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The Governor’s Emergency Proclamation of March 17, 2020 which prohibits community gatherings of more than 10 people at all locations or venues, constitutes good cause under Iowa Code Section 21.4 for limiting in-person access to the Board’s public meeting, held at the District Educational Service Center. The public was notified that access to the Board’s meetings could be accessed at: https://siouxcityschools.swagit.com/live

I. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

President Saint called the special meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

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

III. Approval of Agenda

Director Alarcon-Flory moved and Director Colling seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried 7 to 0.

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

A. COVID-19 Planning Update – Dr. Paul Gausman

Dr. Gausman provided an update on the District’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Director Colling asked the District to:

1) Prepare for the start of school on April 14.
2) Prepare if we do not return to school on April 14.
3) Ask all teachers to make certain their grades are current.

Board members shared their thanks and gratitude to Dr. Gausman, Administrators, Technology, Communications, and Food Service for all they have done and continue to do. Director Scarlett noted the addition of 1st and John St. as the 23rd location for meal distribution.

B. Payment of Wages During Pandemic – Dr. Rita Vannatta

Dr. Vannatta explained the following three options:

1) Furlough nonessential hourly employees
2) Continue paying nonessential hourly employees their hourly pay
3) Continue to pay nonessential hourly employees for four weeks and then furlough
Director Goodvin moved and Director Alarcon-Flory seconded the motion to implement option #2. After discussion, Director Alarcon-Flory withdrew her second of the motion.

Director Goodvin moved and Director Greenwell seconded the motion to continue paying nonessential hourly employees their hourly pay and benefits through the end of the scheduled school year of June 3, 2020.

Director Greenwell moved and Director Alarcon-Flory seconded the motion to amend the original motion and to continue paying nonessential hourly employees their hourly pay and benefits through April 25, 2020, which will be paid out on May 8, 2020. The motion to amend carried 5 to 2, with Directors Goodvin and Albert voting no.

John Beauvais, 1710 Rebecca St., via phone, shared support with the option as amended.

Director Greenwell asked for a cost analysis of the proposed option be provided at the next Board meeting.

Director Goodvin asked how long-term substitutes will be treated during this challenge, and if this item could be added to Monday’s Board agenda for discussion.

Motion carried 6 to 1, with Director Goodvin voting no.

Director Scarlett asked for a 30-second moment of silence in this time of crisis.

V. Adjourn

Director Colling moved and Director Alarcon-Flory seconded the motion to adjourn the special meeting. The motion carried 7 to 0, and the special meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.