

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**Sioux City Community School District**  
**Education Service Center**  
**January 25, 2010 – 6:00 p.m.**

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**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**Sioux City Community School District**  
**Education Service Center**  
**Minutes: January 25, 2010 – 6:00 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

President Batcheller called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Roll Call of Members**

Present: Directors Batcheller, Johnson, Meyers, Mounts, Warnstadt, and Williams.

Absent: Greg Grupp.

**III. Approval of Amended Agenda**

Director Williams moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried 6 to 0.

**IV. Citizen Input**

No Citizen Input.

**V. GOOD NEWS:**

The Good News report was cancelled due to inclement weather. The West Middle School Musical, under the direction of Cindy Nitzschke, will present at the February 8, 2010, board meeting.

## VI. Consent Action Items

Director Mounts moved and Director Warnstadt seconded the motion to approve consent action items letters "A" through "C". The motion carried 6 to 0.

A. Board meeting minutes from January 11, 2010, and January 14, 2010, the Human Resource's Report, and the Finance Report.

B. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Plan

C. Second and Final Reading of Board Policies:

- 306.1 Administrative Staff Reduction
- 403.4 Employee Reduction in Force
- AR405.8 Child Abuse Reporting
- 501.10 Truancy-Unexcused Absences
- AR501.10 Truancy-Unexcused Absences
- 502.3 Long-Term Suspension
- 602.8 Curriculum Review, Development, and Assessment
- AR602.8 Curriculum Review, Development and Assessment
- 602.11 Physical Education
- AR602.11 Physical Education Waiver
- 800 Business Operations
- 800.1 ~~Delete:~~ Financial Reports
- 800.13 Sales Tax
- 801 Budget Planning/Process
- 801.1 Depository of Funds
- 801.2 Loans, Transfers, and Funds
- 802 Cash or Equivalent in School Buildings
- 802.1 Local-State-Federal-Miscellaneous Revenue
- 803.5 Payment for Goods and Services
- AR803.5 Payment for Goods and Services
- 803.7 Payroll Periods
- 803.8 Payroll Deductions
- 804.3 Investments
- 807.4 Audit
- AR813.1 Process for Developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to Outsource/Contract District Services to other Agencies or Private Companies
- 871.5 Accounting Policy for Student Activity Funds
- 875.1 Unreserved Fund Balance
- 903.1 Lease, Sale, or Disposal of School Buildings and Sites
- 1001.0 Communications/Public Information Program
- 1004.7 Gratuities to Personnel

## VII. Board Member Reports/Future Meetings

Director Mounts stated that she has attended nearly 20 area school basketball games since the last board meeting.

Directors Meyers, Williams, and Warnstadt had no report.

Director Johnson stated that he attended the Student Achievement Committee meeting last week and that their primary focus was on Instructional Coaches and My Learning Plan. He stated that both were very good programs, and that he was looking forward to their reports this evening.

President Batcheller reminded everyone that Klinger Companies, Inc. and The Siouxland Chamber of Commerce will host a "Welcome to the Neighborhood Coffee", on Tuesday, January 26, 2010, at 9:00 a.m., in the Education Service Center Board Room.

Mr. Batcheller stated that he attended the Board Finance Oversight Committee meeting this morning and that the committee participated in a tour of the new facility. The Committee also discussed the recent announcement of the closure of the Sioux City John Morrell plant where the district could potentially lose approximately 500 students. Mr. Batcheller stated that each one of our schools will be affected by this closure and that this will definitely be a challenge for our district moving forward.

President Batcheller stated that future meetings will be held as follows:

- District Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2010, at 5:15 p.m., in the Education Service Center's Professional Learning Room #105.
- Board Finance and Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2010, at 12:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center Finance Conference Room #312.
- Student Achievement Committee meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2010, at 3:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center's Administrative Conference Room #326.
- Board Policy and Human Relations Committee meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2010, at 3:30 p.m., in the Education Service Center in ESC Administrative Conference Room #326.
- Education Equity Committee meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2010, at 11:45 a.m., in the Education Service Center's Mezzanine "A" Room #111.
- Communications Committee meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., in the Education Service Center in Alison Benson's office.
- Finance Oversight Committee meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2010, at 8:00 a.m., at the Education Service Center Finance Conference Room #312.

## VIII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Gausman report focused on three main areas of interest:

1. The impending closure of the John Morrell facility and how the district will be affected by this announcement:
  - The Short Term – we will work with families and community for any retraining opportunities.
  - The Long Term - budget implications.
  
2. Preparation of the Budget:
  - We are moving our process slightly later so that we have time to respond to any legislation that would be relevant for funding.
  - We are looking at all the same things but in greater detail.
  - We have created new spreadsheets to help us study the ratio of staff members to students in all areas, not just teachers.
  - We are working to make decisions on staffing levels that are consistent district wide.
  - We are working to understand the ratio of dollars to student for supplies, materials, postage, printing and any other non-staff related items.
  - We have scheduled budget hearings with all administrators in late February. In the past, hearings were held for only those administrators that wished to come in and share their ideas for new ways of adding programs. This year all administrators will come in and discuss how they have managed this year's budget, budgets in recent years, and how they will prepare for next year's budget, related to the decisions made at the district level for staffing ratios and the decisions they will need to make in their building for non-staff related expenses.
  - We intend to stick to our format of creating three budgets for each cost center. One at 100% of current program, one at 96% of current program, and one at 92% of current program.
  
