

SPECIAL MEETING
Sioux City Community School District
Educational Service Center
Minutes – March 22, 2021 – 4:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order	1
II. Roll Call of Members	1
III. Approval of Agenda	1
IV. Approval of Closed Session / Closed Session	1
V. Adjourn Closed Session / Return to Open Session	1
VI. Adjourn	1

SPECIAL MEETING
Sioux City Community School District
Educational Service Center
Minutes – March 22, 2021 – 4:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

President Alarcon-Flory called the special meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

Present: Directors Alarcon-Flory, Colling, Goodvin, Greenwell, Saint and Scarlett (4:32 p.m.)

Absent: Director Albert

III. Approval of Agenda

Director Greenwell moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

IV. Approval of Closed Session / Closed Session

Director Saint moved and Director Greenwell seconded the motion to go into a closed session to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the District in that litigation as provided in Section 21.5(1)(c) of the Iowa Code. The District's legal counsel, either in person or by electronic means, is Miriam Van Heukelem, Ahlers Cooney Law Firm. Motion carried 5-0, and the Board retired to closed session at 4:31 p.m.

V. Adjourn Closed Session / Return to Open Session

Director Saint moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to adjourn a closed session and return to open session. Motion carried 6-0, and the Board returned to open session at 5:12 p.m.

VI. Adjourn

Director Colling moved and Director Greenwell seconded the motion to adjourn the special meeting. Motion carried 6-0, and the special meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Perla Alarcon-Flory, President
SCCSD Board of Directors

Cynthia A. Lloyd, Board Secretary
SCCSD Board of Directors

REGULAR MEETING
Sioux City Community School District
Educational Service Center
Minutes – March 22, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance	1
II. Roll Call of Members	1
III. Approval of Agenda	1
IV. Citizen Input	1
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A. Board Meeting Minutes from March 8, 2021	
B. Human Resources Report(s)	
C. Finance Report(s)	
D. Return-to-Learn Data	
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VIII. Items of Presentation, Discussion, and/or Action	4-5
A. FY22 Annual Roof Repairs, Maintenance, and Replacement Projects	
B. FY22 Budget Adjustment Resolution	
C. First Reading of Employee Handbook	
D. First Reading of Board Policies	
E. FY22 Budget – Review of All Funds	
IX. Adjourn	6

REGULAR MEETING
Sioux City Community School District
Educational Service Center
Minutes – March 22, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

President Alarcon-Flory called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

Present: Directors Alarcon-Flory, Albert, Colling, Goodwin, Greenwell, Saint and Scarlett

III. Approval of Agenda

Director Scarlett moved and Director Colling seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Director Greenwell moved and Director Goodwin seconded the motion to move Consent Action Item **D.** to a separate item after the Consent Agenda. Motion to amend the agenda carried 7-0. Motion to approve the agenda as amended carried 7-0.

IV. Citizen Input

Lesa Banks, 25187 K18N, Westfield, IA, asked for “grace” for teachers and staff as they deal with their workload, grieving students and staff, and mental and physical exhaustion.

Flora Lee, 1608 Casselman St., believes the District should instruct teachers on how to deliver curriculum in a multi-cultural manner that is diverse, thought provoking, critical thinking skills, with compassion, and learn about the history of our country and other people. She also encouraged the District to take time to look into incidents so as to reach a fair result.

V. Consent Action Item(s)

Director Albert moved and Director Greenwell seconded the motion to approve the following consent action items **A-C** as amended. Motion carried 7-0.

- A.** Board Meeting Minutes from March 8, 2021 – Dr. Paul Gausman
- B.** Human Resources Report(s) – Dr. Rita Vannatta
- C.** Finance Report(s) – Patty Blankenship

Consent Action Item(s)

- D.** Return-to-Learn Data – Dr. Kim Buryanek / Tutoring Program.

Director Greenwell shared concerns regarding elementary tutoring and communication inconsistencies.

