing and investigating how our students could benefit from such a program in our area.
4. Iowa Association of School Boards is sponsoring a program, "Project Lean," where schools team with a business in their area to gain insight into the business practices of private employers. NSK Corporation asked that we join them as team members for this program. We are one of only eight teams participating in the State of Iowa.

### **Consent Items**

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Turner, to approve the following consent items:

- A. Minutes of the October 6, 2008, October 13, 2008, and October 27, 2008, meetings.
- B. Bills in the amounts of:
  - General Fund               \$184,083.43
  - Management Fund       \$2,634.50
  - Physical Plant & Equip   \$37,326.00
  - Debt Service             \$28,556.25
  - Activity Fund            \$21,896.00
  - Nutrition Fund          \$30,253.92
  - New Market Trust        \$41,150.22
- C. October 31, 2008, Financial Statements, Activity Fund report, Hot Lunch report, and open enrollment application(s).

Turner informed she had audited the bills and found them in order for payment. The motion to approve the consent items was unanimously approved by the Board.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business for the Board to discuss at this time.

### **New Business**

#### **Approve Plans, Specifications, and Bid Documents on New Market School Demolition**

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Fine, to adopt the resolution approving the plans, specifications, and bid documents for the New Market School building demolition project. The project manual will be available for review in the Superintendent's office. Bidders may obtain bidding documents at Pro Copy in Des Moines, IA. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the New Market site on November 13, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. The architect will be available for questions. Bids will be due at the McKinley Central Office before 2:00 p.m. on December 4, 2008, and the Board of Directors will consider award of the contract at their regular meeting on December 8, 2008. Work on the project shall begin on or about December 8, 2008, and shall be completed no later than April 30, 2009. Following a short discussion on the plans included in the project manual, the motion to approve the resolution passed on a 4-0 vote of the Board.

McComb arrived at 7:25 p.m.

#### **Receive Report on At-Risk Program**

Kathy Linke, Home School Interventionist, spoke with Board members about the district's At-Risk program. The At-Risk program focuses on returning dropouts and dropout prevention by raising funds through a local property tax levy to support K-12 programs and services that improve school performance. High absenteeism, limited or no extra-curricular participation, poor grades, or low achievement scores in reading and math indicate potential dropouts. Our district funds the following positions using At-Risk monies: 1) One half of the Special Program Director's salary, 2) One half of the school nurse's salary, 3) the salary of the home school interventionist, and 4) the salary of the English Limited Learner instructor. Our At-Risk program attempts to support parents and families of a student in need. This is done through personal contact, assistance with community program supports, and referrals for supports. Mrs. Linke works to strengthen the positive relationship between students, their families and the school, believing that in order to provide the greatest potential for success in our students, the district must consider the student's over-all environment. The budget and application for allowable growth for 2009-2010 will be brought to the Board at a later date.

#### **Approve Special Education Contracts**

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by McComb, to approve the contracts with Cedar Rapids, Southeast Warren, Mason City, and Glenwood Community School Districts for special education students being served at the Clarinda Academy. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fulk, to approve the contracts with Bedford Community School District for Clarinda resident special education students who are open enrolled into the Bedford District. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

**Approve Early Graduation Lists**

A motion was made by Fine, seconded by Turner, to approve the early graduation list pending successful completion of the graduation requirements as established by the Clarinda Board of Education. The following students are requesting early graduation following the conclusion of the first trimester:

Aubrey Maree James Behrhorst

Samantha Jo Eggers

Melanie Katelyn Morgenstern

Lucas James Berndt

Jessica Mae Fastenau

Ashley Louise Wilson

These students will be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies in May, but are not eligible to participate in any other school activities for the rest of the year. Motion carried on a 5-0 vote.

**Approve PSEO and College Academy Courses for Second Semester**

A motion was made by Fulk, seconded by Fine, to approve the Post Secondary Enrollment and College Academy classes for the second semester of the 2008-2009 school year. College Academy classes are courses the district has coordinated with IWCC. PSEO classes are scheduled by IWCC and junior and senior students are allowed to attend if our high school does not offer the same course. Seventeen students have enrolled in second semester PSEO courses and twenty-five students are enrolled in at least one college academy course. Following discussion, the motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

**Approve Coaching Resignation**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fine, to approve the resignation of Steve Guthrie as assistant high school football coach. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

**Receive Report on Special Education Certified Count**

Superintendent Honnold reviewed results of the official special education count on November 6, 2008. This complete count of special education students in the district is compiled each year. The official count determines the special education funding for the 2009-2010 school year. Special education funding is based on the weighted count of resident special education students. The greater the need of the student, the higher the weighted count. The total weighted count for next year's funding is 98.89. Clarinda resident special education students make up 10.8% of our student population. A historical trend line shows the percentage has remained fairly stable for several years. This year twenty-two of our resident special education students are being served outside the district, meaning we will pay another school district or other facility for providing educational services for those students.

**Board Correspondence**

Fulk: This Thursday's Herald Journal will contain an article about Cardinal Fund.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Fulk, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. The motion was approved on a 5-0 vote of the Board.

Cindy L. VanFosson

Board Secretary