3. The Accreditation Site Visit:
  - The Site Visit is scheduled to begin February 15, 2010.
  - The Department of Education will come in and evaluate us in many areas.
  - Dr. Gausman wanted to mention it to the Board of Directors at tonight's meeting and will provide the Board with greater details as the time draws near.
  - Dr. Gausman provided the Board of Directors copies of the schedule and a list of questions they may be asked during the visit.
  - Dr. Gausman asked the Board of Directors to contact him if they would be available the week of February 15, through February 19, 2010.
  - Dr. Madison will work to schedule board member interviews in a timely manner.
  - Dr. Gausman thanked Dr. Madison for her great work in preparing our team for this visit.

## **IX. Action Items**

### **A. Lease Termination Agreement**

Gordon Winterlin explained the process for the lease termination agreement and that the district will save \$2,100 plus the cost of utilities and maintenance. The termination agreement calls for a lump sum payment of \$9,100.

Director Meyers moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to approve the Lease Termination Agreement for the property located at 1301 Pierce Street (the former Human Resource's location) effective January 31, 2010. The motion carried 6 to 0.

### **B. Food Service Equipment Purchase**

Rich Luze asked the Board of Directors to approve the purchase of new food service equipment for the new location on Hwy 75 North (IVESCO Building). Bid proposals and specifications were received December 11, 2009, in order to meet the needs and requirements of food service in their new location. The new equipment will be replacing old equipment at the current food service location on Floyd Blvd.

Director Mounts moved and Director seconded the motion to award the bid to the local vendor Refrigeration Engineering of Sioux City, Iowa, for food service equipment in the amount of \$746,620.00. The motion carried 6 to 0.

## **X. Discussion/Information**

### **A. Instructional Coaches Update**

Mary Jo Salem provided the Board of Directors with an overview of the implementation of Instructional Coaches in classrooms. She stated that four additional coaches were added this fall (2009) using Title I Stimulus funds. Also four coaches from NWAEA funded by their Stimulus funds were added. The Sioux City Community School District has Instructional Coaches funded through Title I, The Reading First Grant, and the General Fund.

Ms. Salem's presentation focused on several areas:

- The Instructional Coaches' main role is to support implementing best practices in the classroom to increase student achievement. Their goal is to take Professional Development into the workplace with teachers by building relationships, collaborating, modeling lessons, and co-teaching.
- Providing Professional Development for the Coaches is an essential element of successful Instructional Coaching models. This is accomplished through weekly Professional Development with Mary Jo Salem and Level I training on the Kansas Coaching Model by Jim Knight.
- We are learning as we are doing. Future plans to help our Instructional Coaches become even more successful in raising student achievement include Level II training, Level I training for Coaches who have not been in this class, use of an observational log for teachers and summative survey completed by Principals and teachers.

Katy Chartier, an Instructional Coach at Unity and Longfellow Elementary Schools, spoke to her experience as an Instructional Coach in the classroom.

Jo Dee Wertz addressed the Board of Directors via "Skype" regarding the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology skills. It provides the opportunity to receive data instantly.

## B. School Calendar

Jill Knuth reviewed and discussed a recommendation for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school calendars:

- Each calendar represents 180 student days and 193 teacher contract days.
- The 2010-11 calendar represents a change from the traditional calendar.
- The newly proposed calendars recommend that the first semester be completed prior to the winter break.
- Discussions with administration, board members, and teachers have led to believe the new calendar is best for student achievement pertaining to semester tests.
- The recommended calendar for 2011-12 school year follows the same philosophy and format by ending the semester prior to the winter break.
- The recommendation is to discuss each calendar and provide Board guidance for the calendars to be placed into final draft for approval at the next board meeting.

### C. My Learning Plan/Professional Development

Janet Rohmiller provided the Board of Directors with an update and overview on the district's new professional development web-based tool. Focusing on efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability, she went on to demonstrate how easy it was to navigate using this new tool, as well as the benefits of moving to this new format. Not only does it save time and money in many ways, it also aligns Professional Development with the District's Strategic Plan and Goals.

### D. Strategic Plan Update – Educational Facilities (FE)

Dr. Paul Gausman provided an overview of the progress on the objectives in the Educational Facilities priority area. He reviewed the District's six top priority areas, stating that this is the first of the series of progress reports that will be shared with the Board of Directors at each of the next five board meetings.

## XI. Adjourn

Director Mounts moved and Director Johnson seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion carried 6 to 0, and the regular meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

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Douglas K. Batcheller, President  
SCCSD Board of Directors

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Cynthia A. Lloyd, Secretary  
SCCSD Board of Directors