

Eldora-New Providence Schools Board of Education
Regular Meeting

August 12, 2020 – High School Auditorium

The meeting of the board was held at the high school auditorium and live streamed electronically as permitted by Code of Iowa Section 21.8.

Present: Board Members: Maggie VanderWilt, Emily Herring, Nick LaVelle, Jared Cook, Greg Salvo, and Jay Stanish (arrived during meeting), Superintendent Dr. Adam Zellmer and Board Secretary Cindy Bierle, High School Principal Mike Rundall, Elementary Principal Kevin Henrichs, and visitors. Absent: Marc Anderson.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by President Maggie VanderWilt with the reading of the mission statement “Embracing today’s challenges, preparing for tomorrow’s world.”

Discuss/Action Consent Agenda

Motion by Nick LaVelle seconded by Jared Cook to approve the consent agenda. All voted in favor. The motion carried. Included in the consent agenda along with the agenda, July regular meeting minutes, report of disbursements, and financial report were the following items: the annual settlement of 2020 Cash Balance, an open enrollment request for Kylee Mast from ENP to AGWSR; staff resignations from Shery Albertson as student supports coordinator, Penelope Klimesh as high school special ed para, and Angel Henrichs as high school special ed para; staff recommendations for Chelsea Donaldson as transitional kindergarten teacher, Aaron Stensland as volunteer football coach, and Carey Winter as mentor teacher; and a staff transfer for Jenniffer Konomi from transitional kindergarten to student supports coordinator.

Public Report Time – ENPEA President Patrick Gagnon thanked the board for their support and work on getting the school reopened. Dr. Zellmer read a letter from Jim Brown thanking the board and Dr. Zellmer for their work during the Pandemic and reopening of the schools.

Discuss/Action 2019 Audit

Dr. Zellmer noted we had finally received our audit for 2019. He stated the audit went well and there were no major concerns. **Motion** by Jared Cook seconded by Greg Salvo to approve the 2019 Audit. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Board Secretary/Treasurer 2020-21

Dr. Zellmer Noted this is a yearly formality and recommends appointing Cindy Bierle as board secretary/treasurer. **Motion** by Nick LaVelle seconded by Emily Herring that Cindy Bierle be appointed as the Board Secretary/Treasurer for 2020-21. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Depositories for District

Maggie VanderWilt noted she would abstain from this vote. Dr. Zellmer noted these were the same depositories with the addition of Payment Spring. **Motion** by Jared Cook seconded by Nick LaVelle to approve Hardin County Savings Bank, Great Western Bank, Greenbelt Bank & Trust, Payment Spring, and Iowa Schools Joint Investment Trust be named the official depositories for the District with depository limits of \$3,500,000; \$1,500,000; \$1,500,000; \$30,000; and \$10,000 respectively for 2020-21. Voting in favor: 5. Abstaining: 1 (VanderWilt). The motion carried. Jay Stanish arrived during the discussion.

Discuss/Action Official Newspaper for District

Dr. Zellmer informed the board that historically the official newspaper had been the Eldora Newspapers and he recommends continuing. **Motion** by Emily Herring seconded by Greg Salvo that the Eldora Newspapers be the official newspaper for the District for 2020-21. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Attorney for District

Dr. Zellmer noted the district has been using Drew Bracken and Ahlers Law Firm and they have provided great service and he recommends to continue with them. **Motion** by Jay Stanish seconded by Jared Cook that Drew Bracken of Ahlers Law Firm be retained as the District’s attorney for 2020-21. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Activity Fund/Nutrition Fund Check Signing Designees

Motion by Emily Herring seconded by Nick LaVelle that Nancy Webb be authorized to sign Activity Fund checks and Natalie Kane be authorized to sign Nutrition Fund checks for the District for 2020-21. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Approval of ENP Elementary, SHHS, and TALS Handbooks

Dr. Zellmer noted the handbooks provide general information and the principals are working with staff on the Return to Learn aspects. He noted the handbooks align with board policies.

Motion by Jared Cook seconded by Greg Salvo to approve the ENP Elementary, South Hardin High School, and TALS Handbooks for the 2020-21 school year. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Administrator/Supervisor/Superintendent Comments

Mr. Henrichs stated he appreciates working for ENP/South Hardin noting everyone is on board with the students and staff best interests and working hard on the changes occurring. He stated he is excited about his new staff members Brittany Steppe as secretary, Amy Faris as nurse, Emily Dwyer as 1st grade teacher, Chelsea Donaldson as transitional kindergarten teacher, and Amber Smitherman as special ed para. He also thanked the board for all the support they give the District. Mr. Rundall noted it has been a strange few months and he is excited to meet with staff and talk about consistency with PPE, send info to students and answer some of their questions and his new staff of Lisa LaVelle as math teacher, Joey DeHart as industrial tech teacher, Natalie Kane as high school secretary, and Amy Faris as nurse. He noted one of the biggest changes is homecoming being Labor Day Week, but he thinks it is good because it will give the students a chance to have that experience in case we lose part of the season. He also stated he appreciates the hard work of the board and support they provide the District. Dr. Zellmer reiterated the principal's comments noting we are blessed with community support and collaborative boards and staff that come together for the students. He thanked the administrative staff for their work this summer, noted we will be discussing a calendar change with a new start date, and informed the board we would be getting funds to help with internet and online learning costs.

Discuss/Action Staff Resignation

Dr. Zellmer informed the board he is recommending not accepting the resignation of Art Teacher Amanda Calder. He stated when she submitted her resignation, we posted on Teach Iowa and have had no qualified Art Teachers apply. We are required by law to provide Art by a certified Art Teacher at the High School Level. **Motion** by Jared Cook seconded by Nick LaVelle to deny the resignation request of Amanda Calder for the 2020-21 School Year. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Amending 2020-21 School Calendar

Dr. Zellmer presented the board with a revised 2020-21 School Calendar. He noted several factors were taken into consideration and it was necessary to move the start date back to August 31st to ensure a better start to the school year. School start date will be August 31st and end date May 28, professional development days were moved during the school year to student days, and snow makeup days may be online learning days. **Motion** by Jay Stanish seconded by Greg Salvo to approve the amended 2020-21 School Calendar. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Set Date and Time of Next Regular Meeting

The next regular board meeting will be on Monday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m. with the location determined at a later date.

Adjourn

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.