

## Newton Community School Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting

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

October 28, 2019 – 6:30 PM

### MINUTES

**Call to Order** – President Robyn Friedman convened the board to order at 6:30 PM.

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

**Present:** Josh Cantu, Donna Cook, Robyn Friedman, Ann Leonard, Cody Muhs, Travis Padget, Graham Sullivan, Bob Callaghan, Tim Bloom, and Christine Dawson **Others Present:** Jolene Comer, Andy Elbert, Jen Elbert, Jim Gilbert, Brenda Hodnett, Kristy Latta, Taylor McGonegle, Trisca Mick, Bret Miller, Bill Peters, Melissa Schilling, Todd Schuster, Sandy Scotton, Amy Shannon, Lisa Sharp, Mark Thayer, Tricia Thomason, Darin Tisdale, Kim Vanderlaan, Eric VanderVelden (7:29 PM), Mark Yeoman, Tara Zehr, Chris Braunschweig, and Randy Van (KCOB)

**Communications** – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

**Clemon-Maki – NHS Food Pantry Donation**

Bill Peters (NHS Principal) shared how Abby Lamont and students at the high school have maintained the food pantry, now with the help of a generous \$1,500.00 donation from Clemon-Maki Insurance.

**3Mgives – Supplies for Schools Program**

Superintendent Callaghan and Bret Miller (Director of Teaching & Learning) celebrated a recent donation of classroom supplies from the 3M company through the 3Mgives Supplies for Schools Program.

**National School Lunch Week** (October 14 – 18)

Superintendent Callaghan shared about celebrations that happened at district campuses in conjunction with National School Lunch Week. Our mascot Big Red, along with administrative staff and football players joined campus staff in serving school lunches. The theme this year was “School Lunch: what’s on your playlist?”

**Red Ribbon Week** (October 23 – 31)

Superintendent Callaghan highlighted campus celebrations surrounding Red Ribbon Week and the special days designated to help kids live healthy, drug-free lives and say no to drugs and alcohol.

**Red Pride Shout Outs**

Campus Principals shared various Red Pride Shout Outs – **Aurora Heights** (Morning Mini Sessions); **Thomas Jefferson** (TJ PTA Book Fair) (Parent-Teacher Conferences); **Woodrow Wilson** (Tammy Heriford was honored) (Cardinal Club – began 2017/2018); **Berg Middle School** (5<sup>th</sup> Grade Public Arts Tour) (Darin Tisdale); **Newton High School** (Ryan Rump) (Blood Drive); **WEST Academy** (Food Pantry).

**Purpose Statements** – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

The mission, vision, district goals (2019 – 2020), collective commitments, and board commitments were reviewed.

**Consent Agenda** – Ann Leonard, Board Vice-President – **ACTION #10831**

Cook moved, Leonard seconded to unanimously approve the consent agenda – with Item VJ (July, August, September Financials) to be placed in the agenda under Learning, Leadership, and District Business. Ayes: All Nays: None

**Human Resource Update** – Laura Selover, Director of Human Resources

Bret Miller, Director of Teaching & Learning presented the Human Resources Update.

**Certified Personnel** – NONE

**Classified Personnel** – **ACTION #10832**

**Ronda Stephen** – (transfer) – from Custodian (BMS) to Head Custodian (TJ) – effective October 24, 2019

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

**Open Forum** – Robyn Friedman, President

Mark Thayer spoke about current issues and transparency surrounding a number of recent closed sessions and the renewal of the Superintendent’s contract.

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

**Parent-Teacher Conferences**

PreK – 8<sup>th</sup> Campus Principals gave an update on the parent-teacher conferences held October 22 & 24, 2019.

**Teacher Professional Development – October 28, 2019**

PreK – 12<sup>th</sup> Campus Principals gave an update on Teacher Professional Development held October 28, 2019.

**Jasper County Board of Director Legislative Meeting**

Superintendent Callaghan thanked board members who were able to attend the October 16, 2019 Board Work Session to discuss FY21 Legislative Priorities. He gave them an opportunity to give their perspectives on the meeting. Invitees included area Board of Directors (Baxter, Colfax-Mingo, Lynnville-Sully, Newton, Prairie City-Monroe) and local legislators Senators Zach Nunn and Amy Sinclair, and Representatives Wes Breckenridge, Mark Smith, and Jon Thorup.

