

Newton Community School Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting

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

November 18, 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, Mark Thayer, Bob Callaghan, Tim Bloom, and Christine Dawson **Others Present:** Jessica Ferguson, Amanda Fifer, Morgan Fifer, Alison Grier, Amanda Gymer, Rachelle Hines (FRK architects + engineers), Brenda Hodnett, Darin Hurt, Kaden Hurt, Karen Hurt, Lori Linahon, Morgan Linahon, Tim Linahon, Trisca Mick, Bret Miller, Chris Norvell, Jen Norvell, Bill Peters, Ryan Rump, Emmalie Russell, Nicole Russell, Sandy Scotton, Laura Selover, Lisa Sharp, Jack Suttek, Andy Swedenhjelm, Michelle Thayer, Mitchell Thayer, Lexi Vasseau, Mark Yeoman, Tara Zehr, Chris Braunschweig, and Randy Van (KCOB)

Communications – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

Lureman Donation: Bloom announced that Dave and Paula Lureman had donated \$1,000 to the Newton CSD. Interstate Insurance Company matched the \$1,000 donation, with each of the four elementary schools receiving \$500 for winter coats for students.

Rock Communications Donation: Superintendent Callaghan shared that Shad Marvelli, General Manager (Rock Communications) presented a \$2,000 donation to the Newton CSD with \$500 going to each of the elementary schools for their special programs (Music, Art, PE, LMC).

NCMP AquaGirls Swimming – State Qualifiers: The NCMP AquaGirls will be recognized at the December 16, 2019 regular board meeting.

NHS Pacesetters – ISDTA Solo Competition: Ryan Rump, Director of Athletics/Activities along with coaches Graham Sullivan and Amanda Gymer honored six Pacesetters who participated in the ISDTA Solo Competition: Morgan Fifer, Morgan Linahon, Nick Millbrooks, Allie Norvell, Emmalie Russell, and Lexi Vassaeu. Kameryn Davis was unable to participate due to injury. All dancers received Division 1 Ratings.

Red Pride Shout Outs: Campus Principals shared various Red Pride Shout Outs – **Aurora Heights** (School wide food drive for Salvation Army organized by Student Council); **Emerson Hough** (Carole Hall, School Counselor was honored); **Thomas Jefferson** (Veteran's Day Celebration); **Woodrow Wilson** (Kim Vanderlaan, 3rd Grade Teacher was honored); **Berg Middle School** (Karen Hurt, At-Risk Teacher was honored); **Newton High School** (SAAC Committee was honored for their work putting on a safe and fun event – Halloween High); **WEST Academy** (Completion of a successful first trimester).

Purpose Statements – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

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

Consent Agenda – Robyn Friedman, President – **ACTION #10842**

Cook moved, Leonard seconded to unanimously approve the consent agenda, with the exception of Item VC (Minutes of Board Culture Work Session – November 11, 2019). Ayes: All Nays: None

Human Resource Update – Laura Selover, Director of Human Resources

Certified Personnel – **ACTION #10843**

Jenny Jensen – (contract) – Assistant Coach Boys Swimming (NHS) – effective Nov 11, 2019

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

Classified Personnel – **ACTION #10844**

Shaphen Brooks – (agreement) – Educational Associate (EH) – TBD pending completion of HR materials

Samantha Griffith – (agreement) – Specialist (LOC) – TBD pending completion of HR materials

Julie Hanson – (retirement) – Preschool Educational Associate (TJ) – effective October 29, 2019

Daniel Mott – (transfer) – Part Time Custodian (TJ) to Full Time Custodian (BMS) – start date: TBD

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

Open Forum – Robyn Friedman, President

None.

Public Hearing – 6:45 PM – Newton High School Gymnasium HVAC Upgrade Project

No one was present to speak on the proposed plans, specification or contract for, or cost of the Newton High School Gym HVAC Upgrade Project.

Learning, Leadership, and District Business – Unfinished Business (*Current Board*) – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent and Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services

Consider Approval of the Newton High School Gymnasium HVAC Upgrade Project – **ACTION #10845**

Rachelle Hines, FRK architects + engineers, shared that two bids for the NHS Gymnasium HVAC Upgrade Project were received on November 5, 2019. Cunningham, Inc. was the recommended contract award with a base bid of \$365,290. Hines reviewed the Preliminary Opinion of Project Cost and the Preliminary Timeline, with project completion scheduled for May 1, 2020. Leonard moved, Cantu seconded to approve the Newton High School Gymnasium HVAC Upgrade Project with award to recommended bidder Cunningham, Inc. in the base bid amount of \$365,290. 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 #10846**

Bloom reviewed the second reading of the 400 Series board policies. Padget moved, Cantu seconded to approve the Second Reading of Board Policy 400 Series (Employees) (401.13 – 402.6). Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

Presentation of the Treasurer's Report for Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019

Bloom reviewed the Newton Community School District's FY 2019 Treasurer Report by Fund as submitted with the Iowa Department of Education. General Fund – Beginning Balance (\$714,108.74) and Ending Balance (\$1,763,297.27).

