

Eldora-New Providence Schools Board of Education

Regular Meeting

March 18, 2024 – South Hardin High School Media Center

Present: Board Members: Jared Cook, Nick LaVelle, Emily Herring, Mark Sparrow, Jay Stanish, Breanne Butler, and Marc Anderson, Superintendent Dr. Adam Zellmer and Board Secretary Cindy Bierle, and visitors.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Jared Cook with the reading of the mission statement “Embracing today’s challenges, preparing for tomorrow’s world.”

Discuss/Action Consent Agenda

Board Secretary Bierle presented the board with a resignation from Claudia Patterson. **Motion** by Nick LaVelle seconded by Marc Anderson to approve the consent agenda. All voted in favor. The motion carried. Included in the consent agenda along with the agenda, February regular/joint meeting minutes, report of disbursements, and financial report were the following items: open enrollments for Kyler and Trinity Stanton from E-NP to Iowa Virtual Academy; staff resignations from Mary Pagel as elementary custodian, Molley Ryan as elementary special ed para, and Claudia Patterson as high school special ed para; staff recommendations for Mike Olson as girls’ track thrower coach and Albert Meister as boys’ track thrower coach; staff transfers for Brianna Swangel from 4th grade teacher to 1st grade teacher and Chelsea Donaldson from transitional kindergarten teacher to preschool teacher; 2024-25 Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Program Participation Agreement; 2024-25 AEA Purchasing Agreement for Food, Small Wares, and Ware Wash; 2024-25 Morningside University Agreement for Teacher Education Clinical Experience Placements; and a 2024-25 Cooperative Agreement with University of Northern Iowa.

Public Report Time - None

Discuss/Action Budget Guarantee Resolution FY 2025

This is a yearly resolution that the E-NP district does and this year we will likely use it with declining enrollment and typically low supplemental state aid. **Motion** by Emily Herring seconded by Jay Stanish to approve the Budget Guarantee Resolution for FY 2025. Roll call vote: Ayes: Cook, Herring, Stanish, Sparrow, Butler, LaVelle, and Anderson. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action School Bus Purchase from School Bus Sales

Superintendent Zellmer informed the board buses are currently 6 to 10 months out on delivery and we have been notified there will be a 5 to 7% price increase in April 2024. He is recommending a gas 77 maximum passenger Blue Bird bus from School Bus Sales at \$126,976. **Motion** by Marc Anderson seconded by Mark Sparrow to approve the purchase of a new Blue Bird gas bus from School Bus Sales for \$126,976. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action OPN Architects Summary of Professional Design Services for Phase 2 Improvements at ENP Elementary

Dr. Zellmer informed the board the summary of services lays out the costs of \$76,442 total for the concept and schematic design for this phase and would take between 4 and 9 weeks to complete. Once completed, the board would approve based on the design and cost estimates for the design. If the board approves, then the rest of the contract would kick in which would be the remainder of the process which would include construction documents, bid documents, and construction administration at a cost of \$477,308. Estimated completion would then be December 2025 at the earliest. Questions were asked about the old gym, boiler and Tiger PACK building, but until we know if we are moving forward with this project those questions can not be answered. **Motion** by Marc Anderson seconded by Nick LaVelle to approve the contract with OPN Architects for Professional Design Services for Phase 2 Improvements to the ENP Elementary. It was noted that PPEL and SAVE funds would be used for the project. Voting in favor: 6. Opposed: 1 (Herring). The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Putting Tiger PACK Building For Sale

Dr. Zellmer noted based on current discussions with the Eldora Children's Center we should begin putting the Tiger PACK Building up for sale. He stated their board is interested in the purchase and are waiting to see if grants, fundraising, interest free loans and other avenues might come together. The first step in the process is that the board has to approve putting the building up for sale, then advertising the sale of the property as required by law. Dr. Zellmer thanked Nick LaVelle for his work on this, noting he and Matt Kuecker had put in many hours to research this option. **Motion** by Nick LaVelle seconded by Breanne Butler to approve putting the Tiger PACK Building for sale. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action High School Classroom Furniture Purchase

