

**HEARING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
FEBRUARY 8, 2005—6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

President Jorgensen called the hearing to order at 6:01 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Benson, Daane, Johnson, Jorgensen, Mounts, and Peterson.

Hearing and Discussion

President Jorgensen announced that notice was provided that a hearing would be held February 8, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. local time. The hearing is held for the purpose of approving the proposed specifications, proposed form of contract, and estimated cost of \$9,983,005 for the new near northside elementary school.

Any interested party may appear and file objections and any information for or against same will be heard on the above-named project with the final decision of the Board of Education a matter of record.

Recommendation

Director Mounts moved and Director Benson seconded the motion to approve the proposed specifications, proposed form of contract, and estimated cost of \$9,983,005 for the new near northside elementary school. The motion carried 7-0.

Adjourn

Director Benson moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to adjourn the hearing. The motion carried 7-0, and the hearing adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
FEBRUARY 8, 2005—6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

President Jorgensen called the regular meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Benson, Daane, Johnson, Jorgensen, Mounts, and Peterson.

Approval of Agenda

Director Mounts moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried 7-0.

Citizen Input

None received.

Board Member Reports

Director Johnson: Lobbied in Des Moines last week and the week before. Felt these sessions were very worthwhile and productive. On the 25th met with one of the leaders of the House and asked what more we could do to let legislators know how we feel about issues. This legislator indicated that we need to get to legislators on a weekly basis by any means of communication. Also communicate with the leaders of the Senate and House, not just our local leaders.

Director Peterson: Indicated that this was very true. Had a nice day at Leeds Elementary School last Wednesday. Very impressed with the honors assembly. Certificates were given for grades, attendance, etc. The students raised \$2,000 for the Heart Center at Mercy Medical.

Director Batcheller: Spent the Urban Education Lobby Day on the 25th talking to local legislators and House and Senate leaders. The next day met with Jim Wise, Margaret Buckton, and legislators. Also feels we need to communicate on a weekly basis with our legislators. The tax equity issue is not as important throughout the entire state as it is to our district. The Board Finance Committee met last week and had a nice presentation by Roger Lobitz regarding notebooks for board members to use in order to go from paperless to electronic agendas and **UPDATEs**.

Director Daane: Toured Lincoln Elementary School this morning; Impressed with how nice the building is physically. After the last board meeting, felt remiss in not pointing out that when he and Director Peterson were at the IASB Lobby Day, he should have given credit to legislators, Mr. Rants and Dr. Wendt in particular, who stood up in front of about 500 school leaders to try to make our case. Battled as hard as they could to inform about this issue and how it affects us. We need to convince other legislators in the state—ours are already convinced.

Director Mounts: Had an experience last week that she would place among the top experiences she's ever had as an educator. Went to Brown University regarding the Smaller Learning Communities planning grant with a delegation of nineteen teachers, parents, and principals from our district. It was very well organized. Every participant was totally engaged the whole time; very enthusiastic. In some ways we are doing better than some districts. Saw some very good districts. Debriefed after each session. At the end of the conference, they debriefed as a group for about three hours. Talking points were compiled. This group will meet again this Thursday. Money expended was utilized as well as she's ever seen. Feels young teachers are well prepared for teaching. Commendations go out to those who prepared the visit.

President Jorgensen: Feels we have a very engaged working board with all of the committee work that they do, as well as in other areas. Proud to be on this board.

President Jorgensen: Stated that the current average tax receipt is \$608 per student. The state Legislature wants to set a limit of \$575 per student. The difference for Sioux City would be \$33 per student, and \$33 multiplied by 14,000 students multiplied by ten years (length of the sales tax) equals \$4.6 million.

President Jorgensen reported that future meetings are scheduled as follows:

Board Policy Committee is scheduled for February 9, 2005, at 3:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center.

Board Student Achievement Committee is scheduled for February 11, 2005, at 10:30 a.m., in the Education Service Center.

Educational Equity Committee will meet in conjunction with the Department of Education Site Visit.

Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2005, at 12:00 p.m., at 1005 Fourth Street.

Board Public Relations Committee will be held February 16, 2005, at 4:30 p.m., in the Superintendent's Office.

