

Greene County Community School District
Regular Meeting
July 19, 2017

The Greene County School Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting on July 19, 2017 in the Administrative Building Conference Room. President David Ohrt called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Directors Mike Dennhardt, Steve Fisher, Teresa Hagen, Sam Harding, John McConnell, Mark Peters; Superintendent Tim Christensen and Board Secretary Brenda Muir were all present.

Hagen made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

During Open Forum, Iowa State Education Association UniServ Director Cindy Fitzgerald read a statement on behalf of the Greene County Education Association expressing both gratitude to the board for their service and concern over some past practices.

Motion was made by Peters, seconded by Harding to approve the consent items as presented. Motion carried 7-0. Consent items were: Minutes – June 8 and June 19, 2017 special meetings and June 21, 2017 regular meetings; Bills as presented; Financial Reports – June 2017; Resignations: Richard Beeler – High School PE teacher and coaching, Tanner Lawton – Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Ryan Eberly – Fourth Grade Teacher and coaching, Lisa Larson – Pre-K Associate; Hirings: Emily Brekunitch – Middle School Band Teacher, Tyler Westhoff – High School PE Teacher, Middle School Assistant Football Coach, Tony Beger – Part Time Business Ed Teacher, Pat Gerhart – Assistant High School Track Coach, Cole Jaeschke – Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Nick Fett – Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Levi Peters – Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Linda Redfern – Elementary Special Education Associate, Ashley Heyland – Elementary Special Education Associate, Kathy Booth – Elementary Special Education Associate, Jennifer Weaver – Elementary Special Education Associate. Contract Change: Cassandra Bardole – 7th Grade Girls Basketball from 8th Grade Girls Basketball.

Under Old Business, Board Policies dealing with Substance Free Workplace Regulations and Camera Surveillance were discussed. After seeking advice from legal counsel, Superintendent Tim Christensen recommended no change in the policies. Harding made and Fisher seconded a motion to approve the review of the policies with no changes made. Motion carried 7-0.

A discussion was held on the Student Construction Program. Harding made and Peters seconded a motion to approve building another home in the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried 7-0. The board requests Instructor Chad Morman report to the board at the next regular meeting on his plans.

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Superintendent Christensen reported the sale of miscellaneous items from the Intermediate Building will take place August 4th & 5th. A notice will be published twice.

Director Harding reported on the City Park and Recreation Commission meeting. Director Peters reported on the Staff Handbook committee meetings. Harding and McConnell reported the Elementary construction is behind schedule. High School Principal Phillips reported on hiring. Julie Neal reported on summer school and Superintendent Christensen on summer lunch. Teachers gave a report on the Iowa Reading Conference and thanked the board for the opportunity.

Bids for the nutrition fund dairy and bakery items were reviewed. The bids from Bimbo Bakery were approved for the 2017-18 school year on a motion made by Peters and seconded by Harding. Motion carried 7-0.

Although Anderson Erickson did not have the lowest price on all products, due to the knowledge of the service and quality received in the past, Harding made and Fisher seconded a motion to approve the Anderson Erickson bid to supply dairy products for the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

The 2017-18 Student & Parent Handbook was presented with Principal Phillips pointing out the major changes made. Peters made and Hagen seconded a motion to approve the handbook after making changes on page 69 to exactly match board policy wording. Motion carried 7-0.

The 2017-18 Employee Handbook has been worked on by committee due to most Master Contract items being moved to the handbook. A template from Iowa Association of School Boards was used. The Reduction in Force language is still being worked out. Harding made and Hagen seconded a motion to approve the handbook pending the finalization of RIF procedures. Motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent Christensen recommended increasing substitute teacher pay to \$115 per day. Fisher made and Peters seconded a motion to change the rate as recommended. Motion carried 7-0.

Hagen made and Harding seconded a motion to change the official school calendar. On January 22, 2018 there will be no school for PK-12. The original calendar called for no school for only PK-8 on that day. This will be a professional development day for all teachers. Motion carried 7-0.

A change order on the elementary renovation/addition for a net increase of \$3551 was approved on a motion made by Harding and seconded by Fisher. Motion carried 7-0.

A contract with Iowa Lakes Community College for 2017-18 secondary special education 4+ transition services was approved on a motion made by Harding and seconded by Hagen. Motion carried 7-0.

A contract with Iowa Central Community College for 2017-18 early bird concurrent enrollment courses, placement testing and the operational procedures related to the courses was approved on a motion made by Fisher and seconded by Harding. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Policies 507.1-508.2 were reviewed with no revisions recommended. Motion was made by Peters and seconded by Fisher to approve the board policies reviewed. Motion carried 7-0.

The board selected 2018 Legislative Action Priorities on a motion made by Harding and seconded by Peters. Motion carried 7-0. Priorities are:

- School Funding – supports a school foundation formula that provides sufficient and timely funding to meet education goals, equalizes per pupil funding, provides a funding mechanism for transportation costs that reduces the pressure on the general fund and addresses inequities between school districts, includes factors based on changes in demographics including socio-economic status, remedial programing and enrollment challenges, incorporates categorical funding in the formula within three years and includes a mix of property tax and state aid;
- SAVE (Secure an Advanced Vision for Education) – supports repeal of the December 31, 2029 sunset on the statewide penny sales tax for school infrastructure. Supports preserving the integrity of the statewide penny sales tax for school infrastructure including the tax equity provision in the following manner: No diversion or expansion of allowable uses prior to the current 2029 sunset date, Continued growth in the per pupil amount beyond the 2029 sunset date;
- Bond Issues – supports allowing school bond issues to be passed by a simple majority vote. Supports the authority to levy a combination of property taxes and income surtaxes to pay indebtedness. Supports legislation to clarify that revenue bonds do not count toward a 5 percent statutory debt limit.
- Dropout/At Risk – supports the inclusion of dropout prevention and funding for at-risk students in the foundation formula and the inclusion of socio-economic status as a factor in determining student’s at-risk status. Opposes changes to compulsory age of attendance requirements unless sufficient funds and research-based programs are provided.

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The Middle School principal's salary was reviewed by the Administrative Salary committee and a recommendation was made to give Shawn Zanders the 1.68% increase that other employees received along with an additional \$1,000. Fisher made and Dennhardt seconded a motion to approve the recommendation for the contract change. Motion carried 6-1.

Ayes: Dennhardt, Fisher, Harding, McConnell, Peters, Ohrt; Nay: Hagen

Harding made and Fisher seconded a motion to terminate the shared band instructor agreement with Glidden-Ralston for 2017-18 and approve the same contract with Paton-Churdan. Paton-Churdan agrees to reimburse the Greene County District for 50% of the total district cost for the instructor plus mileage and an additional \$3,000 beginning in the 2017-18 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent Christensen reported the sub-committee meeting with Paton-Churdan is re-scheduled for July 24, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. Following up on board policy review from last month's meeting, five students received the new basic diploma this year. The third option of an honors diploma is not available until spring 2018.

The meeting closed with board members sharing positive thoughts. President Ohrt declared the meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

_____, President

_____, Board Secretary