

**SPECIAL MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
FEBRUARY 24, 2004—5:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

President James called the special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Daane, James, Jorgensen, Kruse, and Peterson. Absent: Director Mounts.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of/Adjourn to Closed Session

Director Kruse moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to recommend that the board go into closed session to conduct a strategy meeting of a public employer concerning employees collective bargaining as provided in Section 20.17(3) of the Code. The motion carried 6-0.

Return to and Adjourn From Open Session

Director Kruse moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to return to and adjourn from open session. The motion carried 6-0, and the special meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING
SIOUX CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
FEBRUARY 24, 2004—6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

President James called the regular meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. Present: Directors Batcheller, Daane, James, Jorgensen, Kruse, and Peterson. Absent: Director Mounts.

Approval of Agenda

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

Citizen Input

Glenn Januska spoke in favor of the Roberts Stadium concept. Controversy is sending a bad signal to anyone who would consider donating money to the district, city, state, etc. Not very gracious of the effort in the amount of money that we're talking about. Feels we have done due diligence. Hopes we don't lose the donor.

Lynn Richardson requested formally the October 2002 engineering report from the college and the company. Mr. McKern indicated that this was Morningside's report to give, and the engineering company has indicated that they have a copy the committee may pick up.

Julie Weeder asked if there were two engineering studies out there. The superintendent indicated that the district has one report which it paid for, and Morningside College paid for a report nine months prior to our report being completed.

Mr. McKern indicated this would be cleared up at a meeting on Thursday.

Lynn Richardson asked a question regarding the timeline as he feels it has been shortened by nine days. Asked if his group raised \$214,000 per year for seven years, would they meet the intent of the bid specifications on this project? Mr. Williams indicated that this does amount to \$1.5 million.

Frank Fisher stated that he was concerned about the notice to sell and lease back Roberts Stadium. Wanted to know where the \$2.35 million figure comes from. Mr. Williams stated that this comes from a Morningside College benefactor.

Superintendent Williams stated that about three years ago he held a meeting on the Morningside College campus to discuss the fact that we anticipated vacating the old East Middle School when our new East Middle School was completed. Mel McKern was present at this meeting.

The objective was to explore the first right of refusal on the old East Middle School. Morningside College politely declined this offer, but stated that they would be interested in Roberts Stadium. This wasn't a proposal, it was an idea. The idea lay fallow until late this summer when the college approached us and stated that they had a benefactor who was interested at the level of \$2.5 million if we could get an engineering report. Shortly thereafter, the benefactor's gift was firm enough that we then got together to discuss this concept.

Mr. Fisher stated that he feels bidders need more time.

Mr. McKern will bring his copy of the 2003 engineering report and copies will be made for the board members.

The superintendent asked that a public meeting be scheduled with representatives of Schroder engineering and Mel McKern to go through the Roberts Stadium engineering report.

Mel McKern stated that he has been listening for several weeks, months on this issue. Wants to make it known that in 1996 when he came to this district, his duties were explained to him. He was to manage the support services of the district. Also, that we had a facility in the district called Roberts Stadium. He was told to manage it and take care of it, but he was informed that there was no budget for its upkeep. He was told that the district would make money for upkeep from selling concessions and renting the stadium.

Mr. McKern was a member of the Roberts Stadium Committee. He informed the committee in 1996 that the facility was sinking into the ground and that we had to do something about it. The next year he tried to negotiate an increase in fees for tickets sold, with part of the ticket price to be put into the Roberts Stadium fund. The Roberts Stadium group said they understood but no one stepped forward to help maintain the facility.

Dick Benton stated that he doesn't feel anyone questions the integrity or ethics on this negotiation. In perpetuity wording bothers him. Is there an escape clause in this. Dan Moore indicated that are two forms of escape.

Mr. Benton feels that if someone in the future wants to build a stadium at a certain high school, how does the district get out of using Roberts Stadium? Mr. Williams stated that the district would be able to walk away from the stadium.

