

## Newton Community School Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting

E. J. H. Beard Administration Center

East Conference Room

March 13, 2017 – 6:30 PM

## MINUTES

### Call to Order

Travis Padget convened the board to order at 6:31 PM

### Roll Call

**Present:** Sheri Benson, Josh Cantu, Donna Cook (6:42 PM), Andrew Elbert, Robyn Friedman, Ann Leonard, Travis Padget, Bob Callaghan, Gayle Isaac, and Christine Dawson

**Others Present:** Susanne Gerlach (PFM), Brenda Hodnett, Curt Roorda, Laura Selover, Dan Sloan, Jen Smith (PFM), Mike Stanley (Hunt and Associates), Jack Sutteck, Justin Jagler (Newton Daily News) and Randy Van (KCOB)

**Communications** – None

### Consent Agenda – ACTION #10111

Benson moved, Leonard seconded to approve the consent agenda. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget Absent: Cook

**Human Resources Update** – Laura Selover presented the Human Resources Update

### Certified Personnel – ACTION #10112

**Courtney Allen** – (Resignation) – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher (BMS) & Assistant Volleyball Coach (NHS) – effective June 30, 2017

**Barbie Burnett** – (Retirement) – Kindergarten Teacher (AH) – effective May 31, 2017

**Cynthia Reynolds** – (Retirement) – Special Education Teacher (NHS) – effective May 31, 2017

Friedman moved, Leonard seconded to approve the Certified Personnel Human Resources Update. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget Absent: Cook

### Classified Personnel – ACTION #10113

**Harriett Allspach** – (Retirement) – Food Service (AH) – effective May 26, 2017

**Gary Allspach** – (Retirement) – Custodian (NHS) – effective May 26, 2017

Elbert moved, Friedman seconded to approve the Classified Personnel Human Resources Update. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget Absent: Cook

**Open Forum** – None

**Superintendent's Report** – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

### Supervisor Reports

**Maintenance** – Jack Sutteck gave an update on summer projects, answered questions about the 10-year facility plan, and offered his insight on the budget and benefits of constructing the new middle school noting that the maintenance department currently spends 50% of their time at the current Berg Middle School.

**Technology** – Dan Sloan discussed iPad upgrades at Newton High School, Chromebook upgrades at Berg Middle School, gave an update on the Technology Committee, discussed Category II E-Rate and switch upgrades to improve wireless, and fielded questions regarding the lighting and sound at the Newton High School auditorium, and sound at the Newton High School gymnasium.

**Transportation** – Curt Roorda explained logistical changes to the bussing traffic at Berg Middle School for the 2017 – 2018 school year and potential bell schedule adjustments, answered questions about weather, and conditions of gravel roads in the country.

**Learning, Leadership, and District Business** – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent and Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services

### Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2016 Audit – ACTION #10114

Mike Stanley, CPA with Hunt and Associates presented the Fiscal Year 2016 audit. He commended the district for their diligence in monitoring the budget. Benson moved, Cook seconded that the board receive the Fiscal Year 2016 audit as presented. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Cook, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget

**Discussion Regarding Opening and Consideration of Sealed Bids** – Jen Smith and Susanne Gerlach (PFM) were present to share with board members that they had received six bids from 39 firms in 20 different states with a strong demand to purchase bank qualified bonds. Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. (Denver, CO) was the top bid at 2.8043% true interest rate.

### Consideration of Sealed Bids Opened and Reviewed by the Superintendent of Schools, Secretary of the Board, and the Financial Advisor – ACTION #10115

Cantu moved, Cook seconded to adopt a resolution directing the sale of \$10,000,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2017 with the best and most favorable bid being awarded to Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. (Denver, CO) for a purchase price of \$10,313,803.30 with a net interest cost of \$3,039,648.40 and true interest rate of 2.8043%. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Cook, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget

**Discussion of Proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Budget and Tax Rate** – Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services, continued discussion from the March 13, 2017 Board Work Session on the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget and Tax Rate. The board discussed allowable modifications to the Iowa Department of Management's Aid and Levy worksheet and considered recommendations from the budget committee. A revised proposed Newton School Budget Summary (FY 2018) was shared with the board. The scenario presented was the income surtax rate being set at 7% with a \$300,000 cash reserve levy for a proposed tax rate (per \$1,000 taxable valuation) of \$15.74336.

**Consideration to Set the Date, Time, and Place for a Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2018 Certified Budget – ACTION #10116**

Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services, explained the need to set a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2018 Certified Budget. Friedman moved, Leonard seconded to set the date, time, and place for a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2018 Certified Budget for April 10, 2017 at 6:45 PM at the E.J.H. Beard Administration Center. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Cook, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget

**Consider Approval of Student Teaching Agreement with Central College (2016 – 2017) – ACTION #10117**

Superintendent Bob Callaghan presented a student teaching agreement with Central College for consideration. Elbert moved, Cook seconded to approve the student teaching agreement with Central College effective 2016 – 2017. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Cook, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget

**Denison Culture Survey Update**

Board President Travis Padget and Vice-President Robyn Friedman gave an update on the most recent Denison Culture steering committee meeting held March 7, 2017. Diane Schnelker (AEA) was present at the committee meeting to discuss the purpose of the focus groups and target audience. The focus groups are scheduled to start following Spring Break, with data anticipated by the end of the school year.

**Business Service Report – Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services**

**Approval of Bills – ACTION #10118**

Cook moved, Leonard seconded to approve the bills. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Cook, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget

**New Business – Old Business – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent**

**Future Meeting Dates**

**Board Work Session – 5:30 PM March 27, 2017 – (E.J.H. Beard Administration Center)**

**Regular Board Meeting – 6:30 PM March 27, 2017 – (E.J.H. Beard Administration Center)**

Board Member Donna Cook requested that Board Members are made aware of upcoming events and activities in the schools so they may consider attending.

**Closed Session – Superintendent Evaluation – ACTION #10119**

Leonard moved, Friedman seconded to go into Closed Session to conduct an evaluation of the Superintendent. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Cook, Elbert, Friedman, Leonard, Padget

**Adjourn – ACTION #10120**

Leonard moved, Friedman seconded to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 10:34 PM.

Minutes Mailed  
Approved by Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

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President

\_\_\_\_\_, 2017

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Secretary