

Regular Meeting – September 25, 2017

Unapproved

The Charles City Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, September 25, 2017, in the 7th grade learning studio, Charles City Middle School (MS). President Dight called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present: Board members Walker, Frisbie, Macomber and Winterink and student member Knecht. Absent: none. Staff members present included Superintendent Dr. Cox and Board Secretary O'Brien. Also present were approximately 12 visitors and staff. There was a social gathering immediately preceding the regular meeting which began at 6:00 p.m. to recognize the incoming and outgoing board members.

The Mission statement was read by Board member Frisbie.

(Winterink/Frisbie) to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

There was no public comment.

Dr. Cox reported Senator Ernst held a town hall meeting at the North Grand Building (NGB) auditorium on Thursday, congratulations to homecoming King and Queen, Theo and Payton and inductees to the Comet Hall of Fame. There will be no school on Friday, October 6 for a staff professional learning day.

Board member Winterink expressed her gratitude for the privilege of serving on the school board for the last 6 years and shared some of the “to do” items for the new board.

Board member Frisbie said it has been a challenging 4 years but a lot has been accomplished and wished the new board well.

Old Business and Retiring of the Board

(Walker/Frisbie) to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2017 regular meeting. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

(Winterink/Frisbie) to approve the official Abstract of Votes from the Floyd County Board of Supervisors for the school election held on September 12, 2017. Elected for the office, Director at Large for a term of 4 years: Scott Dight (161 votes), Missy Freund (212 votes), and Joshua Mack (214 votes). There was also 28 write in candidate votes. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Cox adjourned the retiring board following the reading of a resolution. **WHEREAS**, public schools are being held to higher standards of accountability than ever before at both state and federal levels; and

WHEREAS, school boards work diligently to ensure our young people are educated and prepared for college, careers, and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the men and women elected to school board positions deserve recognition and thanks for their countless hours of volunteer service to public education; and

WHEREAS, James Frisbie and Lorraine Winterink have faithfully served the students and citizens of the Charles City Community School District for 4 and 6 years respectively;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the residents of the Charles City Community School District acknowledge the contributions made by these board members and declare their appreciation and gratitude for such service.

The meeting of the retiring Board adjourned at 6:40 p.m. The new board was invited to the board table.

Organizational Meeting

Dr. Cox called the organizational meeting to order. Present: Board members Dight, Freund, Mack, Macomber and Walker and student member Knecht. Absent: none.

Terri O'Brien, Board Secretary, administered the oath of office to newly elected board members Scott Dight, Missy Freund and Joshua Mack.

Dr. Cox called for nominations for Board President for 2017-18. Scott Dight shared that after three years it is time for someone else to serve as president and nominated Jason Walker. There were no other nominations. Jason Walker was elected Board President by consent. Terri O'Brien, Board Secretary, administered the oath of office to newly elected board president Jason Walker.

Dr. Cox called for nominations for Board Vice President for 2017-18. Robin Macomber nominated Scott Dight. There were no other nominations. Scott Dight was elected Board Vice-President by consent. Terri O'Brien, Board Secretary, administered the oath of office to newly elected board president Scott Dight.

The board took a brief recess at 6:47 p.m.

(Dight/Mack) to appoint Terri O'Brien as District Secretary and Treasurer for 2017-18. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0. Jason Walker, Board President, administered the oath of office to Terri O'Brien.

(Macomber/Freund) to appoint James Hanks from Ahlers & Cooney as legal counsel for 2017-18. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

(Macomber/Dight) to approve the Charles City Press as the District's official publication. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

(Macomber/Freund) to set the regular meetings at 6:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. There was much discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

(Macomber/Mack) to approve the standing board committee changes and additional board appointments for 2017-18 as follows:

Standing Committee	2017-18 Members
Buildings & Grounds	Walker & Dight
Communications & Public Relations	Mack & Freund
Finance Committee	Mack & Dight
Negotiations & Compensation	Macomber & Mack
Policy	Freund & Macomber

Appointments	2017-18 Members
School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC)	Dight & Walker
Delegate to the Iowa Association of School Boards Delegate Assembly	Macomber
County Conference Board Representative	Walker

Board policy 208.2, Standing Committees, establishes these committees and their roles. Committees serve an advisory role to the Board. They have no decision-making authority. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

(Dight/Freund) to appoint Marcia DeVore as the District's level I investigator for the 2017-18 school year. The level II investigator is a liaison from the local policy department. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Regular Meeting

Marilyn Buttjer, High School German teacher introduced Sebastian Bleischwitz from our German American Partnership Program (GAPP) partner school in Walsrode, Germany. There are 10 students from Germany in Charles City on the exchange. Next summer, 10 Charles City students and 8 St. Ansgar students will travel to Germany to experience the German educational system.

Todd Forsyth, Activities Director, and members of the athletic complex ad-hoc committee shared information concerning the site development and fundraising for the new athletic complex. Vince and Jenny Huegel presented 88 pictures from three athletic complex site visits to Independence and Linn-Mar Community School Districts and Wartburg College in Waverly. Jeremy Heyer reported on athletic field design and development. Most of the committee would prefer a turf infield. There was much discussion on the turf versus grass playing field. Mr. Forsyth commented that the committee is crunching the numbers to determine which surface makes the most sense in the long run. The committee hopes to have the field ready for play next summer. Kurt Herbrechtsmeyer reported the anticipated cost to develop one baseball and one softball field at the complex is \$1.1 million. Mr. Forsyth shared there has been one anonymous donation of \$5,000 given in memory student, Logan Luft. He will explain the plans to the building and grounds and finance committees in the near future. The final plans for the athletic complex and capital fund drive are still undergoing final revisions so no action was taken.

