

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, March 8, 2021 7:00 PM
High School Media Center

ROUTINE BUSINESS

-Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with six members, 4 administrators and 2 visitors present.

-Note Nebraska Open Meeting Laws

-Excused Absences: There were none

-Roll Call:

Mike Bonacci: Present

Josh Christensen: Present

Mike Conrad: Present

Jon Genoways: Present

Amanda Schrum: Present

Kelli Shaner: Present

-Approval of Agenda: Moved that the agenda be approved as presented passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Kelli Shaner. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

PRESENTATION

-Approval, Accreditation, and Accountability Rule Development: John Spatz from NASB gave an overview of the changes being developed for Rules 10 and 14. Brad Dirksen continued by explaining how schools must meet minimum standards and show continuous progress to attain accreditation. These areas pertain to all schools in Nebraska. He explained the difference between approval, accreditation and accountability and said it is hoped this will be completed for the 2022-23 school year. Data, outcomes and how to measure success have been separate and now they are working to make these three separate parts of one coherent system for both public and non public schools. He also explained AQuESTT, when it began and how it will be a part of this. Mr. Green spoke after the presentation that all are familiar with the current processes being used and have been working with them in their administrators' capacities so it is nothing new, and this includes AQuESTT every year and have since its inception. This will be nothing totally new, just a "revamp" of how it is done, and is a part of what Mr. Wagner follows and completes in his capacity as School Improvement Director.

REGULAR AGENDA

-Public Participation: No one asked to address the board.

-Approval of Claims: Moved that the claims for March be approved in the amount of \$69,743.28 from the General Fund, and \$170,077.77 from Savings and Depreciation passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Mike Bonacci. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

Moved that the claim from Abe's Trash Service be approved in the amount of \$989.28 passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Mike Bonacci. Josh Christensen: Abstain (With Conflict), Mike Bonacci: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

-Consent Agenda: Moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented passed with a motion by Kelli Shaner and a second by Amanda Schrum. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

-Update on the Stephens Property: As there is now no one interested in moving the house, the decision has been made to burn it. Welcherts have expressed interest to take down trees and clear the lot, a second company is interested also, and someone is interested in the propane tank. The fire department and a company to come check it for asbestos have been contacted. There was discussion about fences coming down and if there were any considerations for salvaging scrap metal and neither mentioned it. The timeline is all predicated on the asbestos inspection, but they know the final date. Calls to the utility entities for water, power and gas shut off have all been contacted. There was discussion about notifying the family of the burn and if they should be asked if there is anything else out of it they want. Mike Conrad said they would be contacted about the burn, but the house is now the property of the school district.

-Standing Committee Reports

American Civics/Facilities: Parking lot lights-recommended going forward; letting the church use the Community Building—recommended with the understanding that school plans take precedence; additional leave time in the Classified Handbook; raises need to go through Finance and find arrays before action; need more information before changing option bus fees; keep the Annual Report as is to have the opportunity to get it in people's hands; recommending calendar change; recommending approval for furnishings with estimated provided; major technology purchases and bus purchase update; and offering position of assistant golf coach.

Finance/Technology: Recommend to move forward with change order for light poles to see what is the more cost effect avenue as the change order will not cost anything else; recommend church request with the stipulation that school takes priority; in favor of the additional holiday hours for the Classified Handbook; instruct the administration to start the process and get arrays for raises and bring it back to the committee; agree to calendar change; recommend accepting the furniture and miscellaneous purchases quotes as all is needed; reviewed the major tech purchases as they are already in the current budget; beginning to set up bus specs and getting quotes; and recommended moving ahead on the new elementary refrigerator.

-Resignation: Moved that the resignation of Lacey Sears be accepted at the end of the 2020-21 contract period passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Josh Christensen. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Mr. Wagner added she wants to be closer to home.

-Extending a Contract to New Staff for 2021-22: Moved that Brooke Jones be extended a contract for 1st Grade for the 2021-22 school year passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and

a second by Mike Bonacci. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Mr. Wagner said she is a former student now teaching in Bennington and doing a great job there. There were nothing but awesome references and she will be a great team player.

-Amending the 2020-21 Calendar: Moved that the 2020-21 Calendar be amended to change March 19, 2021 to a "Teacher Only" day and have students report on May 10, 2021 as it will be a regular day of school passed with a motion by Kelli Shaner and a second by Amanda Schrum. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Mr. Green said this change is necessary because of all the staff having their 2nd COVID-19 vaccination, so we are just flipping the days. Letters and information will be sent.

-Elementary Parking Lot Lights: Moved that the board of education move forward and request pricing for upgrading the existing elementary parking lot lights passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Mike Bonacci. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Mike Conrad said the board needs to do its due diligence to see what is cost effective and we will not be charged for the process to get prices. The choices are to repair, redo or replace for the board to decide. There was discussion if these costs will be added to the cost of the work.