Dr. Zellmer presented the board with a quote for high school classroom furniture for \$161,861.16. This would provide the same desks, chairs, staff desks, and chairs that were purchased for the elementary so we can share desks between buildings as larger and smaller grades move through the district. The only rooms not included are the high school shop classrooms in case we decide to continue to pursue CTE expansion which would alter the furniture needs for those areas. This purchase is being recommended out of the general fund as it is a one time purchase and the general fund currently has a solvency ratio over the recommended 15 to 20% threshold. **Motion** by Breanne Butler seconded by Mark Sparrow to approve the purchase of High School Classroom Furniture from Premier FE for \$161,861.16. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action High School Band Room Flooring Replacement

Dr. Zellmer presented the board with a bid from Olberding Floors for flooring replacement in the high school band room, practice rooms, and offices. He hopes to have quotes for painting, auditorium curtain and stage repairs. We will then ask for a larger transfer from the HSAP Fund Balance, which was over \$263,000 at the end of last year. **Motion** by Jay Stanish seconded by Breanne Butler to approve the bid from Olberding Floors for \$24,559.31. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss/Action Purchase of Used Maintenance Truck

Dr. Zellmer noted the current custodial work truck currently needs \$4,800 in repairs and with the age and mileage it is not feasible to fix it. We have the ability to purchase a newer truck with fewer miles valued at \$7,500 on Kelly Blue Book for \$5,000 + trade in of the old truck for parts. **Motion** by Marc Anderson seconded by Jay Stanish to approve the purchase of a used 2008 Chevy Silverado for \$5,000 plus trade of current work truck for parts. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss Facility Next Steps

Dr. Zellmer informed the board they are still waiting on bids for high school roof repair, high school window and door replacement, high school auditorium stage refinishing, and high school auditorium curtain repair. The majority of the materials have been ordered for the Elementary Classroom renovations including cabinets, marker boards, tack boards, doors, and carpet. Classroom furniture is being ordered with the high school furniture order to save on freight cost.

Discuss/Action 2024-25 School Calendar

Dr. Zellmer noted the bills to start school the Monday and Tuesday after the State Fair have died at the funnel deadline so the school year will begin on August 23rd. The proposed calendar includes a 2 week Christmas and New Years break, a week long spring break, and ending the Friday before Memorial Day with no snow days built in. He would like to approve the calendar at a brief meeting on Monday, March 25th, after the proposed tax levy public hearing.

Discuss Current Legislative Session Implications

Dr. Zellmer informed the board the House of Representatives has been very active in passing bills out of their chamber related to education. The Senate has done the opposite and passed nothing of substance including State Supplemental Aid, Teacher Pay, AEA Bills, Teacher Retention and Recruitment Bills ...

Administrator/Supervisor/Superintendent Comments

Mr. Rundall is attending the NICL Banquet and his notes are in the packet.

Mrs. Albright informed the board the elementary has completed their FAST and MAP testing, they had a great turnout for conferences, PLC groups are continuing to look at data, Mrs. Olson completed the Kids Heart Challenge with students raising over \$7,000, SchoolStore, families and friends have donated close to \$5,000 to classroom teachers for supplies, professional development book study is continuing, and three more paras have been selected to participate in the Scanlan Mental Health Training Fellowship.

Mrs. Walker stated she has been working on the NAEP assessments, Learning Walks, School Culture Required elementary book study, and preparing for ISASP-staff training.

Dr. Zellmer noted he had been working on budget planning, projects, attending meetings, and 2024-25 school staffing.

Set Date and Time of Next Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting will be Monday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the High School Media Center. Monday, March 25th will be a special board meeting for the Tax Statement Notification Hearing at 11:00 am in the district office board room, with approval of the 2024-25 School Calendar immediately after.

Adjourn

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Cindy Bierle, Board Secretary

Jared Cook, Board President