

REGULAR MEETING
Sioux City Community School District
Educational Service Center
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Minutes – August 9, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

President Alarcon-Flory called the regular meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

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

Absent: Director Saint

III. Approval of Agenda

Director Scarlett moved and Director Albert seconded the motion to approve the agenda.

Mr. Greenwell noted that the Board was not given the opportunity to review the level of detail behind the ESSER III allocation of funds.

Motion carried 6-0.

IV. Citizen Input

Lesa Banks, 25187 K18N, Westfield, IA., shared concerns from a number of teachers regarding class sizes, COVID, hiring process, workload, planning time, assessments, and ESSER funds.

Kris Snavelly, 560 Lakeshore Drive, spoke about the District's spending authority and uncategorized funds, and asked the Board to put spending authority on the next agenda.

Tito Parker, 2025 So. Cedar Street, reminded Board members not to forget about the recommendations made by the SIAC and EEC back in February. On behalf of his students, he shared comments about the Board's behavior and violating a number of Board policies. He asked that the Board be role models for our students..."Students are watching." He read a poem written by his daughter when she was in the 4th grade titled "*Someday*".

V. Special Report(s): Sioux City Public Schools Foundation Annual Update

Skip Perley, Miyuki Nelson and Lisa Niebuhr shared presentation of the Foundation's annual report highlighting a number of initiatives focused on Arts & Culture, Equity and STEM.

VI. Consent Action Item(s)

Director Colling moved and Director Albert seconded the motion to approve the following consent action items. Motion carried 6-0.

- A.** Board Meeting Minutes from July 12, 2021 – Dr. Paul Gausman
- B.** Human Resources Report – Dr. Jen Gomez
- C.** Finance Report(s) – Patty Blankenship
- D.** Edgenuity Annual License – Dr. Kim Buryanek
- E.** FY22 Gas Transportation Contract – Tim Paul
- F.** Contract for Transportation Services Between the SCCSD & the City of Sioux City – Tim Paul
- G.** Estate of Eva L. Karroll – Patty Blankenship
- H.** Lease Agreement Between SCCSD and 4th St. Centre, LLC for VIBE Academy Virtual School – Dr. Buryanek, Dr. Burnight and Jim Vanderloo
- I.** Staff Furnishings for the V.I.B.E. Academy Virtual School – Dr. Kim Buryanek
- J.** 2021-22 Call Center Contract – John Pritchard
- K.** 2021-22 Microsoft Support – John Pritchard
- L.** 2021-22 Security Assessment – John Pritchard
- M.** 2021-22 Project Lead the Way Platform – John Pritchard

VII. Hearing(s)

- A.** Hearing on the Proposed Issuance of Approximately \$32,000,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds – Patty Blankenship

President Alarcon-Flory stated notice was provided that a hearing would be held at 6:00 p.m., local time, at the Educational Service Center, 627 4th Street, Sioux City, Iowa, on the 9th day of August, 2021, to receive public input on the Proposed Issuance of Approximately \$32,000,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds.

She stated any interested party may appear and file objections and any information for or against same will be heard on the above-named issuance with the final decision of the Board of Education a matter of record.

Director Greenwell moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to approve the Proposed Issuance of Approximately \$32,000,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds. Motion carried 6-0.

VIII. Board Member Reports / Future Meetings

Director Scarlett:

- She attended *Chamber of Commerce Rush Hour* in the Career Academy. She thanked the donors who invest in our students' futures and the Sioux City Public Schools Foundation.
- She participated in "So, You Wanna Run?" event at the Sioux City Museum with a number of legislators.
- She interviewed with *Iowa Public Radio* about the challenges of legislation and how it affects our public schools.
- She thanked administrators, educators, and students who attended the annual "Unity in the Community" event.
- She encouraged students, teachers, community, parents, guardians and leaders to be vocal, visible and willing to express concerns about our District; reach out, attend School Board meetings, and volunteer for committees to serve on.

Director Greenwell:

- He attended Board Finance & Facilities Committee meeting.
- He stated teachers have concerns with workload and planning time. He shared comment regarding a recent conversation he held with a District teacher.
- He shared comment regarding items he submitted in the Board packet related to assessments and ESSER funds.

Director Goodvin:

- He looks forward to discussion on ESSER money.
- He mentioned the generous donation from Ms. Karroll.

Director Albert:

- She attended today's teacher luncheon.

Director Colling:

- He attended Board Finance & Facilities Committee where the Committee also approved the Back Pack Program.
- He and President Alarcon-Flory interviewed candidates for EEC and SIAC.
- He attended today's new teacher luncheon.