Consider Acceptance of the Jasper County Election Canvass of Official Vote Totals for the NCSD School Board Election – **ACTION #10847**

Bloom reviewed Abstracts from the Canvass of the November 5, 2019 City/School Election from the Jasper County Auditor's Office with vote results as follows: **Mark Thayer** (1,064); **Nat Clark** (774); **Donna Cook** (1,066); **Ann Leonard** (1,000); **Josh Cantu** (1,422); Vote Scattering (30); Total Votes (5,356). **Mark Thayer**, **Donna Cook**, and **Josh Cantu** were declared duly nominated for office of Newton School Director At-Large. Muhs moved, Leonard seconded to Accept the Jasper County Election Canvass of Official Vote Totals for the NCSD School Board Election as presented by the Jasper County Auditor's Office. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan Nays: None

Recognition of Board Members Who Have Completed Their Terms

Bloom recognized Ann Leonard with an Award of Merit plaque for the completion of her term as board member. Leonard thanked the board for their work on culture and moving the district forward.

Reorganization of the 2019 – 2020 Board of Education

Bloom called the Newton Community School District Board of Education Reorganization Meeting to order.

Oath of Office to the Newly Elected Members

Bloom administered the Oath of Office to newly elected members Josh Cantu, Donna Cook, and Mark Thayer.

Election of the Board President

Bloom called for nominations to the position of Board President. Josh Cantu and Robyn Friedman were nominated. Bloom called for a ballot vote and announced that Robyn Friedman was elected to the position of Board President.

Election of the Board Vice President

Bloom called for nominations to the position of Board Vice President. Hearing a unanimous vote, Bloom pronounced Cody Muhs as elected to the position of Board Vice President.

Oath of Office to the New President and Vice President

Bloom administered the Oath of Office to newly elected President Robyn Friedman and Vice President Cody Muhs.

Set Regular Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations for the 2019 – 2020 Board of Education Meetings – ACTION #10848

Sullivan moved, Cantu seconded to set the Regular Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations for the 2019 – 2020 Board of Education Meetings as the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the EJH Beard Administration Center. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Superintendent’s Report – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

October 2019 Certified Enrollment

Board Members were provided with a Summary Comparison of Certified Enrollment for October 2019 with discussion following. Actual Enrollment: Current (2,991.16); Previous (3,031.37); Change (-40.21).

Current Student Information

Enrollment – Superintendent Callaghan provided a 2019 – 2020 enrollment update for K – 12 students as K – 4 (1,050), 5 – 8 (904), 9 – 12 (920) for a total of 2,874 students as of November 13, 2019.

Attendance – Superintendent Callaghan shared student attendance percentages at each campus, with ranges from 92.02% - 95.99%.

Transiency – No report this month, Certified Enrollment just reported.

Facilities Updates

Jack Sutte, Director of Maintenance, gave a facilities update on the following projects: Berg Middle School, Auxiliary Parking Lot Completion, Athletic Complex – South Parking Lot, Softball Concession Stand Completion, and H.A. Lynn Stadium Completion.

Public Release of the Spring 2019 Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) Results

Bret Miller, Director of Teaching and Learning, reviewed the results of the Spring 2019 Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP).

Learning, Leadership, and District Business – (New Board) – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent and Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services

Resolution for the District to Request Modified Allowable Growth for Open Enrollment Out in the amount of \$228,350 and English Language Learners Beyond 5 Years in the amount of \$19,676 – ACTION #10849

Sullivan introduced the Resolution for the District to approve the Application to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for a request for Modified Allowable Growth (MAG) for Open Enrollment Out in the amount of \$228,350 and English Language Learners Beyond 5 Years in the amount of \$19,676 and moved its adoption. Board Member Donna Cook seconded the motion to adopt. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Appoint Board Members to the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) – ACTION #10850

A School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) meeting will be held November 20, 2019. There are vacancies for two board members (Ann Leonard, Graham Sullivan). Cook moved, Sullivan seconded to appoint Cody Muhs to a three year term, and Travis Padget to a one year term on the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC). Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None.

Board Policy Review – First Reading: Board Policy 400 Series (Employees) (403 – 405.9) – ACTION #10851

Bloom reviewed the first reading of the 400 Series board policies. Cook moved, Padget seconded to approve the First Reading of Board Policy 400 Series (Employees) (403 – 405.9). Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Business Service Report – Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services

Approval of Bills – ACTION #10852

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

New Business – Old Business – Tim Bloom, Board Secretary

Future Meeting Dates: November 19, 2019 – 6:00 PM – Board Policy Review Meeting (EJH Beard Admin Center) – 400 Series Board Policies; November 20, 2019 – 5:00 PM – SIAC Meeting (EJH Beard Admin Center); December 16, 2019 – 5:30 PM – Regular Board Meeting (EJH Beard Admin Center).

Upcoming Events: November 20 – 21, 2019 – 74th IASB Annual Convention and Trade Show – (Des Moines); April 4 – 6, 2020 – NSBA Public Education Leaders Conference – (Chicago).

Consider Open Forum Topics or Future Agenda Items

A variety of future agenda items were discussed – **Robert Schwarz Planning** (Cantu); **ISASP** (Muhs); **American Education Week** (Cook)

Superintendent Search Process Update

A Board Work Session will be held on November 25, 2019 with presentations from search firms McPherson and Jacobsen (5:30 PM); Ray and Associates (6:30 PM); and Grundmeyer (7:30 PM) with discussion and appointment of search firm following.

ACTION #10853 – At 9:28 PM Muhs moved, Cook seconded to unanimously enter into an Exempt Session to discuss Negotiations. Ayes: All Nays: None

Negotiations – Exempt Session

Adjourn – ACTION #10854

Sullivan moved, Padget seconded to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 11:10 PM.

Minutes Mailed _____ (President)

Approved by Action No. _____, 2019

_____ (Secretary)