Jim Rixner addressed the board regarding a meeting he attended in Des Moines last week on the Chamber Legislative Day. He stated that he has the greatest respect for the board, but he is concerned that the official position of the school board is that we can live with 2 percent allowable growth. School districts are in terrible shape and should support the Governor's proposal for the 6 percent allowable growth. Wants the board to fight the good fight anyway. He, as well as seventy percent of people recently polled in Iowa by the *Des Moines Register* this week, approve the raising of taxes in order to fund education.

Superintendent Williams thanked him for his advocacy for school funding. Cautions us to separate our position with regard to Fiscal Year 2004-2005 to 2005-2006. Believes we're on record as saying to our legislators for 2004-2005 that you have voted 2 percent and if that's all we will have, then understand

these principles, it must be fully funded because a failure to fully fund it comes back hard on local property tax. We must have the class size dollars integral to that package. Our position with regard to 2005-2006 is that 2 percent is not enough and the Iowa Association of School Boards and the Urban Education Network knows that. We are not overtly in favor of a quantification of our needs at a 6 percent level. There are reasons why. And that is because that agenda item adopted by the UEN and the IASB occurred after we had had our conversations with our legislators. We've never said that 2 percent was enough. What we had said is that the state must address its revenue picture in order to adequately fund education. We're on record as having said that, and I think we'll stay that course.

Mr. Rixner stated that the district needs to demand of the Legislature to meet the needs of education in the State of Iowa.

Until and unless the state is willing to come to grips with the revenue that supports 6 percent and until and unless we remember that the rule of compounding, rule of 72 means that at 6 percent we would double our tax load on someone every twelve years, then we have to think about 6 percent as opposed to 4 or 2 percent or whatever. He respects the legislative process. Our legislators have heard us say the same thing. Our message after the vote and after the veto, was that there are vast differences and it is the obligation of our General Assembly and the Governor to get back to work and work that out.

Board Member Reports

Director Kruse: Attended Patriot's Pen assembly at Hoover Middle School. Awesome assembly. Kids, teachers, 185th, very impressive, very moving, and glad to be invited.

Director Batcheller: Opportunity to read to some kindergarten children at Hawthorne Elementary School on Thursday last. Pretty enjoyable experience. Attended the Finance Oversight Committee meeting, and things look good. Attended the Conference Board meeting.

Director Peterson: Attended the Educational Equity Committee meeting. The next meeting will be meeting in conjunction with Reach training. Attended Governor's Task Force meeting.

Director Jorgensen: Enjoyed the Hoover Middle School assembly. Also read at Hawthorne Elementary School about Lewis and Clark. Fun time. Had the honor to attend the Teacher of the Year assembly at Riverside Elementary School.

Director Daane: Patriot's Pen assembly was the neatest assembly he's ever attended in Sioux City. Would like it exported to other middle schools. No greater public recognition of the quality of our education than to see our kids

respect our flag. Attending game after game after musical after show choir this time of year and commented that we as parents and people in the community don't appreciate enough the work that coaches and music teachers do for our kids. We overlook the value of the teaching that goes on through our coaches and music educators and the time they put in.

President James: Read to first graders, attended Teacher of the Year assembly, Educational Equity Committee meeting very interesting, Task Force wrapping up initial work—very exciting.

President James announced that future meetings are scheduled as follows:

Board Policy Committee—February 25, 2004—11:45 a.m.—ESC
District Advisory Committee—February 26, 2004—5:00 p.m.—ESC
Board Finance Committee—March 2, 2004—12:00 p.m.—ESC
Educational Equity Committee—March 16, 2004—11:30 a.m.—WHAEA
Finance Oversight Committee—March 22, 2004— 8:00 a.m.— 421 Nebraska t

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Williams: Admires public discourse with regard to Roberts Stadium.

Visited Hoover Middle School, read at Hawthorne Elementary School, been at the Teacher of the Year assembly, and co-facilitated the Task Force.

Visited East High School last night for a dress rehearsal of their show choir which is hosting a major event this weekend. It was quite remarkable. Watched brilliant teaching, magnificent singing, and fine choreography. The instructor ended the rehearsal by reading a children's book about a penguin that couldn't fly which illustrated to the performers that you can be a better choir than you ever envisioned you could be, if you set your mind to it.

In an athletic contest between North High School and Sioux Falls Roosevelt in Sioux Falls last week, there was an incident. Appears one of our kids made a statement to one of the Sioux Falls players that was less than exemplary. The Sioux Falls player rejoined. One of our coaches was concerned and intervened. He directed both students off the court, and in doing so, he touched the Sioux Falls student. Mr. Williams apologized to the Sioux Falls athletic director and Superintendent Keegan. Gesture with hands could have been misread. Encouraged that we will take care of students and get them off the floor and prevent conflict. There was a front-page article in the *Argus Leader* and an article in the *Weekender*. The superintendent stands for the highest decorum when it comes to our actions on and off the court.

Invited Dan Moore to the podium because the long-awaited proposal from Morningside College is ready to be presented to the board.

Attorney Dan Moore stated that he had received the proposal this afternoon. This proposal is the result of substantial discussions and negotiations. The first draft was received January 16, 2004. Morningside College and the district have listened to the public and made concessions, changes, and tried to formulate an agreement. Emphasized that the board has not seen this agreement, nor have the committee members who helped with prior drafts. He disseminated a copy of the report. Asked the board and superintendent to get questions and comments back to him within one week's time. Wants to finalize the document with other proposals received.

Mr. Williams asked that questions be channeled through the board secretary's desk. She will then forward these comments/questions to the superintendent and/or Mr. Moore. He thanked the attorneys for getting us to this point so the public can scrutinize this agreement in its legal form.

Board Education

Director Kruse continued board education with the eight key areas and disseminated homework for the board which will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Consent Action Items

Director Batcheller moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to approve the consent action items which consisted of the minutes of the February 10, 2004, board meeting; the human resources report, and the finance report. The motion carried 6-0.

Formal Acceptance of Audit

Jeff Peters, Williams & Company, presented the district audit for the year ending June 30, 2003. He stated that Bill Stoneburg and his staff need to be commended for their work. District had a pretty good year even though the budget is a battle. Past year historically looks good. Gordon Winterlin and Patty Pageler spend hours and hours to pull this together and should be commended, as well as Linda Bornholtz. Many other audits they perform do not have this level of ability. Director Jorgensen moved and Director Kruse seconded the motion to formally accept the audit for the year ending June 30, 2003. The motion carried 6-0. Mr. Williams commended Jeff Peters from Williams and Company.

Board Policies

Director Kruse moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve for second and final reading revisions of the following board policies: 203.8—Conflict of Interest of Board Members; 301—Superintendent of Schools (+AR301); 306.3—Shared Decision-Making; AND the deletion of 300—Statement of Guiding Principles; 301.1—Superintendent's Contract; 301.3—Superintendent of Schools—Functions; 301.31—Administrative Cabinet; AR302.31—Assistant Superintendent—Functions; AR302.32—Assistant to Superintendent—Functions; AR302.33—Building Principal—Functions; AR302.34—Assistant Building Principal—Functions; AR302.35—Director of Finance—Functions; AR302.36—Director of K-8 Curriculum—Functions; AR302.37—Director of 7-12 Curriculum—Functions; AR302.38—Director of Human Resources—Functions AR302.39—Director of Equity—Functions; AR302.40—Director of Technology—Functions; AR302.41—Director of Physical Operations—Functions; 303.1—District Administrators; AR 306.3—School-Based Shared Decision-Making; and 306.6—Professional Liability Exposure—Superintendent. The motion carried 6-0.

District Calendar for the 2004-2005 School Year

Director Kruse moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve the district calendar for the 2004-2005 school year with August 26, 2004, as the first full day of school. The motion carried 6-0.

Traffic Education Fee

Director Jorgensen moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve the increased cost of the traffic education course to \$350 per student. This fee will commence with the 2004 summer traffic education program, and will also apply to the regular traffic education course held during the school year. The motion carried 6-0.