**Law Enforcement Training – (October 21 – 25, 2019)**

Superintendent Callaghan shared about a recent law enforcement training (School Shield Security Assessor Training) coordinated by the Jasper County Sheriff’s Office and held at Newton High School, involving multiple agencies.

**Learning, Leadership, and District Business**

**Consider Setting Public Hearing for Approval of the Newton High School Gymnasium HVAC Upgrade Project – November 18, 2019 at 6:45 PM (EJH Beard Administration Center – 1302 First Avenue West, Newton, Iowa) – ACTION #10833**

Cook moved, Sullivan seconded to Set a Public Hearing for Approval of the Newton High School Gymnasium HVAC Upgrade Project for November 18, 2019 at 6:45 PM at the EJH Beard Administration Center. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

**Consider Purchase of 250 Heart Rate Monitors from Interactive Health Technologies (IHT) Using Federal Grant and General Fund Dollars in the amount of \$31,852.00 – ACTION #10834**

Board Members reviewed quotes from three vendors for the purchase of additional heart monitors for students, which will tie into physical education curriculum. Bret Miller (Director of Teaching & Learning) and Eric VanderVelden (Physical Education Teacher) were available to present the information and answer questions from board members. The monitors will be purchased with Title IVA and General Fund dollars. Leonard moved, Muhs seconded to approve the Purchase of 250 Heart Rate Monitors from Interactive Heart Technologies (IHT) in the amount of \$31,852.00. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

**Board Policy Review – Second Reading: Board Policy 400 Series (Employees) (401.13 – 402.6) – ACTION #10835**

Cook moved, Cantu seconded to Table the Second Reading of Board Policy 400 Series (Employees) (401.13 – 402.6) until the November 18, 2019 Regular Board Meeting, with action taken by the current board. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

**Business Service Report – Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services**

**Approval of Bills – ACTION #10836**

Sullivan moved, Leonard seconded to unanimously approve the bills. Ayes: All Nays: None

**July, August, September Financials – ACTION #10837**

Tim Bloom (Director of Business Services) led a discussion on the July – September financials. Bloom plans to provide a Line Item Budget book, and also shared that the auditors will present at a future meeting. He noted that District Administration continues to meet with Gary Sinclair (Forecast 5). Cook moved, Sullivan seconded to approve the July, August, and September Financials. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

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

**Future Meeting Dates: November 5, 2019 – 6:00 PM – Board Policy Review Meeting (EJH Beard Admin Center) – 400 Series Board Policies; November 11, 2019 – 5:15 PM – Board Culture Work Session (EJH Beard Admin Center) (current & new board members); November 18, 2019 – 6:30 PM – Regular Board Meeting (EJH Beard Admin Center) (reorganization, welcome new board members).**

**Upcoming Events: November 5, 2019 – School Election Day – (Polls are open from 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM); November 20 – 21, 2019 – 74<sup>th</sup> IASB Annual Convention and Trade Show – (Des Moines)**

**Consider Open Forum Topics or Future Agenda Items**

A variety of future agenda items were discussed – **ALICE & Emergency Training for Substitutes** (Padget); **Impact of Cardinal Club** (Cantu); **Disparity between Open Enrollments Out and In** (Muhs); **Use of eBoard Solutions** (Cook); **Implementation of Time Clock** (Sullivan).

**ACTION #10838** – At 8:04 PM Cook moved, Muhs seconded to **Enter into Closed Session**. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

**Closed Session – Superintendent Quarterly Review**

**ACTION #10839** – At 10:58 PM Leonard moved, Catnu seconded to **Enter into Open Session**. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

**Action on Superintendent Contract – ACTION #10840**

Cook moved, Leonard seconded to accept the resignation of Superintendent Bob Callaghan, effective June 30, 2020. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

**Adjourn – ACTION #10841**

Cook moved, Leonard seconded to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 11:00 PM.

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