

**January 18, 2016  
Regular Meeting  
Board of Directors  
Clarinda Community School District**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Audience to Visitors
5. Administrative Reports
6. Consent Items
  - A. Approval of Minutes
  - B. Approval of Bills in the Amount of:
    - General Fund \$106,740.18
    - Activity Fund \$26,938.17
    - Management Fund \$150.00
    - Nutrition Fund \$22,392.00
    - Capital Projects \$7,271.15
  - C. Analysis of Reports
    - Financial Statements
    - Activity Accounts
    - Hot Lunch
    - Open Enrollment Application(s)
7. Old Business
8. New Business
  - A. Trimester Calendar Review
  - B. At Risk Program Presentation
    1. Approval of the Modified Allowable Growth Dropout Prevention Application
  - C. Approve Resignation(s)
  - D. Approve Early Retirement Request(s) and Resignation(s)
  - E. Approve Athletic Sharing with South Page Community Schools for 2016-2017
  - F. Approve Special Education Contracts
  - G. Clarinda Education Association Initial Contract Proposal
- Recess – Board in Exempt Session for the purpose of Employee Negotiations
- H. Clarinda Board of Education Initial Contract Proposal
9. Correspondence from Board Members
10. Adjournment

Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Clarinda Community School District met in regular session on Monday, January 18, 2016, 5:00 p.m., at the Board Room located in the McKinley Building, 423 East Nodaway, Clarinda, IA 51632.

**Call to Order**

President Sunderman called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

## **Roll Call**

The following board members were present: President Sunderman, Vice President McComb, Bond, Jones, and Turner.

## **Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Audience to Visitors**

President Sunderman welcomed all visitors to the meeting. Cheryl Beaver voiced her concerns about the possibility of moving from the trimester calendar to the semester calendar. Joelene Carper expressed her belief the trimester calendar allowed students in the TAG program greater flexibility. Nora Kirsch told board members she thought special needs students had less on their plate with the trimester calendar.

## **Administrative Reports**

Mrs. Opperman, Elementary Principal, reported:

1. The Teacher Leadership Compensation (TLC) Committee is meeting to revise our grant application and resubmit it prior to the deadline. Our district will be participating in the TLC program beginning with the 2016-2017 school year.

Mrs. Wellhausen, Special Programs Director, reported:

1. Mrs. Opperman and I will be working with all community preschools to begin preparing students for the transition to kindergarten.

Miss Nook, High School Principal, reported:

1. Scary Guy presented an assembly about learning to manage emotions to 8-12 grade students a couple weeks ago. His visit was provided by Southwest Iowa Families.

2. Young Americans will be in Clarinda February 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and will provide a music workshop to students in grades 5-12. They will bring 45 people to our school for a three-day signature workshop highlighting music education. Parents can visit [www.youngamericans.org](http://www.youngamericans.org) to learn more about the Young Americans.

3. The Brokaw FFA Chapter will host the Sub District Contest in Clarinda on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Eleven FFA chapters will be participating.

Superintendent Honnold reported:

1. I'd like to applaud our technology department for their hard work immediately after Christmas break, when our email system was not available.

2. We have a bubble in the high school gym floor immediately in front of the storage room, the result of a problem with a roof drain. We've contacted both the flooring company and the roofers and will keep you updated on our progress in repairing it.

3. We are working with the architect at BCDM to set timelines for bidding the HS Gym North Addition Project. At the February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting we will be setting the open hearing.

## **Consent Items**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the following consent items:

A. Minutes of the December 14, 2015, meeting.

B. Bills in the amounts of:

General Fund                      \$106,740.18

Activity Fund                      \$26,938.17

Management Fund                      \$150.00

Nutrition                      \$22,392.00

Capital Projects                      \$7,271.15

C. December 31, 2015, Financial Statements, Activity Fund report, Hot Lunch report, and open enrollment application(s).

Jones stated he had audited the bills, found them in order, and recommended payment. The motion to approve the consent items was approved on a 5-0 vote.

## **Old Business**

Board members had no old business to consider.

## **New Business**

### **Trimester Calendar Review**

Marty Aldrich and Colleen Comer, representing the District Leadership Team, reviewed discussion held at their last meeting in regards to the transition from a semester calendar to a trimester calendar several years ago. Comparisons of the two schedules were available and pros and cons were highlighted and discussed.