-Cherry Hills Church Request: Moved that the board of education allow the Cherry Hills Church to use the Community Building on Sundays from 8 am to noon with the understanding that school plans for the building take priority passed with a motion by Kelli Shaner and a second by Amanda Schrum. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. There was discussion about the times they will use it, when it starts, if they can place speakers on the wall for their use, and if they will be able to store their items in the buildings between uses. Mr. Green said we will notify them when we have notified and cleared the already-rented activities to block this time for them. Liability for any items they may have in the building during times they're not using it, and District security and risk if they would expect to store items were also discussed. The speaker system would be the only item that is left from week to week.

-Classified Handbook: Moved that the Classified Handbook be approved as presented passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Josh Christensen. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. This change is to update paid leave dates.

-Pre K and Flex Room Furniture, and Miscellaneous Purchases Quotes: Moved to approve the purchase of the furniture and fixtures required for the new flex room, gym vestibule, Preschool rooms, Kindergarten room, hallways, additional seating capacity in the cafeteria, and addition of shades to the 4-Room addition's two west facing classrooms In the amount of \$43,226.04 from the attached list of vendor quotes, plus any applicable shipping and handling charges; plus an additional amount not to exceed \$7,500 to cover the cost of purchasing a TV and TV mount for the flex room, a refrigerator for the Preschool, and cubbies for the Kindergarten room passed with a motion by Jon Genoways and a second by Amanda Schrum. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh

Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. The purchases were all discussed in committee and were recommended for passage. There are quotes for all of it, and outside of curriculum materials these amounts are the total for all that is being purchased.

-Bus Purchase Update: David Genoways and Mr Green will contact the companies to get more specific quotes and the quotes will be published for bid. They have talked to Blair about propane buses and they cautioned us on the purchase of them as they are not favorable of them as they have had trouble with engines having had to replace one and they don't take them on activity trips because they don't carry the fuel needed for these longer trips. We were interested in it at the beginning, but now more research will be done.

-Board Member Reports: Josh Christensen said he was glad to be in attendance after not being able to attend in February; Jon Genoways commented the Choir Concert was good and he enjoyed it; Mike Bonacci said it was nice to see Track out and around; Kelli Shaner reported on the *Enterprise* article that spoke highly of our District and the article about our Wrestling coaches; Amanda Schrum was excited to get the Prom invite and have our kids be able to get their special days, and commented that the elementary should be able to have their activities also; Mike Conrad thanked Three Rivers Health Department for all they have done for us, the concert was nice, and that the Prom invite is a light toward normalcy---he encouraged all to come as it is a great opportunity to see the kids in this type of environment.

-Administrator Reports

Mr. Wagner: He addressed the comment about a Spring Concert saying saying you can't compare the two buildings. He has talked to his staff and other schools and the consensus is they go virtual. There is hesitation on the part of teachers and concern for the safety of the kids. It's a tough decision but must think about the greater impact. The students are still not singing, but working on other music activities. There is also discussion about the Talent Show and it is possible it will also be virtual with students submitting acts and compiling them into a show. Other reports---Parent/Teacher Conferences with 92% participation, a virtual NED assembly, the district-wide art project is a program for library mural and alot of fun, date to occupy the new space and producing a video for parents; hiring of staff for 2021-22; preschool program parameters with the second classroom opening and being able to have more in the older group than the younger one; professional development; and upcoming events. They are also continuing to work on school improvement.

Mr. Wemhoff: He said all are excited about prom and that the kids have been really good and are excited too. It will be at UNO and they have a covid plan/waiver in place, plus the school will be using wristbands to monitor those in attendance. He also reported on Parent/Teacher conferences that there was 47% participation of the classes we offer; upcoming testing including the ACT, ASVAB and NSCAS; and new upcoming on-line ALICE training for all staff.

Mr. Christensen: Acknowledged Winter Sports accomplishments; reported on COVID-19 plans for Spring activities to coaches and on the website including NCAA's update, all fans able to attend outside venues but masks being required at certain areas, and when activities will start; and that the COVID guidelines are a working document which changes and in turn our guidelines are updated regularly. Coaching changes include Mike Mallette now being Asst. Golf and Joseph Yun now Jr-High Track. There was a question about high school activities being

able to move to the new elementary gym and it won't be right away but will talk about it when completely done. He thanked the board for their continued support.

-Superintendent Report and Legislative Update: Mr. Wilson will give a presentation about the tech plan in April; working to finish the campus footprint; the Foundation is moving forward and has hired a director; and the superintendent evaluation is complete. He highlighted bills affecting schools including LB322 to create safety and security reporting which will probably go; LB408 lowering the property request percent no more than 3% of the previous year and is slated to hit the floor; LB523 which would eliminate a building fund which is not good for us but has traction; and LB529 to mandate behavior intervention training which has good support. He also reported on COVID vaccinations and that not all staff has volunteered to take it. He gave kudos to Three Rivers who has been phenomenal not only with our vaccinations but with their support this whole year. Their communication has been "spot on" and fantastic. Our numbers are amazing since the beginning of January--we remain safe for students and staff and plan to finish strong. We realize we may be taking a risk with prom, honors night and athletic banquet, but safeguards will be in place and other schools are moving forward too.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for an executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Conrad declared the meeting adjourned at 8:20.