Todd Forsyth, Activities Director, provided an update on the soccer program plans for the 2018 season. A coach, Brad McKenzie, has been hired and the assistant coach position should be hired soon. There are 13 games scheduled and they are trying to add a few more. There were 30 plus students attend the first meeting. The team will be coed this year. Games will be played at the college grounds where portable bleachers and sound system will be used. They are in the process of buying uniforms.

(Dight/Macomber) to approve the athletic complex transfer resolution as presented. The Board has approved a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$500,000 for the athletic complex. The resolution includes the procedures and reporting of the transfers. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

(Macomber/Freund) to approve Tami Howell's request to be released from her teaching contract for the 2017-18 school year. Tami Howell has worked for the Charles City Community School District since August of 1996 as an elementary special education teacher. We enrolled fewer students with special needs this fall than we anticipated allowing classroom rosters to be realigned to absorb the position and reduce the special education deficit by \$65,891. We anticipate Mrs. Howell's final day to be Thursday, October 5. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

(Macomber/Dight) to approve the Baseline Standards for the renovated North Grand Building (NGB) as presented. Charley Thomson from North Grand Building, LLC sent a letter to Board President Dight and Superintendent Cox dated September 12, 2017 with the following Baseline Standards:

- Stainless steel kitchen appliances;
- Granite, solid surface, synthetic surface or similar, or equal countertops throughout;
- Kohler, American Standard, Moen, Delta or equal plumbing fixtures;
- Semi-custom kitchen cabinets with wood doors and upgraded finish;
- Retain current spacious ceiling heights where possible;
- Reuse of existing building components where possible;
- Retain flooring, interior trim, wall surfaces (including chalkboards) and existing doors, where possible;
- Upgraded light fixtures with LED lighting or equal, and;
- Individual unit forced air heating and cooling systems with electronic controls.

Mr. Thomson also included in his letter that, in his opinion, the six-month time period of the option granted in the Agreement with the school district has not commenced. Our attorney does not share that opinion and has notified Mr. Thomson in writing that the six-month period did commence on June 12, 2017 and will expire on December 12, 2017. Discussion regarding the commencement of the option will be added as a topic of a future board meeting. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Cox read a resolution celebrating our staff during American Education Week. Legendary Teacher Day has been set aside for September 28th to recognize the contributions that a specific teacher, currently teaching or now retired, made in your life.

Whereas, the Charles City Community School District Board of Education believes we have all had special teachers that made a significant difference in our lives; and

Whereas, the Charles City Community School District Board of Education recognizes that those teachers demonstrated unique skills allowing them to transform their deep content knowledge into life changing student learning; and

Whereas, the Charles City Community School District Board of Education highly values the caring family culture created by those teachers; and

Whereas, the Charles City Community School District Board of Education understands that we often do not fully understand and recognize the profound influence teachers have on our future until we have lived our future; and

Whereas, the Charles City Community School District Board of Education realizes the importance of taking time to fully recognize the legendary teachers in our lives;

Therefore, Be it Resolved that the Charles City Community School District Board of Education does hereby affirm its support for September 28, 2017 as Legendary Teacher Day. We encourage our entire community to take time on this day and contact the Legendary Teacher in your life and express your gratitude for the difference they made in your life.

(Mack/Freund) to request modified supplemental state aid in the amount of \$61,369.69 for the fiscal year 2017 excess LEP costs. The LEP (Limited English Proficient) allowable cost report was completed using information from the Certified Annual Report and other information. The District may seek approval for the modified supplemental amount request for excess LEP costs for serving English language learners in a Limited English Instructional Program during the 2016-17 school year. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Dr. Cox requested Board member input on the superintendent's goals for 2017-18 as part of his evaluation process. Last year's goals included creation of a strategic plan for the district, working to enhance the culture and climate of all employee groups, and working with BLDD Architects on the High School (HS) renovation project. The top three priorities from the Needs Assessment conducted in the fall of 2016 were: academic excellence, Phase II HS renovation, and auditorium/fine arts. The Board provided input. Dr. Cox will bring back a list of goals for approval at a future board meeting.

(Mack/Macomber) to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

- Approval of the resignation of Tad Barry as 8th grade boys' basketball coach upon finding a suitable replacement.
- Approval of the appointments of Kimberly Carman as bus driver at \$16.44 per hour effective 9/26/17, Brandi Anderson as assistant soccer coach at \$2,324 effective 9/26/17, Patricia Miller as learning connection parent educator at \$23 per hour effective 9/20/17, Carrie Jones as learning connection teacher assistant at \$12.50 per hour effective 9/20/17 and Hidie Gardner as preschool teacher at \$42,675.20 effective 9/26/17. All appointments are contingent upon completion of positive background checks and successfully completing the pre-employment/post-offer functional capacity physical assessment and having the Para Certification on file and any additional testing if required.
- Approval of licensed employee transfers as follows:

Name	Current Position	Recommended Position
Elizabeth Von Hagen	Special Education teacher at Lincoln Elementary	Special Education teacher at Washington Elementary

- Approval of two GAPP bake sale fundraisers in October and December 2017 to assist

GAPP students traveling to Germany next summer.

- Approval of the Transition Alliance Program (TAP) contract amendment dated 9/17/17.
Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board discussed other important upcoming dates. The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 9, 2017 in the MS 7th grade learning studio at 6:00 p.m.

President Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Terri O'Brien, Board Secretary