

## Newton Community School Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting

E. J. H. Beard Administration Center

East Conference Room

January 9, 2017 – 6:30 PM

## MINUTES

### Call to Order

Travis Padget convened the board to order at 6:30 PM

### Roll Call

**Present:** Sheri Benson, Josh Cantu, Andrew Elbert, Robyn Friedman, Travis Padget, Bob Callaghan, Gayle Isaac, and Christine Dawson

**Others Present:** Lydia Biondi, Nicole Biondi, Brenda Hodnett, Lois Holmes, Michelle Modlin, Deborah Rose, Dan Sloan, Justin Jagler (Newton Daily News) and Randy Van (KCOB)

**Absent:** Donna Cook, Ann Leonard

**Communications** – Superintendent Bob Callaghan expressed appreciation for recent donations to the district, including an anonymous Coats for Kids donation to Woodrow Wilson; clothing donation from Barbara Slycord; and classroom donation from Lydia Biondi. Lydia Biondi gave a presentation to board members explaining a fundraiser held at Moo's BBQ to raise money for Mrs. Heidemann's science classroom.

### Consent Agenda – ACTION #10070

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

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

### Certified Personnel – ACTION #10071

**Ashley Owens** – (Resignation) – from Elementary Teacher – effective end of 2016/2017 school year

**Robyn Horak** – (Resignation) – from Math Teacher (WEST Academy) – effective 03/17/17

**Andrew Kuker** – (Resignation) – from Volleyball Coach (BMS) – effective end of 2016/2017 school year

**Paige Meredith** – (Resignation) – from Drill Team Sponsor – effective end of 2016/2017 school year

**Deb Johnston** – (Retirement) – from Special Education Teacher (NHS) – effective 05/31/17

**Lynn Schwarck** – (Retirement) – from Music Teacher (AH & EH) – effective 05/31/17

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

### Classified Personnel – ACTION #10072

**Cristy Doland** – (Reassignment) – from Part-Time to Full-Time Paraprofessional (EH) – effective 01/03/17

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

**Open Forum** – None

### Public Hearing (6:45 PM) – Resolution to Consider Continued Participation in the Instructional Support Program

A Public Hearing was held at 6:45 PM regarding a resolution to consider continued participation in the Instructional Support Program. There were no verbal or written comments

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

### Free and Reduced Information

Callaghan reported percentages of students qualifying for free or reduced price meals and school fees. Based on October 2016 Certified Enrollment (2,965) district percentages show 46% (free) and 9% (reduced) for a total of 55% of students qualifying for free or reduced fees. Percentages for individual campuses were also provided, noting that in 2001 the total was 16%.

### Statewide Public Meetings Regarding Iowa's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Draft Plan – January 9 – 19, 2017

Callaghan shared information from the Department of Education about Iowa's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and upcoming meeting dates during the month of January 2017. ESSA is replacing No Child Left Behind and is to be fully implemented in 2017 – 2018. Board members who are able will participate in a remote meeting via Zoom link on January 17, 2017 at 5:00 PM at the E.J.H. Beard Administration Center.

### Inclement Weather Notification

Callaghan reported that the district has practiced communications both internally and with local media regarding inclement weather notifications, as well as networking with area superintendents. The transportation department has also communicated with bus drivers and students on "hard surface" bus routes.

### Newton Leadership Forum – January 4, 2017

Callaghan gave an update on the Newton Leadership Forum and their January 4, 2017 meeting. Those in attendance listened to a presentation from Senator Chaz Allen and Representative Wes Breckenridge on the upcoming state legislative session, followed by a question and answer session.

### Substance Abuse Coalition Committee – January 5, 2017

Callaghan provided information on the Substance Abuse Coalition Committee and their January 5, 2017 meeting. The group has been growing, and is developing their focus and action steps. As part of a Newton Police Department grant, high priority has been placed on after school programming.

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

**Consider Resolution to Continue Participation in the Instructional Support Program – ACTION #10073**

Isaac shared information with board members regarding continued participation in the Instructional Support Program for a period of five years. In order to continue the current level of services and to fund the ongoing programs of the district, continued participation is necessary and in the best interests of the district and its residents and students. In addition to state funds (1/3), district funds (2/3) are raised via property tax or income surtax. Isaac noted that the state currently fails to fund their portion. Elbert moved, Cantu seconded to adopt a resolution to continue participation in the Instructional Support Program. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Elbert, Friedman, Padgett  
Absent: Cook, Leonard

**Iowa Department of Education School Report Card Information**

Callaghan shared information from the Iowa Department of Education regarding Iowa School Report Card data. Communications have been received announcing the delay of the release of the 2016 Iowa School Report Card. As of January 6, 2017 the site remains embargoed and password protected until statewide release. Information during a preview period may be shared with staff, but not externally or publically. If the embargo is lifted, this discussion item will be revisited at the January 23, 2017 board meeting.

**Presentation of Newton Community Education Association (NCEA) Initial Proposal – January 11, 2017 (3:45 PM)**

Callaghan shared that a January 11, 2017 (3:45 PM) meeting notice for the presentation of the NCEA's initial proposal has been posted. There was discussion regarding committee representation, with Travis Padgett, Robyn Friedman, and Sheri Benson serving.

**Superintendent Evaluation Schedule**

Padgett led discussion regarding the scheduling of Superintendent Bob Callaghan's evaluation in anticipation of contract renewal in February 2017. A meeting was scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2017 at 6:30 PM (E.J.H. Beard Administration Center). Padgett will provide board members with an evaluation instrument via email prior.

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

**Approval of Bills – ACTION #10074**

Benson moved, Elbert seconded to approve the bills. Ayes: Benson, Cantu, Elbert, Friedman, Padgett  
Absent: Cook, Leonard

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

**Board Work Session – February 13, 2017 – 5:00 PM** (E.J.H. Beard Administration Center)

Topic: Special Education (*rescheduled from January 23, 2017*)

**Future Meeting Dates:**

**Board Work Session – January 23, 2017 – 5:30 PM** (E.J.H. Beard Administration Center)

Topic: Gary Sinclair – IASB/Forecast 5 (Budget)

**Regular Board Meeting – January 23, 2017 – 6:30 PM** (E.J.H. Beard Administration Center)

**Day on the Hill – (January 24, 2017) – Des Moines**

Callaghan shared that he and Benson are currently registered for the January 24, 2017 Day on the Hill. Due to change of travel plans, Padgett will confirm attendance.

**Action Advocacy Workshops – (January 26, 2017)**

Callaghan noted that the January 26, 2017 Action Advocacy Workshop coincides with the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner, so he will not be able to attend due to presentation of Excellence in Education awards.

**Adjourn – ACTION #10075**

Elbert moved, Friedman seconded to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM.

Minutes Mailed

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

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President

\_\_\_\_\_, 2016

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Secretary