

**REGULAR MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
MAY 8, 2006—6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

President Batcheller called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Benson, Daane, Johnson, Jorgensen, Mounts and Peterson.

Approval of Agenda

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

Citizen Input

None.

Board Member Reports

Director Benson: Had the opportunity to attend the North High School jazz event, which included honoring Larry Kisor, at the Orpheum Theatre. She said that it is always awe inspiring to see our students perform across the district.

Director Daane: Watched the Quiz Bowl this weekend and feels the same way about those students as Director Benson does about the students involved in music.

Director Mounts: Traveled with Superintendent Williams to Des Moines on May 2, 2006, to be present for the celebration honoring Jackie Warnstadt as the Iowa Teacher of the Year. Jackie's comments were very well done and proper.

Director Johnson: Attended the Chamber lobby event in Washington, DC, recently. It was quite a growth experience for him and very rewarding and worthwhile. Did a lot of good relating to senators and also their aides and built a network. Three weeks ago attended the annual National School Boards Association conference, and one topic that our board talked about a number of weeks ago was the bilingual classes at Irving. Heard at the conference about a community that started a bilingual program seven or eight years ago and they now have a lottery system to select students who wish to be in the program. This group had students address the group.

Director Peterson: Was impressed with the Quiz Bowl as well.

Director Jorgensen: An item in the weekly **UPDATE** caught his attention—a letter that went out to parents relating to a formation of a group to look out after African American students in the district. Very impressed with what the group is

going to be doing. This is a good start and would like to see it done for all minority groups—getting agencies and parents together.

President Batcheller: Attended the Chamber lobby trip to Washington, DC, and visited with senators and representatives from Iowa and other states as well. It is a little overpowering at times to be at the seat of power. It is well worth our efforts to lobby on behalf of PLATO and special education, etc. He attended the Top 5 Percent Banquet last week. Kids from every school in the area were represented. It was a delightful meeting. Hopes other board members can attend in the future. We've got graduations coming up and he's looking forward to the "Gosh Awful Gooney" at Green Gables.

Superintendent Williams: Extended his invitation to the annual ice cream post-graduation celebration.

Director Mounts: Announced that Director Daane's son, Nic, and Annika Kolbo were selected as Rotary co-students of the year.

President Batcheller announced future meetings as follows:

The meeting of the Board Finance Committee is scheduled for May 9, 2006, at 12:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center.

The next meeting of the Public Relations Committee is scheduled for May 11, 2006, at 4:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center.

The next meeting of the Equity Committee is scheduled for May 16, 2006, at 11:30 a.m., in the Education Service Center.

The next meeting of the Board Policy Committee is scheduled for May 17, 2006, at 3:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center.

The next Finance Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2006, at 8:00 a.m., at 421 Nebraska Street.

The next meeting of the Student Achievement Committee is scheduled for May 24, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., in the Education Service Center.

Superintendent's Report

- Had an opportunity to attend the Kiwanis Top 5 Percent Graduation Banquet. Congratulated the Kiwanis members for their work on this fine event. They had a 95 percent turnout of students, and the focus was all on the kids.

- Pleased that both Nic Daane and Annika Kolbo were chosen as Rotary Students of the Year. He was pleased to attend the art show, and glad to hear the swan song for Larry Kisor at North High School.

- Reported that the Foundation Committee has begun their work. The committee consists of a fascinating group of people whose advice might be well framed for us.

- Stated that in DC, he was the moderator for the Wednesday session with John Boehner, House Majority Leader. The superintendent's question had been framed for him by Brustein and Manasevit. Mr. Williams asked Representative Boehner what is likely to pass and why would certain bills not pass. He heard that Perkins money is safe and other programs that will not increase but are at least likely to be maintained. The sessions were excellent and the organization wonderful.
- Attended the Catholic Schools of Sioux City dinner and auction Saturday night. The auction went well, and he is very happy about the funds they raised for the Catholic Schools System.
- Reported that at 4:00 p.m., the board met with the Building Oversight Committee on the question of whether two new elementary schools should have a VAV system or a geo thermal system. After 40 minutes of discussion, we re-polled the Building Oversight Committee and they unanimously voted to go with the VAV system. The board members asked Mr. Williams to direct the architects to work with that parameter in mind.

Property Tax Equity Report

Superintendent Williams reported that he had asked Gordon Winterlin to do an analysis of what the property tax equity program (that was passed for \$24 million in \$6 million increments over the next four year) meant for Sioux City. Mr. Winterlin indicated that this means a \$1.8 million tax reduction in property taxes in 2007. The districts who need the most help will receive more dollars at the beginning of this program.

