

**REGULAR MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
NOVEMBER 26, 2007—6:00 P.M.**

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Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

President Jorgensen called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Daane, Johnson, Jorgensen, Meyers and Peterson. Absent: Director Mounts.

Approval of Agenda

Director Batcheller moved and Director Daane seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried 6-0.

Recognition of our Sioux City Teacher of the Year, Sheila Coyle

Superintendent Williams introduced Sheila Coyle, this year's Sioux City Teacher of the Year. He complimented Sheila for her work with her students. He congratulated her for her expertise and also for being one of five finalists for the Iowa Teacher of the Year. Sheila Coyle stated that when she met with the selection committee for the Iowa Teacher of the Year competition, they asked her, "What are some of the positive things you see in your district?" Ms. Coyle said that the community is only as good as the leaders. The students are only as good as the administration and staff. She pointed out and affirmed that our community is to be commended for believing so much in the education of their own children. She said further that we are fortunate to have a board who takes all things into consideration, and an administration that does the same. One of interviewers came up to her later and said that she is lucky to live in that Utopia where faculty, board and administration back their staff. She said that Mr. Williams is an inspiration and this is evident throughout all of Iowa—probably throughout the nation.

Citizen Input

None.

Board Member Reports/Future Meetings

Director Meyers: Reported on a wonderful cruise he had taken visiting Africa, Europe and other areas. He stated that we are very fortunate to live in America. It was a great learning experience.

- Discussion in the most recent Board Finance Committee focused on the replacement of school buses. He said that he is pleased with the cooperation from the City of Sioux City regarding the use of some City Transit buses. The City representatives stated that they felt a symbiotic relationship would be beneficial to all.
- Bill Stoneburg received information last week regarding bonding. The short of it is we were advised not to incur any costs which would have to be paid from any additional bond sales this year. We have enough money to complete the two schools underway and the HVAC at West High School, but the Smith Elementary School project will need a bond sale which we hope to do next October.

Director Peterson: Attended several sessions at the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) conference and appreciated all of them. She indicated that the Iowa Behavioral Alliance has a program in which several schools in the state have enrolled. She disseminated information on this program to the board. She stated that she feels that the IASB is further ahead in the programs they offer than are some of those at the National Association of School Boards conference.

Director Daane: Stated that the sales tax lawsuit has never been dismissed. He suggested that perhaps there is some political motivation in the recommendation from the bond counsel. He suggested that we might want a second opinion.

- Reported that he, President Jorgensen and Superintendent Williams attended the IASB Delegate Assembly. All issues which would benefit our district were overwhelmingly approved. The only substantive discussion involved the issue of whether or not to change the mandatory compulsory education age from 16 to 18. This did pass in a close vote.
- Taught a financial course at East High School and once again realized the skill it takes to teach.

President Jorgensen: Reported that he too attended the IASB conference, and that there was a sterling, wonderful performance by the East High School Headliners with rave reviews by several attendees afterwards. The following day in the closing session, the group heard a wonderful speech by the Iowa Teacher of the year Jackie Warnstadt. President Jorgensen stated that he is proud of this district, and the rest of the state also realized what a great group of people we have.

President Jorgensen announced that future meetings would be held as follows:

- The next Student Achievement Committee meeting is scheduled for November 27, 2007, at 12:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center.
- The next meeting of the Communications Committee is scheduled for November 29, 2007, at 3:30 p.m., in the Education Service Center.
- The next meeting of the Board Policy/Human Relations Committee is scheduled for December 7, 2007, 1:30 p.m., in the Education Service Center.
- The next meeting of the Board Finance and Facilities Committee is scheduled for December 11, 2007, at 11:00 a.m., in the Education Service Center.
- The next Finance Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2007, at 8:00 a.m., at 421 Nebraska Street.
- The next Equity Committee meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2007, at 11:30 a.m., in the Education Service Center.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Williams: Announced the Irving Preschool ribbon cutting will be held on Wednesday at 10 a.m.

