

Eldora-New Providence Schools Board of Education
Regular Meeting

April 12, 2021 – High School Auditorium

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

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Maggie VanderWilt with the reading of the mission statement “Embracing today’s challenges, preparing for tomorrow’s world.”

Public Hearing on 2021-22 Certified Budget

Dr. Zellmer stated neither he nor SBO Bierle had received any comments prior to the meeting. President VanderWilt asked for any comments on the proposed budget and hearing none declared the hearing closed.

Discuss/Action Consent Agenda

Motion by Jared Cook seconded by Nick LaVelle to approve the consent agenda. All voted in favor. The motion carried. Dr. Zellmer noted a staff resignation from Joan Ketels as high school special ed para and staff recommendations for Dave Akers as high school instructional coach, Blake Owens as volunteer assistant softball coach, and Cauy Teske as volunteer assistant boys’ tennis coach. All voted in favor. The motion carried. Included in the consent agenda along with the agenda, March regular meeting minutes, report of disbursements, and financial report were the following items: open enrollment requests Brayden Orgell, Treye Orgell, and Michael Meeker from E-NP to Iowa Falls (move), Payton Wilson from BCLUW to E-NP (K2021), and Audrey Jones from E-NP to Iowa Falls (K2021); a staff resignation from Joan Ketels as high school special ed para; staff recommendations for Dave Akers as high school instructional coach, Blake Owens as volunteer assistant softball coach, and Cauy Teske as volunteer assistant boys’ tennis coach; a 2021-22 AEA Food Purchasing Agreement; and a 2021-22 Iowa Valley Community College District Contract.

Public Report Time – President VanderWilt read the audience participation guidelines in accordance with School Board Policy #204.11. She then asked if any public would like to speak. Approximately 12 members of the community addressed the board about dropping the mask mandate and making masks optional. Jay Stanish arrived during the comments.

Discuss/Action 2021-22 Certified Budget

Dr. Zellmer stated we held the public hearing with no comments so now we need to approve the budget. He noted the tax rate was \$13.95072 per \$1,000 of valuation, with budget spending limits set at \$6,730,000 for instruction, \$3,620,000 total support services, \$360,000 non instructional programs, and \$1,048,028 in other expenditures for a total of \$11,758,028 expenditures for 2021-22. **Motion** by Nick LaVelle seconded by Jared Cook to approve the 2021-22 Certified Budget. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Ratification of 2021-22 ENPEA Contract and Issuance of Contracts

Dr. Zellmer noted contract negotiations went smooth with the ENPEA and the average salary increase was 2.5%. He stated getting the contracts out now will allow us to start the clock on getting them back and locking in our teachers for another year and not have to deal with the late hiring season. **Motion** by Emily Herring seconded by Jay Stanish to approve the 2021-22 ENPEA Contract and Issuance of Contracts. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Ratification of 2021-22 PPME Local 2003 Contract and Issuance of Contracts

Dr. Zellmer informed the board an agreement was reached with the PPME Local 2003 (support staff union) on their contract with an average salary increase of 2.5%. **Motion** by Jared Cook seconded by Emily Herring to approve the 2021-22 PPME Local 2003 Contract and Issuance of Contracts. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action 2021-22 Administrator, Director, and Secretarial Salary Recommendations and Contract Issuance

Dr. Zellmer noted with the two unions certified, he is recommending a 2.5% salary increase for all other administrative staff and \$1,000 flat rate increase for secretaries who aren't part of the union. **Motion** by Jared Cook seconded by Marc Anderson to approve the 2021-22 Administrator, Director, and Secretarial Contracts and Issuance of Contracts. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Class of 2021 Candidates for Graduation

Dr. Zellmer noted the board had received the list of Class of 2021 Candidates for Graduation and he recommends approval pending their last semester of current course work being completed. **Motion** by Jay Stanish seconded by Emily Herring to approve the 2021 Candidates for Graduation. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss Facilities Planning Updates

Dr. Zellmer informed the board he was in the process of collecting bids for construction manager for the upcoming facilities enhancements. The buildings/grounds/transportation committee met with one group and he is continuing to gather quotes, with the next step being to meet with architects. Dr. Zellmer also told the board the third allocation of ESSER funds had been released and E-NP was set to receive \$1.13 million.

Discuss COVID Update

Dr. Zellmer thanked all the audience who spoke on the mask mandate. He informed the board he had had 2 open meetings and is out and about and approachable in the community. He noted several of the concerns brought up at the report time had never been brought to him. The Board discussed in length the current COVID protocols and asked that a survey be developed to gather information from across the district on families' opinions on masks being worn in schools given current circumstances and department of public health protocols.

Discuss Schools Cannot Do It Alone Part 2 Book Study

The book study discussion was tabled until the May meeting.

Administrator/Supervisor/Superintendent Comments

Mr. Henrichs informed the board 91% of elementary parents attended conferences in some way, with 77% attending in person. He noted the spring book fair had a book cart in the building, ISASP tests for grades 3-5 will be next week, May 14 will be the Conditions for Learning, May 18 will be a K-5 Music Program in the elementary gym, and June 1st will be the E-NP Track and Field Day. Mr. Rundall informed the board registration for 2021-22 classes was completed last month, Tiger Achievement Club induction is next Wednesday, Kiwanis student of the quarter was held, the high school needs a science teacher, Prom is set for Saturday, April 17 with the promenade at 7 p.m. and dance at 8 p.m., spring sports are going well, congratulated the All State Speech students, noted the FFA Meals of Hope was a wonderful experience for the high school, block scheduling will continue next year, and right now we are planning graduation as normal as possible as an open event. Dr. Zellmer referred the board to his monthly analytics and superintendent report for updates.

Set Date and Time of Next Regular Meeting

The next regular board meeting will be Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the South Hardin High School Auditorium.

Closed (Exempt) Session for Negotiations Strategy per Iowa Code Chapter 20.17(3)

No exempt session held.

Adjourn

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.