

Newton Community School Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting

E. J. H. Beard Administration Center East Conference Room

June 24, 2019 – 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order – Board President Robyn Friedman convened the board to order at 6:34 PM.

Roll Call – Christine Dawson, Recording Secretary

Present: Josh Cantu, Donna Cook, Robyn Friedman, Ann Leonard, Travis Padget, Graham Sullivan, Bob Callaghan, Tim Bloom, and Christine Dawson

Others Present: Jessica Ferguson, Brenda Hodnett, Trisca Mick, Bret Miller, Bill Peters, Kristi Peters, Lori Rainey, Kyle Richtsmeier, Travis Richtsmeier, Lisa Sharp, Tina Stammeyer, Baileigh Vest, Jamie Vest, Tom Vest, Steve Weeks, Tara Zehr, Chris Braunschweig (Newton Daily News), and Randy Van (KCOB) **Absent:** Cody Muhs, Laura Selover

Communications – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

Special Olympics – Baileigh Vest: Bill Peters, NHS Principal, introduced Baileigh Vest who shared a speech about her journey to the Special Olympics. Baileigh was present with her parents and Tina Stammeyer.

Purpose Statements – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

The mission, vision, collective commitments, and board commitments were reviewed. Board President Robyn Friedman explained the **High Performing School Board Surveys** and encouraged audience members to anonymously complete and submit them at the end of the meeting. The board will use the ratings data during their board culture work.

Consent Agenda – Robyn Friedman, President – **ACTION #10724**

Sullivan moved, Cantu seconded to unanimously approve the consent agenda. Ayes: All Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Human Resource Update – Bret Miller, Director of Teaching and Learning

Certified Personnel – **ACTION #10725**

Emily Chhouy – (contract) – Language Arts Teacher (BMS) – effective August 13, 2019

Kristin Ebel – (contract) – Special Education Teacher (EH) – effective August 13, 2019

Jessica Ferguson – (contract) – Director of Special Education (District) – effective July 1, 2019

Lysandra James – (contract) – 3rd Grade Teacher (EH) – effective August 13, 2019

Joe Kuhn – (contract) – Special Education Teacher (WW) – effective August 20, 2019

Bethany Taylor – (resignation) – Preschool (TJ) – effective June 13, 2019

Leonard moved, Cantu seconded to approve the Human Resources Update – Certified Personnel. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Classified Personnel – **ACTION #10726**

Susan Wendel – (agreement) – Secretary (BMS) – effective August 22, 2019

Amanda Gymer – (volunteer) – Drill Team (NHS) – effective July 1, 2019

Morgan Mann – (volunteer) – Drill Team (NHS) – effective July 1, 2019

Brenna Schwenker – (volunteer) – Drill Team (NHS) – effective July 1, 2019

Leonard moved, Cook seconded to approve the Human Resources Update – Classified Personnel. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Open Forum – Robyn Friedman, President

None.

Superintendent's Report – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

Current Student Enrollment

Enrollment Summary – Superintendent Callaghan provided a 2018 – 2019 enrollment update for K – 12 students as K – 4 (1,064), 5 – 8 (912), and 9 – 12 (908) for a total of 2,884 students as of June 4, 2019.

Attendance Data – Superintendent Callaghan shared student attendance percentages at each campus, with ranges from 92.15% - 96.22%

Transiency Report – Superintendent Callaghan presented a student transiency report for those students who have either left the district, or entered the district since the October 1, 2018 certified enrollment count date. The report shows a net decrease of 29 students.

Learning, Leadership, and District Business

Consider Setting a Public Hearing for H.A. Lynn Stadium Turf Replacement Project – June 28, 2019 at 12:00 PM – EJH Beard

Administration Center – **ACTION #10727**

Sullivan moved, Padget seconded to Set a Public Hearing for the H.A. Lynn Stadium Turf Replacement Project for June 28, 2019 at 12:00 PM at the EJH Beard Administration Center. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Consider Approval for Out of State Travel: Cross Country – Roy Griak XC Invitational – September 28, 2019 – Falcon Heights, MN – **ACTION #10728**

Coach Steve Weeks was present to request approval for the cross country team to travel out of state. Sullivan moved, Cook seconded to approve the Cross Country Team's Request for Out of State Travel to the Roy Griak XC Invitational – September 28, 2019 in Falcon Heights, MN. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Consider Approval of the 2019 – 2020 Parent & Student Handbooks (Preschool & Elementary) – ACTION #10729