- Also attended the IASB conference and our district was given some nice plaudits from our successor district which won this year's T. E. Davidson award.
- Almost as astounding as the performance from the Headliners was the way in which the students quickly and quietly cleared the set. It was impressive.
- Also attended the Urban Education Network (UEN) banquet and breakfast meetings. It is worth mentioning that our district succeeded in causing the UEN to refashion to a somewhat more consonant stating of our goal of property tax equity and more compatible with the IASB resolutions. Much of the work focused on what the Wallace Grant will mean to all districts in Iowa insofar as schools being designated as "Schools In Need of Assistance." This will be discussed with the cabinet tomorrow.

- Began the effort to try to broker a meeting with Senator Gronstahl and then with the Governor on matters of equity. This is an urgent priority for us as well as for other districts. The coalition that we've been seeking to establish is sound and solid. Growing it is going to take a lot of work and education. We are not shying away from it but we are more realistic about it.

Consent Action Items Part I

Director Batcheller moved and Director Daane seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2007, board meeting; the Human Resources Report and the Finance Report. The motion carried 5-0 with Director Johnson abstaining.

Consent Action Items Part II

Director Batcheller moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to approve for second and final reading Board Policy 803.2 (AR803.2)—Purchasing; and Board Policy 505.13 (AR505.13)—Family Night/Sundays for first reading. The motion carried 6-0.

Modified Allowable Growth for Returning Dropouts and Dropout Prevention Services (at risk)

Director Daane moved and Director Meyers seconded the motion to approve the modified allowable growth for returning dropouts and dropout prevention services (at risk). Written comments were received from the Tax Research Conference. The motion carried 6-0.

Course Guide

Director Batcheller moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to approve the 2008 Course Guide as amended. The motion carried 5-1 with Director Daane voting no.

Plymouth County Sales Tax

Director Meyers moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to approve the Revenue Purpose Statement. The motion carried 6-0.

Language Arts Standards and Benchmarks (Grades 6-12)

Director Peterson moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to approve the Language Arts Standards and Benchmarks (Grades 6-12). The motion carried 5-1 with Director Daane voting no.

Talented and Gifted Standards and Benchmarks

Director Peterson moved and Director Meyers seconded the motion to approve the TAG standards and benchmarks. The motion carried 5-1 with Director Daane voting no.

Change Order #13 for Leeds Elementary School

Director Daane moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve Change Order #13 for Leeds Elementary School, for adding an observation window to Resource Room 201 for a total add to the project of \$1,642. The motion carried 6-0.

Approval of Superintendent Search Consultant Firm

Director Daane moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve the recommendation of the Board Search Committee to hire McPherson and Jacobson as our superintendent search consultant firm. The motion carried 6-0. (Note: The board will meet with McPherson and Jacobson at an open meeting on Thursday, November 29, 2007, at 5:30 p.m., in the Education Service Center Board Room.

Discussion/Information

Title IV Report

Jean Carlson presented the Title IV report indicating that there are not many changes in this program. Title IV provides many programs which assist students and their families. They are trying anti-violence messages this year.

Purchase of Buses

Troy Thomas stated that in the Board Finance Committee discussion took place regarding the purchase of five new buses as replacement buses.

NWEA Level Test Results

Pete Garlinghouse presented his report on the NWEA level test results. Test scores remain very constant over time and remain close to the national scores. We need to look at all students but look at the low-end students at an accelerated rate.

Boundaries for New Leeds and Unity Elementary Schools

Dr. Linda Madison stated that Jake Sheets had prepared the neighborhood boundary concept a couple of years ago.

Superintendent Williams stated that we plan to move Lowell Elementary School students to Leeds Elementary School.

Students who reside in one of the two mobile home courts on the east side of Highway 75 that have heretofore attended Hawthorne/Leeds would now be redirected by boundary to be in the East district. This works reasonably well with the secondary students. Regency Mobile Home Park students would now come back into the Unity Elementary School. Dr. Madison stated that letters will be sent out to parents who have children attending a school via transfer, asking if they wish to remain in that school or to attend their neighborhood school—the new Leeds or Unity Elementary Schools. There are also implications for secondary boundaries as well. Parents could request transfers if appropriate and, if approved, would have to provide their own transportation.

Adjourn

Director Batcheller moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0, and the regular meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Ronald A. Jorgensen, President
SCCSD Board of Directors

Alexandra B. Sprague, Secretary
SCCSD Board of Directors