

## Newton Community School Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting  
E. J. H. Beard Administration Center  
East Conference Room

October 9, 2017 – 6:30 PM

### MINUTES

**Call to Order** – Travis Padget convened the board to order at 6:30 PM

**Roll Call – Present:** Josh Cantu, Robyn Friedman, Ann Leonard, Cody Muhs, Travis Padget, Graham Sullivan, Bob Callaghan, Gayle Isaac, and Christine Dawson **Others Present:** Jolene Comer, James Horn, Trisca Mick, Bret Miller, Jack Suttek, Bev Thomas, Randy Van (KCOB), and David Dolmage (Newton Daily News). **Absent:** Donna Cook

**Communications** – Callaghan shared a notification from Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield regarding an upcoming Affordable Care Act (ACA) annual health insurer fee change which will amount to a 3.4% premiums increase in 2018. For the Newton CSD, this means an increase of \$27.15 per contract per month, or approximately \$53,000 for six months.

#### **Consent Agenda – ACTION #10275**

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

**Human Resources Update** – Callaghan presented the Human Resources Update

#### **Certified Personnel – ACTION #10276**

**Andy Cazett** – (contract) – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Wrestling Coach (NHS) – effective November 13, 2017

**Carl Smith** – (contract) – Assistant Wrestling Coach (NHS) – effective pending completion of HR materials

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

#### **Classified Personnel – ACTION #10277**

**Marla Logue** – (agreement) – Health Associate (EH) – effective October 2, 2017

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

**Open Forum** – None

#### **Superintendent's Report**

##### **Softball Complex Update**

Jack Suttek, Maintenance Supervisor, was present to answer questions regarding progress on the softball complex. Substantial completion is expected by November 15, 2017.

##### **Berg Complex Update**

Jack Suttek, Maintenance Supervisor, was present to answer questions regarding progress on the Berg complex. Callaghan shared that another walk through of the construction site will be scheduled with board members and The Hansen Company, Inc.

##### **Preliminary Certified Enrollment Report**

Callaghan provided K – 12 student enrollment numbers at 2,969 as of October 2, 2017 with preliminary certified student enrollment numbers at 2,929. The district is cautiously optimistic that we will see a slight increase in enrollment. Final numbers will be presented at a future board meeting.

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

#### **Request for Field Trip Approval: Newton FFA Travel to 90<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention & Expo, Indianapolis, IN – October 25 – 28, 2017 – ACTION #10278**

James Horn, NHS Teacher, was present to request approval for six students to attend the National FFA Convention. Leonard moved, Sullivan seconded to approve the Newton FFA to travel to the 90<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention & Expo, Indianapolis, IN – October 25 – 28, 2017. Ayes: Cantu, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Absent: Cook

#### **Consider Purchase of a 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD 4WD Crew Cab for the Newton Community School District Maintenance Department from Karl Chevrolet via State Contract for a Total Sales Price of \$30,115.90 – ACTION #10279**

Jack Suttek, Maintenance Supervisor, was present to request approval for the purchase of a maintenance vehicle with PPEL funds via state bid. Cantu moved, Sullivan seconded to approve the purchase of a 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD 4WD Crew Cab for the Newton Community School District Maintenance Department from Karl Chevrolet via State Contract for a Total Sales Price of \$30,115.90. Ayes: Cantu, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Absent: Cook

#### **Consider Candidacy Nomination for a District Director, IASB Board of Directors**

Gayle Isaac, Board Secretary, discussed with board members the consideration of a candidate to be nominated for District Director, IASB Board of Directors. No action was taken on this item due to lack of a motion.

#### **Consideration of Addition of Classified Special Education Staff**

This item was placed on the agenda following post Board Work Session discussion at the September 25, 2017 board meeting. Superintendent Bob Callaghan and Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services, discussed with board members their direction on considering the addition of Classified Special Education Staff. Principals Jolene Comer, Trisca Mick, and Bret Miller were present to answer any questions and offer input. Each board member also provided feedback. Should a number of positions be added, Callaghan and Isaac noted potential implications to consider for the FY 2019 budget (revenues, expenditures, cash reserves, taxes, spending authority, fund balance, special education deficit). When making a decision on hiring additional staff, Callaghan noted that State Supplemental Aid (SSA) and Certified Enrollment numbers must also be taken into consideration.

#### **Early Retirement Consideration – ACTION #10280**

Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services spoke about whether the district should consider offering an Early Retirement incentive for the 2017 – 2018 school year, with a decision to be made by December 2017. He shared that we did not levy a property tax in the Management Fund to offer Early Retirement for this school year. Early Retirement was last offered to qualifying employees in the 2013 – 2014 school year. Leonard moved, Cantu seconded to not approve the Early Retirement Consideration for FY 2018. Ayes: Cantu, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Absent: Cook

**Denison Update**

An update was given on the Denison Culture Survey and next steps for receiving, sharing, and processing results with Board of Education, the steering committee, and teachers. Any feedback, questions, or concerns can be directed to Travis Padget or Robyn Friedman.

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

**Approval of Bills – ACTION #10281**

Friedman moved, Leonard seconded to approve the bills. Ayes: Cantu, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Absent: Cook

**Audit**

Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services, shared that auditors will be at the district business office from October 9 – 11, 2017. An exit interview will be held October 11, 2017, and a board member will need to be present.

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

**Berg Middle School Construction Site Walk Through**

Superintendent Callaghan will coordinate a walk through with board members and The Hansen Company, Inc. at the BMS construction site.

**Berg Middle School Project Plaque**

Superintendent Callaghan noted that a decision will need to be made as to the layout of the middle school project plaque – which includes school name and school board member names.

**Future Meeting Dates**

**Regular Board Meeting:** October 23, 2017 (6:30 PM) – EJV Beard Administration Center

**Board Work Session** proposed for November 13, 2017 (5:00 PM) – EJV Beard Administration Center

**Board Meeting** earlier time change (TBD) proposed for May 21, 2018 – due to dedication of softball field

**72<sup>nd</sup> Annual IASB Convention & Trade Show:** November 15 – 17, 2017 – Des Moines

**Adjourn – ACTION #10282**

Sullivan moved, Friedman seconded to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Minutes Mailed

Approved by Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

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President

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

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Secretary