Director Alarcon-Flory:

- She apologized for running late, and noted how grateful she was for the time she spent with her family in July.
- She thanked Dr. Jung for her conversation about equity and the needs of our students.
- She participated in the East Middle School Summer Program and the Summer Reading Program, and expressed appreciation to all involved.
- She asked the Board to listen to the District's Return-to-Learn Plan and then ask questions. She encouraged the public to reach out to the Governor to allow local control. The District will strongly encourage wearing masks.
- The VIBE Virtual Academy has approximately 550 students enrolled.
- She thanked the Communications Department for allowing her to record a message for new teachers.
- She noted that 2020-2021 left us with one lesson: We are all important!

Future Meetings are as follows:

- Board Finance & Facilities Committee – 3:00 p.m., August 16, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Board Policy Committee – 3:30 p.m., August 17, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Regular School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m., August 23, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Board Student Achievement Committee – Noon, August 25, 2021, ESC Board Room.
- Regular School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m., September 13, 2021, ESC Board Room.

IX. Superintendent's Report

- In honor of Dr. Mike Rogers, he shared presentation of the United States Flag flown in support of Operation Inherent Resolve on March 18, 2021 over the Joint-Base Headquarters of Al Asad Air Base for the entire day. He will work with Board leadership to determine whether to display this in our facility or give it to the family of Dr. Michael Rogers.
- He spoke to nearly 85 new teachers today.
- He thanked the ROTC group and North High Cross Country team for their help to clean up after *Saturday in the Park*.
- He was honored to speak with partners at the 185th Air Refueling Wing and a 4-Star General from the Pentagon.
- He is proud so many administrators attended the SAI Conference last week where numerous Sioux City administrators were recognized.
- He informed parents/ guardians there are 3 important steps to be completed before school starts. Those steps and school calendars are posted on our website and social media pages.
- Congrats to the North High Student Council who received meritorious distinction for their outstanding leadership.
- Even in a pandemic, there were more than 60 high school students from our Career Academy participate in in-person internships last year.
- Our Administration built the ESSERS plan within the timeline allowed after waiting for guidance from those who direct us. Tonight, the District will unveil the plan and look forward to feedback from the Board, not Board action. He looks forward to working with the Board, SCEA, parents, students, and no matter what, it is the Board's decision. We will work and serve our kids together.

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

A. Resolution Supporting the Proposed Issuance of Approximately \$32,000,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds – Patty Blankenship

President Alarcon-Flory read the Resolution aloud. Director Greenwell moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to adopt the resolution supporting the proposed issuance of approximately \$32,000,000 school infrastructure sales, services and use tax revenue refunding bonds. Motion carried 6-0.

The Board took a 5-minute break.

B. Return-to-Learn Plan 2021-2022 and ESSER III Budget

Dr. Buryanek shared the District's 2021-22 Return-to-Learn Plan very similar to last year.

- Iowa law prohibits mask mandates.
- SCCSD encourages students and staff who are not vaccinated to wear masks; but the decision will be left up to parents.
- Masks will be provided at schools for those who wish to wear them.
- Cleaning procedures put into place last school year will remain in place this school year.

Director Greenwell requested greater detail of ESSER II spending.

Kris Snavely, 560 Lakeshore Drive, suggested utilizing school gardens for mental health, reintroducing "jump start", hire more interventionists, offer part-time work for retired teachers, etc. She shared concerns regarding teacher shortages, class sizes, workload, etc.

Angela Jacobson, 2626 S. Newton, respectfully asked the Board not to force kids to wear masks but to leave that decision up to the parents.

Karen Mackey, 214 Vista Court, encouraged the Board to focus on communication, build a robust plan, and find ways to help struggling kids.

Ike Rayford, PO Box 2081, wants to see the plan close the gap for struggling students and give them the attention and help they need to be proficient. He is curious why more minority students are not represented in the Career Academy.

Tito Parker, 2025 So. Cedar Street, suggested looking for teachers who give kids a reason to want to come to school. He would like to see more ELL supports and aids. There are great teachers in the District, utilize them. Home visits take 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to get results. He suggested help pay for people to get their substitute license. Minority kids at the Career Academy do not feel welcome or see teachers who look like them.

Director Greenwell suggested allocating more money towards struggling students.

Director Greenwell moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to approve up to \$3M of ESSER III funds to fill open positions. Motion carried 6-0.

Director Scarlett moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to approve the 2021-2022 Return-to-Learn Plan narrative as presented with two minor revisions. Motion carried 6-0.

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

- 604.8 Instruction at a Post-Secondary Educational Institution
- 802.1 Local-State-Federal-Miscellaneous Revenue

Director Scarlett moved and Director Goodvin seconded the motion to table the above policies to the August 23 meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

XI. Adjourn

Director Scarlett moved and Director Colling seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried 6-0, and the regular meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Perla Alarcon-Flory, President
SCCSD Board of Directors

Cynthia A. Lloyd, Secretary
SCCSD Board of Directors