Director Jorgensen indicated that the problem is with the formula, and that this bill does not solve the problem. We will need to lobby hard for this every year. President Batcheller stated that he was very appreciative of our legislative body as they worked diligently on this but we must remain vigilant regarding this issue. Superintendent Williams stated that we offer our thanks to other folks including Clarence Hoffman and Debi Durham (who met with the IASB's Margaret Buckton and Speaker of the House Christopher Rants). Mr. Williams gave the board and community great credit for the hard work they did in helping raise this issue—not only this year but last year as well. Mr. Winterlin stated that taxpayers in Sioux City will receive tax relief. For example, a person owning a home with an assessed value of \$105,000 will receive a tax cut in the amount of \$41.74. He further stated that commercial and industrial property owners will see the greatest reductions. The total tax rate will drop by 96 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

President Batcheller indicated that he telephoned Margaret Buckton on the Saturday following the very late evening Friday vote. She called him back and said she had gotten home at 2:30 a.m. from the Capitol. He thanked her on behalf of the board and community for the intelligence and integrity she shows. He stated that he wanted to publicly thank her and the IASB for their efforts.

Consent Action Items

Director Mounts moved and Director Benson seconded the motion to approve the consent action items which included the minutes of the April 24, 2006, board meeting; the human resources report; and the finance report. The motion carried 4-0, with Directors Johnson, Mounts and Batcheller abstaining from the minutes.

Agreement Between the District and Alois Tschampl

Director Mounts moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to approve the agreement with Alois Tschampl in regard to the Grant/McKinley Elementary School replacement site. The motion carried 7-0.

Awarding of Asphalt Paving at West High School

Director Mounts moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to award the bid to Barkley Asphalt, Inc. for paving at West High School in the amount of \$138,500. Mel McKern was asked to negotiate a successful change order so that the area west of the West High School student parking lot can also be paved. The motion carried 7-0.

Kitchen Equipment for New Irving Elementary School

Director Daane moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to award the bid for the kitchen equipment for the new Irving Elementary School to REI in the amount of \$8,946.98, to Martin Brothers in the amount of \$2,830.00, and to Hockenbergs in the amount of \$13,705.00, for a total of \$25,581.98. Plus, Food Service will budget \$18,000.00 for cafeteria tables. Therefore, the board is asked to approve \$43,581.98 for the new Irving Elementary School kitchen equipment. The motion carried 7-0.

Longfellow Elementary School Window Replacement

Director Benson moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to approve the plans, specs and estimated cost of \$160,000 for the 2006 Longfellow Elementary School window replacement project, and to set June 12, 2006, 6:00 p.m. local time, for the public hearing on this project. The motion carried 7-0.

K-8 Technology Standards and Benchmarks, Core Indicators and Materials

Director Peterson moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to approve the K-8 Technology Standards and Benchmarks, Core Indicators and Materials. The motion carried 7-0.

K-12 Health Education Materials Purchase

Director Benson moved and Director Daane seconded the motion to approve the purchase of the K-12 Health Education materials from the following: Harcourt School Publishers in the amount of \$148,960.00 for elementary school;

Glencoe/McGraw-Hill Publishers in the amount of \$41,985.00 for middle school; and Prentice Hall Publishers in the amount of \$20,270 for high school. The motion carried 7-0.

Resolution to Sell Single Home and Two Garages

Director Daane moved and Director Benson seconded the motion to accept the resolution to sell the dwellings located at 3959 Jefferson Street for a total of \$6,237.00, to Eugene Waddell and that a hearing on this resolution be held May 15, 2006, 6:00 p.m. local time, at the Education Service Center. The motion carried 7-0.

Discussion/Information

President Batcheller presented the Call for 2007 IASB Legislative Action Priorities that are due August 11, 2006. The board will work on their priorities over the next few months. We need to continue to press for the property tax issue. We are not satisfied and we are not done. Director Daane talked about the same dollars per student in the state and the fact that this is not property tax equity. Director Jorgensen would address the issue as funding equity as it relates to the funding formulate, PPEL, at risk support, etc. President Batcheller also wants the issue of Chapter 20 addressed in regard to binding arbitration as a resolution. Superintendent Williams doesn't see Chapter 20 being dissolved politically. Board members were asked to email additional issues to Lexie, and the board will discuss this again in June.

Superintendent Williams presented revised Board Policies 181.11—Electronic Equipment and Services Usage and 1003.1—Citizen Requests for Information; and the deletion of Board Policy 1071.17—Examination of School District Public Records (combined with 1003.1).

President Batcheller presented the idea of the addition of some action items to the consent action items area. He asked if the board desires to have some of its action items as a part of the consent agenda with the opportunity to remove any item from the consent action items it deems necessary. Or does the board prefer to bring them forward under the action items as we have historically done. Board consensus was that we try placing some items which have been presented to the board previously. It was suggested by Superintendent Williams that consent action items contain a part one for the board minutes, human resources report, and fiscal report, and part two for other action items. Board leadership was asked to prepare an agenda for the May 15, 2006, board meeting with suggested changes.

President Batcheller indicated that the property tax equity bill had already been covered by Mr. Winterlin's presentation. There is a windfall for one year only and serious issues that need to be discussed. We are looking for student equity. Director Peterson thanked Jenny Welp for her excellent articles and the support of *The Sioux City Journal*. Superintendent Williams stated that he believes we have a very fine newspaper and wouldn't trade this paper or its personnel for any

other paper in the state. He thanked Jenny for the very fine article on Ginny Ericson, our new Teacher of the Year.

Adjourn

Director Mounts moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion carried 7-0 and the regular meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.