

**Newton Community School Board of Education**

Board Work Session  
E.J.H. Beard Administration Center – East Conference Room  
ZOOM 946 8673 7523

**April 27, 2020 – 5:30 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order** – Board President Robyn Friedman convened the board to order at 5:32 PM

**Roll Call** – Christine Dawson, Recording Secretary

**Present:** Josh Cantu (via Zoom), Donna Cook (via Zoom), Robyn Friedman (via Zoom), Cody Muhs (via Zoom), Travis Padget (via Zoom) (5:37 PM), Graham Sullivan (via Zoom), Mark Thayer (via Zoom), Tim Bloom, and Christine Dawson **Others Present:** None **Present via Zoom:** Jolene Comer, Jon Dunwell, Jessica Ferguson, Jim Gilbert, Rachelle Hyde, Tom Messinger, Trisca Mick, Bret Miller, Bill Peters, Todd Schuster, and Laura Selover

**Iowa Code – Chapter 21 (Open Meetings Law)** – *Chapter 21 states electronic meetings can be held only if meeting in person is impossible or impractical. The April 27, 2020 board work session was held electronically via Zoom due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic, and the need to limit audience numbers (to <10) and to maintain 6’ social distancing recommendations.*

**Consent Agenda** – Robyn Friedman, Board President – **ACTION #10966**  
Muhs moved, Sullivan seconded to unanimously approve the consent agenda. Ayes: All Nays: None Absent: Padget

**Learning, Leadership, and District Business** – Bret Miller, Director of Teaching & Learning

**Topic: In-District Transfers and Boundaries**

Bret Miller, Director of Teaching & Learning, led the discussion on in-district transfers and boundaries.

The elementary principals discussed keeping class sizes within the 18 – 20 students per class range. Jim Gilbert, AH Principal, shared about neighborhood kids and the district’s transient population.

Miller shared 5 Maps data of elementary students and the attendance zones. He explained the special education and behavior students’ impact on class sizes as well.

**Adjourn** – **ACTION #10967**  
Sullivan moved, Cantu seconded to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 6:32 PM.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
President  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary