

Regular December 2021 Board Meeting
Monday, December 13, 2021 7:00 PM
High School Media Center

As advertised in the *Enterprise/Pilot Tribune* and on the school website fortcalhounschoools.org

ROUTINE BUSINESS

-Call to Order: President Conrad called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and noted the Nebraska Open Meetings Law. There were 3 administrators and 8 visitors.

-Excused Absences: Moved that the absence of Jon Genoways be excused. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Kelli Shaner, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

-Roll Call: Mike Bonacci-Present; Josh Christensen-Present; Mike Conrad-Present; Jon Genoways-Absent Excused; Amanda Schrum-Present; Kelli Shaner-Present

-Approval of Agenda: Moved that the agenda be approved as presented. This motion, made by Kelli Shaner and seconded by Josh Christensen, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea.

PRESENTATION: The musical presentation will not take place because of illness.

REGULAR AGENDA

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

-Approval of Claims: 1) Moved that the claims for December be approved in the amount of \$464,506.23 from the General Fund, \$734,691.43 from the Bond Fund and \$265,918.00 from Savings & Depreciation. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Josh Christensen, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Questions were asked about the number of months for Calhoun Oil and what is purchased from SHI. There was also discussion about purchases of computers and computer equipment through ESSR monies and E-rate monies to be used for technology once the application is finalized. 2) Moved that the claim from Abe's Trash Service be approved in the amount of \$1,056.16. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Mike Bonacci, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Abstain, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

- Consent Agenda: Moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Mike Bonacci, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

-Standing Committee Reports: American Civics & Facilities met to discuss the 5 to 10 year plan, the strategy for achieving the goal and focus on what comes first. Recommendations for short term projects are the wrestling room, fitness room and Community Building. Costs have been received and will be presented at the board meeting. A second meeting of the American Civics Committee was held to discuss policies from the attorney as a result of the legislature this year. They were discussed and will be recommended. Further discussion about the buildings' renovations took place and "not to exceed" costs were determined. These motions will be recommended for passage at the December meeting. Many conversations were held regarding these projects and their benefits. They also discussed the negotiated agreement, clearing out unused items from the Community Building to create space for storage, a review of the 2021-22 audit, fitness equipment at the PLC, a new floor scrubber for the elementary and getting a permanent announcer for varsity basketball. Shaner stressed they wanted to make sure everyone is on the same page with the projects and that the board shouldn't go above and beyond to fix something that won't be used in the final picture. The policies are guided by the attorney

and are required.

Finance Committee: Discussed the same items as the American Civics Committee; Technology presentation about some connectivity and devices changes and the need to upgrade; Discussion about moving forward with the proposed facility upgrades focusing on costs for the projects and authorizing the administration to dispose of items at the Community Building that are no longer used; New negotiated agreement with changes in leave and salary increases; The audit review recommended for approval; and fitness equipment for the PLC, a new scrubber for the elementary and a permanent announcer for varsity basketball.

-Resignation: Moved that the resignation of Jill Shields be accepted effective at the end of the current contract period. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Mike Bonacci, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Jill has been a long time teacher and community member. She is a fantastic teacher and will be doing “what comes next”. We wish her the best.

-Policy 2009-Public Participation at Board Meetings: Policy 4063-Extra Duty and Extended Contract Assignments for Certificated Staff: 6004-Curriculum Development: 6013-Teaching Controversial Issues: 6020-Multicultural Education. Moved that the Board of Education waive first reading and pass on second reading Policy 2009-Public Participation at Board Meetings: Policy 4063-Extra Duty and Extended Contract Assignments for Certificated Staff: 6004-Curriculum Development: 6013-Teaching Controversial Issues: 6020-Multicultural Education. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Kelli Shaner, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Mr. Green gave an overview of the policies that have been discussed and recommended by committee. 2009 states that speakers must state their name, address and if they represent someone; 4063 pertains to extra duties and tracking hours for retirement, 6004 clarifies that local boards have control of curriculum except for the 4 core areas; 6013 provides a definition of “controversial issues”; and 6020 is lifted directly from the statute that lays out responsibilities to align with the American Civics law.

-Audit of All Funds for 2020-21: Moved that the 2020-21 audit of all funds be accepted. This motion, made by Josh Christensen and seconded by Amanda Schrum, Passed.

Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. All of the auditor’s suggestions have been completed and the audit is in compliance. It has been a long process, but the outcome is good.

- Negotiated Agreement for 2022-23: Moved that the negotiated agreement with the Fort Calhoun Education Association be approved for 2022-23. This motion, made by Josh Christensen and seconded by Kelli Shaner, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. The Negotiations Committee worked with the FCEA on this and the agreement represents a 6% increase, 3% of which is insurance. Personal days, days to be cashed in, and changes in sick leave were part of the new agreement. This approval puts Fort Calhoun in the middle of the array of schools. Conrad thanked the committee for a “good job”.

-Renovation of Community Building: Moved that the board of education authorize the administration move ahead for the renovation/remodel of the Community Building for turf on the gym floor, new lighting in the gym and on the stage, painting, a golf simulator, security camera, internet connection, and materials to wall off the stage into a separate area with the total project not to exceed \$45,000.00. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Josh Christensen.

Liz Sevcik addressed the board about the change to the building although not ideal it is used by a lot of teams for volleyball and the number is growing. Gym time is scarce and scheduling is hard with limited hours, times limited because of the age of the kids and scheduling the elementary gym only around other programs. This building is an integral part of the young kids’ athletic teams and it is used all the time. Court time outside of town is expensive and the organization does make a donation to the

school for their use. Turf on the floor would be prohibitive for volleyball by just asking for injuries and is used by all sports regularly all through the fall and spring. Mike Conrad commented this is a transition of usage from community to gym and suggested contacting Mr. Christensen for scheduling with the focus being to alleviate pressure from that building. He thanked her for “what you do”. Amanda Schrum originally had the same concerns but the board and administration work together so everyone has space. It is a tight schedule for everyone to get the time they need and noted two courts can be run at the same time. She too referred to Mr. Christensen for scheduling. Mike Bonacci said the city had previously been approached for a combined effort for the building but that didn’t work out and suggested they contact the city. This is now a school facility and no longer a community building. Josh Christensen said he sees the benefits and suggested turf that could be taken up during the fall, but acknowledged this shouldn’t be a regular day to day occurrence. He said we all need to “work together to make this work”. Mr. Green concluded that it didn’t go unnoticed that it is used by a lot of people. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Motion passed.

-Authorization to Dispose of Miscellaneous Items from the Community Building: Moved that the Board of Education authorize the administration to dispose of miscellaneous items from the Community Building to create space for storage. This motion, made by Mike Bonacci and seconded by Kelli Shaner, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea.

- Renovation of the Fitness Room/Wrestling/Sports Building: Moved that the board of education authorize the administration to move ahead with the renovation/remodel of the FitnessRoom/Wrestling/Sports Building to reconfigure the storage space to a wrestling room, new AC and furnace, security cameras, rubber flooring and wall pads for the new wrestling area, new paint, and new sound system with the total project not to exceed \$100,000. This motion, made by Kelli Shaner and seconded by Amanda Schrum, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Mr. Green said this has been in the conversation for a long time and does include the work upstairs in the high school building.

-Thrasher Foundation Repair Proposal for Pioneer Learning Center: Moved that the board of education accept the proposal from Thrasher Foundation Repair to install a protective moisture barrier, dehumidifier, air purifier, sump pump and the necessary hardware in the crawl space for the project at the PLC. There is moisture in the crawl space causing the floor to warp and this is more economical than what was first thought. They are seeing more of this with these buildings as they age. There was discussion about a guarantee/warranty and Mr. Green will check on this. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Josh Christensen, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

-Superintendent's Evaluation, Contract and Compensation: 1) Moved that the board of education accept the contract for the superintendent of schools and offer the position to Jerry Green for 2022-23. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Kelli Shaner, Passed.

Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. President Conrad gave an overview of the compilation of the members’ responses to the evaluation. He commented on getting more comfortable with the process, corrective criticism, and being in support of his work. Amanda Schrum said he has done a great job coming up against a lot of things and they will continue to learn and work together. Kelli Shaner said there is nothing they can’t handle together and work through the changes, continuing this is a big role and is doing an amazing job. Mike Bonacci thanked Mr. Green saying this is one of the toughest of times and appreciates his making it clear that its all about the kids. Josh Christensen said he is doing a good job. Conrad concluded that Mr. Green was given an overall good approval by the board.

2) Moved that the board of education table the superintendent's compensation until a later date. This motion, made by Amanda Schrum and seconded by Josh Christensen, Passed. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. This is just standard procedure.

-Board Member Reports: Josh Christensen attended the Thanksgiving Feast, saw the new playground and shared all the positive comments from other attendees. Mike Bonacci thanked the staff for an excellent job during our struggles, they being one of the positives. Kelli Shaner thanked the board for being able to attend the State conference as she made good connections that she can use. Amanda thanked the administration for the Thanksgiving Feast as it is a good opportunity for the community to see the school, gym and playground. She also thanked Mr. Green and David Genoways for the extra time they put in working with the board on all of the business that has taken place in the past months. Mike Conrad commented on how nice it has been to see activities in the buildings. He said it's a great board and thanked them for their input and time and thanked the administration. He said whatever comes next "we'll get through" with all this great help.

-Administrator Reports: Mr. Wemhoff – Making great progress with the curriculum update and sharing the process with another school; Junior high music curriculum is set for second semester with smaller classes and still having study halls; MCC Blood Drive and FBLA Food drives were very successful; Continuing instructional coaching; The Winter Formal had a great turnout; and upcoming activities.

Mr. Mallette – Testing is completed and now the data will be used to plan for second semester; the ELA adoption is in the final stages with presentations from the top 2 choices to select the vendor; upcoming professional development and events; Mrs. Rutledge's new baby girl; and a Christmas ZOOM meeting with Mr. Wagner for the students.

Mr. Christensen – Was supervising an activity and his report was noted.

-Superintendent Report: Mr. Green reported on board goals saying in the discussions they are trying not to put something on the footprint that 15 years down the road may be "in the way" of the vision for the campus. Our COVID numbers remain low so there is no need for the 2 week mask mandate after the Christmas break; the PLC foundation was inspected and found to be sound so moisture mitigation will take place to alleviate the problem, but when renovation takes place the floors will now need to be replaced; technology is moving faster and increased bandwidth is necessary to support our tech needs for future growth and development; reminder about filing deadlines for board members; the ALICAP visit resulted in few minor suggestions and they were impressed with the elementary changes; and will keep the board informed as the Legislature begins January 5th.

ADJOURNMENT

-There being no further business, the president declared the meeting adjourned at 8:08PM.