District Advisory Committee is scheduled for February 24, 2005, at 5:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center Board Room.

Finance Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2005, at 8:00 a.m., at 421 Nebraska Street.

Director Benson: Attended the Chamber Lobby Day last week. The Mayor's Youth Commission attended and presented their position on keg registration to the House and Senate. Did a good job representing Sioux City and our high schools.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Williams: Glad Director Mounts had the opportunity to travel to Brown University.

Opportunity to attend the American Choral Directors Association Conference in Los Angeles this past week and able to hear the final tour performance of Weston Noble, Director of the Luther College Nordic Choir. Attended performances of wonderful children's, high school, college, and adult choirs from all over the country.

Returned to attend the City Superintendents' biannual meeting. Highlights were that Judy Jeffrey stated that Iowa is noted as a state that does not have state standards. We have so many prescriptions around us that we may as well have state standards. Heard about the interest the Legislature and State Board of Education has for raising the bar for high school graduation. Would like to be invited to the Student Achievement Committee to discuss some of the issues discussed at this meeting.

State Board asked Judy Jeffrey to visit every school district in the state before the end of May to talk about high school graduation requirements and raising the bar. She will bring a board member with her on these visits.

When he was in Des Moines, Jim Wise (DE) and Margaret Buckton (IASB) asked about our authorized but unspent balances. Ms. Buckton then called Bill Stoneburg to get the full information on this issue.

It appears that our board may have been a discussion item at the Board of Supervisors' meeting today when Pat Gill stated that the Board of Supervisors was violating the open meetings law. One member of the Board of Supervisors indicated that he visited the Education Service Center often and saw several meetings of board members. All of our meetings are noticed and there is never a quorum at a committee meeting nor any other meeting other than a regular or

special board meeting. We are very open about our meetings and comply with all elements of the law.

Consent Action Items

Director Batcheller moved and Director Mounts seconded the motion to approve the consent action items that consist of the minutes from the January 25 and 31, 2005, meetings; the human resources report; and the finance report. Director Mounts stated that we need to acknowledge what Bruce Johnson has done for the school district. We owe him a great deal. Big shoes to fill; he will be missed. Losing marvelous experience, head art teacher, and many other valuable employees. The motion carried 7-0.

28E Agreement for Developmental Services and Land

Director Mounts moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to confirm and ratify the 28E Agreement for Developmental Services and Land dated June 14, 2004, with the City of Sioux City, Iowa, a municipal corporation (Willie Joe Park and other land). The motion carried 6-0, with Director Daane abstaining.

Purchase of Property

Director Daane moved and Director Benson seconded the motion to approve the purchase of the former Willie Joe Park, the adjacent vacated rights-of-way and the property commonly known as 909 1/2 Iowa Street, from the City of Sioux City for the purchase price of \$72,116.48. The motion carried 7-0.

Equipment Purchase Under the E-Rate (Schools and Library) Federal Program

Director Batcheller moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to authorize the Business Office to accept the low bid for the elementary schools and East Middle School, and the new near northside elementary school for network cabling and network switches. The motion carried 7-0.

Building Oversight Committee

Director Daane moved and Director Benson seconded the motion to approve the appointment of Hillard Knutson, Gary Roan, Paul Stensland, Charlie Lange, Chad Fengel, and Edward Guinane to serve three-year terms on the Building Oversight Committee. The motion carried 7-0.

Discussion/Information

William Stoneburg presented preliminary budget information on transportation, the management fund, and early childhood grants. A transportation department

audit will be done to see whether greater efficiencies and a more effective system can be put in place. Worker's compensation insurance premiums are budgeted at \$894,000 for the current year. The management fund, which involves several different types of insurance, was also presented. A concern is that the employer contributions to IPERS may be increased, which could cost the district several hundred thousand dollars over the next few years. The proposal is for a 60-40 split rather than the current 50-50 split. Mr. Stoneburg then presented information on state and federal early childhood programs. Early childhood federal and state dollars fund 37 teaching positions. While state dollars appear to be relatively stable, federal dollars are in question.

Adjourn

Director Mounts moved and Director Benson seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion carried 7-0, and the regular meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.