### **At Risk Program Presentation**

Miss Nook, Mr. Gordon, and Mr. Schilb updated Board members on the efforts of staff members in reaching the at risk students in our buildings. Mr. Gordon spoke on the alternative program he heads, located in the McKinley building. Mr. Schilb discussed the actions and techniques he uses on a daily basis to build relationships with kids and monitor not only their grades, but their attendance, behavior issues, and disconnect from school activities. Miss Nook explained we have an at risk committee that meets every Friday morning to review students identified as at risk and how we might best support them.

### **Approval of the Modified Allowable Growth Dropout Prevention Application**

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by Jones, to approve the application for the Modified Allowable Growth funds for the At Risk program for the 2016-2017 school year. This is a property tax levy we use to pay the following positions: alternative program instructor, dean of students, and a portion of the school nurse. The property tax requested for 2016-2017 is \$121,156, while the district will provide \$40,000 of regular general operating funds to support the at risk program. Following discussion, the motion was approved on a 5-0 vote.

### **Approve Resignation(s)**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Bond, to approve the resignation from Shala Davidson as assistant softball coach for the 2016 season. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Approve Early Retirement Request(s)**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to approve the resignation and early retirement application from Connie Cade, effective the end of June. Connie has worked as a full-time custodian in the district since November of 1999. The district appreciates her service and wishes her well in her retirement. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Turner, seconded by McComb, to approve the request for an early retirement exception from Deb Nelson effective the end of the 2015-2016 school year. Jones stated he feared setting a precedent if a teacher was allowed the early retirement funds before the age stipulated in the policy. Bond said she wasn't sure if an exception should be allowed when criteria is set in a board policy. Turner suggested an exception of one year prior to the age stipulated in the early retirement policy might be appropriate if a teacher was ready to move on from their current position. Following discussion, the board voted 1-4 to approve the motion. Motion Denied. Aye: Turner. Nay: Sunderman, Bond, McComb, Jones.

### **Approve Athletic Sharing with South Page**

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by McComb, to approve the sharing agreement with South Page to participate in junior high football, junior high boys' basketball, junior high wrestling, high school football, high school baseball, and high school softball for the 2016-2017 school year. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Approve Special Education Contracts**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Jones, to approve the contracts with Des Moines Independent and Woodbine Community School Districts for resident special education students being served at the Clarinda Academy. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Clarinda Education Association Initial Contract Proposal for 2016-2017**

The Clarinda Education Association presented their initial proposal in negotiating the 2016-2017 master contract. David Carper represented the CEA as chief negotiator and spoke on behalf of the certified staff. The proposal shows a 6.06% increase, with a total cost of \$314,994.56 to be added to the current amount paid in salaries and benefits to the district's teachers. The CEA also proposed two changes to the language of the contract: 1) A severance pay item: after 10 years of consecutive employment with the district, reimbursement shall be made at a rate of \$50 a day for each unused sick day upon resignation. After 20 consecutive years of employment, the rate shall increase to \$75 per unused sick day. 2) Any insurance benefit money not used toward insurance shall be contributed to the employee as additional salary, which they can then choose to defer through contributions to a TSA.

The Board recessed from 7:00-7:45 p.m. in exempt session for the purpose of employee negotiations.

**Initial Master Contract Proposal from Clarinda Board of Education for 2016-2017**

The Board's attorney and chief negotiator, Drew Bracken, from Ahlers Law Firm in Des Moines, presented the board's initial proposal in negotiating the 2016-2017 master contract. The board's proposal called for moving all certified staff one step on the salary schedule. The total cost would be \$61,249.95, and is considered a 1.18% increase. The Board's proposal asks for changes in the contract dealing with grieving an evaluation; language stating the salary schedule is a combined schedule, which is the sum of the general fund salary and the teacher salary supplement salary; and dropping the \$500 deductible medical plan. The Board offered a Memorandum of Understanding between the Clarinda Education Association and the Clarinda Community School District in regards to the Teacher Leadership Compensation (TLC) System. The Board also proposed negotiating a two-year agreement. The next negotiation session was set for February 22, 2016.

**Board Correspondence**

Sunderman: 1) Please consider writing a letter or sending an email to our legislators asking them to resist Governor Branstad's proposal to divert billions of one-cent sales tax money earmarked for school infrastructure and property tax relief to water quality programs.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by McComb, seconded by Turner, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:08 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

These minutes are as recorded by the board secretary and subject to approval at the next regular board meeting.

Cindy L. VanFosson

Board Secretary