

**REGULAR MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
APRIL 28, 2008—6:00 P.M.**

I.	Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance	1
II.	Approval of Agenda	1
III.	Citizen Input	1
IV.	Differentiated Technology Presentation	1
V.	Dr. Robert Rice, Board Member, NWAEA	1
VI.	Board Member Report/Future Meetings	2
VII.	Superintendent's Report	3
VIII.	Consent Action Items	3
IX.	Secondary Language Arts Materials Purchases	3
X.	Purchase of SAN/Centralized Backup	3
XI.	Purchase of Server Replacement	4
XII.	Purchase of Utilization Software	4
XIII.	Roofing Bids	4
XIV.	Approval to List Hawthorne and McKinley, as well as Lowell Land	4
XV.	Discussion/Information	
	A. Contract for New Superintendent	4
	B. Project Lead the Way	5
	C. Special Education Report	5
	D. Board Policies 605.4/Ar605.4, 684.06	5
XVI.	Adjourn	6

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Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Citizen Input

None.

Differentiation Technology Presentation

Layne Henn explained that the differentiated technology is what happens in the classroom when the technology and curriculum are integrated. This program was started last summer. He discussed the various ways in which technology was used in the classroom. Craig Dickman and Justin Locke, teachers from Sunnyside Elementary School, gave a presentation on classroom responders. It was very interesting. Matt Olson stated that he used the document camera in his science classes.

Dr. Robert Rice, Board Member, Northwest Area Education Agency

Dr. Rice said that he was pleased to meet with the board. He talked about the attendance of board members at the 2008 AEA Board of Directors Conference. He introduced Tim Grieves, the new head administrator for the Northwest Area Education Agency. Dr. Rice invited the board to attend one of their board meetings which are held in LeMars. Dr. Grieves stated that his board asked him to extend their appreciation to Superintendent Williams for his support and understanding of AEAs. He answered questions from Mr. Williams. Dr. Rice invited the board to visit the Northwest Area Education Agency building.

Board Member Reports

Director Meyers: Stated that he had attended an interesting Finance Oversight Committee meeting this morning and the group talked mostly about the recently passed penny sales tax bill. With this additional revenue it is about \$2.5 million per year which makes it possible to do more than one building and a bit more. He said that in 2011 about another \$2 million kicks in which translates to about a 6 percent decrease in taxes. President Jorgensen said that this legislation, by 2011, will be generating \$7.7 million more to this community. He publicly thanked everyone involved in this process, the legislators in Des Moines and Representative Roger Wendt who started this bill in the House.

Director Batcheller: Stated that he, Bill Stoneburg, John Meyers and Gordon Winterlin are attending a legislative session to explain the effects of what has been passed and will be signed by the Governor. He and Director Meyers want to visit with Larry Sigel to see how the numbers will run. It is currently \$575 per student and will increase to \$730 within the next year. We need to decide which projects to do. Do we pay as we go or bond? Without this legislation there would be no plans for new buildings and/or repairs. At a minimum, this penny sales tax bill will reduce our tax load by at least \$5 million in 2011.

Future Meetings

President Jorgensen announced future meetings as follows:

- ♦ The next Building Oversight Committee is scheduled for April 30, 2008, at 4:00 p.m., at the Unity Elementary School site.
- ♦ The next meeting of the Board Policy/Human Relations Committee is scheduled for May 2, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center.
- ♦ The next meeting of the Board Finance and Facilities Committee is scheduled for May 7, 2008 at noon, in the Education Service Center.
- ♦ The next Student Achievement Committee meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2008, at noon, in the Education Service Center.
- ♦ The next meeting of the Communications Committee is scheduled for May 16, 2008, at 4:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center.
- ♦ The next Finance Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2008, at 8:00 a.m., at 421 Nebraska Street.
- ♦ The next Equity Committee meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2008, at 11:30 a.m., in the Education Service Center.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Williams:

- ♦ Stated that he had attended a wonderful performance of Cats at West High School. He also attended the community youth chorus which gave its final performance. This is a busy time of the year which leads up to the commencements.
- ♦ We have lots of things to celebrate in this district. Thank you to the people in the Legislature and also to the public. We are not yet sure about the collective bargaining bill. We wait with baited breath on that one. As we celebrate the major gain with the passage of the penny tax, we are still beset by some curiosities of the funding system. We are often compared with other school districts in terms of class size, programming, etc. He talked about accessing a voter-approved PPEL. We have long-term work to do. Rededicate ourselves to the task that still lies before us.
- ♦ He had e-mailed the board regarding the laying of a Masonic cornerstone. The board is appreciative of Masonic support but there is no firm agreement that he can sense that would re-institute that tradition.