Trisca Mick (TJ Principal), presented edits to the 2019 – 2020 Preschool and Elementary handbooks. Cook moved, Leonard seconded to Approve the 2019 – 2020 Preschool and Elementary Parent and Student Handbooks. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Consider Approval of the 2019 – 2020 Parent & Student Handbooks (Middle School) – ACTION #10730

Lisa Sharp (BMS Principal), presented edits to the 2019 – 2020 Middle School handbook. Leonard moved, Cantu seconded to Approve the 2019 – 2020 Middle School Student and Family Handbook. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Consider Approval of the 2019 – 2020 Parent & Student Handbooks (High School) – ACTION #10731

Bill Peters (NHS Principal), presented edits to the 2019 – 2020 High School handbook. Superintendent Callaghan noted that a parent had communicated with Mr. Peters regarding a potential policy change. Mr. Peters acknowledged that administration would consider the policy over the course of the next year, and consult with other districts in our conference. Leonard moved, Sullivan seconded to Approve the 2019 – 2020 Newton High School Student Handbook. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Consider Approval of the 2019 – 2020 Parent & Student Handbooks (WEST Academy) – ACTION #10732

Tara Zehr (WEST Academy Principal), presented edits to the 2019 – 2020 WEST Academy handbook. Cook moved, Padget seconded to Approve the 2019 – 2020 WEST Academy Student Handbook. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Consider Approval of Fixed Asset Inventory and Appraisal – ACTION #10733

Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services, presented information about a Proposal for Service from Valuations Northwest, Inc. in the amount of \$19,154.00. Cook moved, Padget seconded to Approve the Fixed Asset Inventory Appraisal Proposal as presented. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Discussion of Subcommittee Formation for Open Enrollment

There was discussion on the formation of a subcommittee to assess Open Enrollment, with administration seeking further direction from the board.

Board Policy Review – Second Reading: 200 Series (Board of Directors) – ACTION #10734

Bloom shared that the requested edits were made to the 200 Series board policies following the First Reading. Bloom noted that the board will not be able to approve Board Policy 203 – (Board of Director's Conflict of Interest) until a future meeting. As per IASB, there has been a law change in the dollar amount taking effect July 1, 2019. Leonard moved, Cook seconded to Approve the Second Reading of the 200 Series (Board of Directors) Board Policies, with the exception of Board Policy 203 (Board of Director's Conflict of Interest). Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Business Service Report – Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services

Approval of Bills – ACTION #10735

Cook moved, Sullivan seconded to approve the bills. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Property, Casualty, and Worker's Compensation Insurance

Bloom presented a comparison of insurance premiums from FY19 and FY20 for a variety of coverage types. There has been a +7.84% change from FY19 to FY20. The district is taking steps to mitigate any increases.

New Business – Old Business – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

Future Meeting Dates: June 28, 2019 – 12:00 PM – Special Board Meeting – (EJH Beard Admin Center); July 2, 2019 – 6:00 PM – Board Policy Review Meeting – (EJH Beard Admin Center); July 29, 2019 – 7:00 PM – Regular Board Meeting – (EJH Beard Admin Center) – one meeting in July; August 5, 2019 – 5:30 PM – Board Work Session – (EJH Beard Admin Center) – Goal Setting: Board Members & Principals

Upcoming Events: July 17, 2019 – 9:00 AM – IASB Fiscal Management Conference (Altoona)

Consider Open Forum Topics or Future Agenda Items

A variety of possible future agenda items discussed: Registration Process, First Day of School, Negative Behaviors, Comprehensive K – 12 Special Education Program, and Report on High Reliability Schools Summit.

There was some discussion about meeting with Cameron Rains (Back to School speaker) on August 19, 2019.

High Performing School Board Survey

Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services, will send the board their internal survey. Data from audience surveys will be recorded.

ACTION #10736 – At 8:03 PM Leonard moved, Sullivan seconded to enter into a closed session. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Closed Session – Superintendent Review (Iowa Standards for School Leaders) (ISSL)

ACTION #10737 – At 11:21 PM Cook moved, Leonard seconded to enter into open session. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Adjourn – ACTION #10738

Padget moved, Sullivan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 PM. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None Absent: Muhs

Minutes Mailed _____ (President)
Approved by Action No. _____, 2019
_____ (Secretary)