Approval of Legal Notice and Classified Advertisement for Invitation For Bids—Roberts Stadium

Director Kruse moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve the publication of a legal notice and also a classified advertisement to advertise for bids for the sale and lease back of Roberts Stadium, and that a suggested timeline for this process be approved. (Director Jorgensen removed himself from the table due to his affiliation with Morningside College.) Dan Moore volunteered to participate in a work session in regard to the proposed agreement between the district and the college. Citizen input was received from Dick Williams and Frank Fisher, both of whom asked the board for additional time. The motion carried 4-1.

East High School Boiler Replacement

Director Batcheller moved and Director Jorgensen seconded the motion to adopt the plans, specifications, and contract for the East High School boiler replacement, at an estimated cost of \$323,000, which includes mechanical, electrical, and general construction, and to set the date of the hearing as March 9, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. local time. The motion carried 6-0.

District Roof Replacement Project

Director Kruse moved and Director Peterson seconded the motion to approve the proposed specifications, proposed form of contract and estimated cost of \$232,000 for the Sioux City Community school District Roof Replacement project for Bryant, McKinley, and Smith Elementary Schools and West and East High Schools, and to set the date of the hearing as March 9, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. local time. The motion carried 6-0.

District Asphalt Maintenance Project

Director Peterson moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to approve the proposed specifications, proposed form of contract, and estimated cost of \$187,000 for the Sioux City Community school District Asphalt Maintenance project for Emerson, Nodland, Smith, and Sunnyside Elementary Schools and North and East High Schools; and to set the date of the hearing as March 9, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. local time. The motion carried 6-0.

District-Owned Property Demolition Bid

Director Jorgensen moved and Director Daane seconded the motion to approve the resolution to accept the low bid for the demolition of the dwelling located at 1113 Ninth Street and the Alternate 1 Bid, which allows the contractor to remove the remnants and ash debris as part of the agreement with the Sioux City Fire Department burning the Wright Avenue dwellings to the basement, for the dwellings located at 607 Wright Avenue and 611 Wright Avenue, to J. Myron Olson & Son, Inc. for a total cost of \$13,400; and to set the hearing for March 9, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. local time. The motion carried 6-0.

RFP Award For Real Estate Agency/Agent

Director Kruse moved and Director Batcheller seconded the motion to award professional real estate services for student-built homes and land acquisitions, as requested in an RFP process, to Realty Specialists/Pam Mahler. Director Daane declared a conflict and left the table. The motion carried 5-0.

Discussion/Information

Karen Taylor Burton updated the board on the progress of the programs provided by Siouxland Aquatics. The program is growing and serving more students every day.

Carlos Venable-Ridley and Dr. Herb Kuehne reported on the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, and highlighted the progress through the first semester of this school year, as well as progress throughout the first three years of this grant.

Board discussion of the FY2005 General Fund Budget took place. Between now and March 9, 2004, Mr. Williams asked for information sessions with individual board members regarding where we stand on staffing, and hopes these discussions will prompt further questions from the board.

Superintendent Williams stated that there is a pressing need to replace the HVAC system at North High School. Visited today with folks from the DNR and Ameresco to find an optimum system for North High School. The question needs to be answered as to whether or not the board should give the go ahead and do the technical analysis, and state that we will fund this project. Consensus was that this be done.

Mr. Williams asked if the board will direct its administration to authorize the technical energy audit with the understanding that if the audit verifies the current estimates, that it would be our probable intent to move the project forward to the calling for bids and that it has the implication of spending \$868,000 of district dollars, the balance to be financed from the one-cent sales tax. Director Daane moved and Director Kruse seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Due to the lateness of the hour, the superintendent requested that Pete Garlinghouse report on the ITBS/ITED results at the next March 9, 2004, board meeting.

Superintendent Williams presented the following revised board policies: 801.2—Loans, Transfers, and Funds; 802—Cash or Equivalent in School Buildings; 802.1 (formerly 804.1)—Local-State-Federal-Miscellaneous Revenue; 804.4—Gifts—Bequests; 807.4—Audit; 871.5—Cash Reserves AND deletion of 801.8—Transfer of Inactive Accounts; and 804.2—Sale of Bonds.

Adjourn

Director Batcheller moved and Director Kruse seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion carried 6-0, and the regular meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.