Director Greenwell moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to use ESSER funds to increase the hourly rate for tutoring from \$30 to \$50 per hour without modifying the current contract.

Dr. Gausman stated he is not against an increase to the hourly rate. He is concerned with discussing an item without proper notice, and knowing how the increase will affect the Master Contract without consulting legal counsel. He also would like the Board to have the opportunity to look at how the District is offering tutoring, summer school, and after school for all students.

Director Greenwell moved to modify his motion to make it subject to legal counsel approval and Director Goodvin seconded the modified motion.

Legal counsel advised that items of discussion beyond the COVID-19 data being presented do not appear to have been included in the meeting agenda or materials so as to sufficiently inform the public that the Board would be discussing those items.

The motion failed 2-5, with Directors Alarcon-Flory, Albert, Colling, Saint and Scarlett voting no. Director Greenwell respectfully requested this item be added to the next agenda.

Director Goodvin moved and Director Greenwell seconded the motion to remove the word "Data" from Return-to-Learn. Motion carried 7-0.

President Alarcon-Flory asked Dr. Gausman to add Tutoring to the next agenda.

Director Greenwell asked for a consistent rollout between the schools and a consistent policy with regard to transportation.

President Alarcon-Flory stated the Board acknowledges the Return-to-Learn Data as presented.

V. Board Member Reports / Future Meetings

Director Albert:

- She attended North High Comp II presentations, a virtual coffee with a handful of teachers, and observed some negotiation processes.

Director Scarlett:

- She attended North High Composition II gallery, Board Leadership and School Improvement Advisory Committee meetings.
- She informed the community that policy revisions and updates are coming to benefit our teachers and students. This is a Board effort and when change happens, it is because we need more transparency, sensitivity, and accountability.

Director Greenwell:

- He attended negotiations for bus drivers and O&M, and will resume negotiations with SCEA and SCESPA tomorrow.
- He attended Board Finance & Facilities Committee meeting and Board Policy Committee meeting as an observer.
- He proposed Board Leadership consider opening the Board work session to a full public meeting.
- He credited North High Comp II instructors for a phenomenal job. He is grateful for all they are doing.

Director Goodwin:

- He felt the Board work session with legal counsel went well, had good discussion, and he learned a lot.
- He attended Board Policy Committee meeting, and agrees in making the Board work session a public forum. He believes this will be more beneficial and will allow transparency and an opportunity to speak.

Director Colling:

- He attended Board Finance & Facilities Committee meeting and virtual coffee with teachers.
- Governor Reynolds plans to issue an official proclamation declaring Tuesday, March 30 as *High School Voter Registration Day*. He encouraged students who meet the criteria to register to vote.

Director Saint:

- He attended Board Policy and School Improvement Advisory Committee meetings.

Director Alarcon-Flory:

- All 7 Board members have an interest in doing what is best in regards to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. A work session would work best rather than a regular Board meeting.
- Girl Scouts (6-9 graders) are working hard on their Democracy Badge.
- She is grateful to those who have been recognized as *Staff Members of the Month*.
- She attended the North High Comp II presentations and spent the day there.
- She spent a day at East Middle School.
- She congratulated Michael Widjaja (EHS / Trumpet) and Anna Scott (EHS Band Director), Reed Adajar (NHS / Baritone Sax) and Brian Cole (NHS Band Director) selected for the 2021 Iowa 4A All-State Jazz Band. Antonio Ferraro (WHS / Violin) placed 3rd at the International Online Competition for Young Musicians. Michael Toben (NHS / Tuba) chosen as alternate in the National Youth Orchestra at Carnegie Hall.
- The Headliners (EHS) performed as part of 'Jazz Night' in the American Choral Directors Association's Virtual National Convention.
- East High Student Council received the *Kelly Neiber Service Award* for "Bickford Buddies".
- The Sioux City Public Schools Foundation will host a virtual *Are You Smarter Than Our Fourth Graders* event on May 7th.