Consent Action Items

Part I: Director Mounts moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the special meetings held April 10, 2008, and the April 28, 2008, board meeting; the Human Resources Report and the Finance Report. The motion carried 6-0.

Part II: Director Johnson moved and Director Mounts seconded the motion to approve for first reading the Activities Code; and the deletion of Board Policy 103.1 (the contents of which are covered in discrimination policies approved on April 14, 2008). The motion carried 6-0.

Secondary Language Arts Materials Purchases

Director Mounts moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to award to the listed publishers and book vendors the amount of \$631,551.95 for the 2008 Language Arts book adoption. The motion carried 6-0.

Purchase of SAN/Centralized Backup

Director Mounts moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to award IBM the SAN/Centralized backup project in the amount of \$140,518. The motion carried 6-0.

Purchase of Server Replacement

Director Batcheller moved and Director Meyers seconded the motion to award Dell \$55,339 for the purchase of blade servers. The motion carried 6-0.

Purchase of Utilization Software

Director Meyers moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to award Digital River Corporation \$20,400 for a 1,700 client user license. The motion carried 6-0.

Roofing Bids

Director Mounts moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to award contracts to Winkler Roofing in the amount of \$39,924 for work on the Hoover Building roof and to JC Roofing in the amount of \$152,191 for roofing over the music areas and metal and automotive shops at North High School. The motion carried 6-0.

Approval to List Hawthorne and McKinley Buildings and Lowell Land

Director Peterson moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to authorize the administration to turn the Hawthorne and McKinley Buildings over to real estate agents for listing, as well as the land on which Lowell currently sits. The motion carried 6-0.

Discussion/Information

Contract for New Superintendent

Mr. Williams said that this contract is not a concern of his. The board has been very fair to him. As we deal with the issue that this contract is larger than the community was braced for in some respects, he posed that the community should reflect on what happens to a school district when a search fails. There are reasons why a board needs to stay fairly true to the parameters which it approaches if it wants to be seen as acting in good faith. He has been blessed with nine years of trust with his board members.

President Jorgensen stated that we initially were going to act on Dr. Gausman's contact but we didn't get it on the agenda in time to meet the open meetings law which requires 24 hour's notice. So we deferred it to tomorrow at noon. He went over the process the board went through to determine what that pay level was and what kind of superintendent they wanted for our students and citizens. In the top eight school districts in Iowa, Sioux City is fourth in regard to salary amount.

We hired search consultants who have knowledge of what superintendents are getting in today's market. A number of school districts have a lower base pay but pay out a lot more money into a retirement fund, or provide full insurance coverage, or a car allowance, TSAs or bonuses. We can't focus just on the base salary. One superintendent search just completed in Council Bluffs concluded with the hiring of a new superintendent for \$195,000 and he said that he also knew that Waterloo was in the process of searching for a superintendent and were advertising \$195,000. Steve Crary stated that he wanted to be sure we were competitive and hiring the best person for the job. President Jorgensen stated that our consultants indicated that we needed to offer at least \$195,000 in order to meet our objectives to attract high caliber candidates to apply for our vacancy. We had fifteen applicants, this group was narrowed to the top six and then the board picked the top four and, following 70 individuals who interviewed these candidates, came to the consensus of who we wanted for this position. He felt that we needed to offer the salary we advertised. Steve Crary said that we could have lost a great candidate if we had not done this. President Jorgensen stated that we have a great candidate. He then went through the differences in salary packages in the largest eight school districts. If you throw those all into the mix our superintendent's compensation package is in seventh place. We are not offering the largest salary in the area or state. He feels we were prudent with tax dollars.

President Jorgensen then outlined the contents of the contract.

Project Lead the Way

Dr. McTaggart thanked the board for their support of this program. Alison Benson stated PSAs would be run free of charge for one full year, and that this is a good way to promote our district. These PSAs will culminate with a half-hour program on Project Lead the Way.

Special Education Report

Jean Peters and Janet Rohmiller presented the special education report through the use of a PowerPoint, including statistics from the 2006-2007 Sioux City Special Education District Profile. Technology support has helped students with disabilities.

Board Policies (605.4/AR605.4, 684.06)

Superintendent Williams presented the board policies listed above for discussion. Superintendent Williams stated that we are merely codifying in this board policy changes that were made in the buildings two years ago.

Adjourn

Director Batcheller moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion carried 6-0, and the regular meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Ronald A. Jorgensen, President
SCCSD Board of Directors

Alexandra B. Sprague, Secretary
SCCSD Board of Directors