Future Meetings are as follows:

- Board Student Achievement Committee – Noon, March 24, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Education Legislative Forum – 8:30 a.m., March 27, 2021, Career Academy, 627 4th Street.
- Sales Tax Finance Oversight Committee – 8:00 a.m., March 29, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Preschool Initiative Oversight Committee – 1:30 p.m., March 31, 2021, Clark Early Childhood Center
- Board Finance & Facilities Committee – 3:00 p.m., April 6, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Regular School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m., April 12, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- School Improvement Advisory Committee – 5:15 p.m., April 15, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Board Policy Committee – 4:00 p.m., April 21, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Regular School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m., April 26, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Educational Equity Committee – 11:30 a.m., April 30, 2021, ESC Board Room.

VI. Superintendent's Report

- Now is the time to enroll your child in Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten. You can pre-register on our website or local school.
- We have a new website where you can access and search for all sorts of things.

VII. Items of Presentation, Discussion, and/or Action

A. FY22 Annual Roof Repairs, Maintenance, and Replacement Projects – Tim Paul

Director Greenwell moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to accept the low combined bid for East Middle School and the Operations and Maintenance building from Winkler Roofing Inc. of Sioux City, Iowa, and awards the contract in the amount of \$202,000.00 for the FY22 Annual Roof Repairs, Maintenance, and Replacement Projects. Motion carried 7-0.

B. FY22 Budget Adjustment Resolution - Patty Blankenship

Director Greenwell moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to approve Resolution: RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sioux City Community School District, will levy property tax for fiscal year 2021-2022 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14 of the Iowa Code. Motion carried 7-0.

C. First Reading of Employee Handbook – Dr. Rita Vannatta

Director Greenwell asked the Administration to look at the ratio on the Labor Management team to consider more employees from SCEA.

Director Colling moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to approve the first reading of the Employee Handbook for the District for the 2021-2022 School Year. Motion carried 7-0.

D. First Reading of Board Policies – Dr. Paul Gausman

- 100.01 Education Philosophy
- 100.02 Definition of the Well-Educated Student
- 207 Board of Directors' Legal Counsel
- 432 Early Retirement Benefits
- 502.8 Reasonable Force / Physical Restraint
- 604.2 Private Instruction
- 604.3 Dual Enrollment

Director Goodvin moved and Director Saint seconded the motion to approve the above Board policies for first reading. Motion carried 7-0.

E. FY22 Budget - Review of All Funds – President Alarcon-Flory

President Alarcon-Flory shared a handout with the Board showing the District's 8-year history of lowering tax levy rates.

Director Greenwell presented data regarding his rationale for lowering the tax levy rate. He proposed lowering the tax levy rate by another \$.56.

Director Greenwell moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to reduce the tax levy down to \$12.41 (+/- \$.05 on either side for adjustments) for next year.

Director Greenwell moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to modify their original motion subject to final calculations and determination by the Department of Management.

Kris Snavelly, SCEA President, shared data regarding the budget, student enrollment, and teacher workload. She encouraged the Board to relook at the budget and to support students and staff.

After a roll call vote, motion failed 3-4, with Directors Saint, Alarcon-Flory, Albert and Colling voting no.

Director Greenwell moved and Director Saint seconded the motion to direct Dr. Gausman to present budget scenarios using both the \$12.97 and the \$12.41 levy rates at the next meeting. After a roll call vote, motion carried 6-1, with Director Colling voting no.

Director Colling moved and Director Albert seconded the motion to prepare a budget that decreases revenue by three-quarters of a million dollars in addition to the proposed 56-cent reduction already proposed. Motion carried 4-3, with Greenwell, Saint and Scarlett voting no.

VIII. Adjourn

Director Scarlett moved and Director Albert seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried 7-0, and the regular meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Perla Alarcon-Flory, President
SCCSD Board of Directors

Cynthia A. Lloyd, Secretary
SCCSD Board of Directors