

The Grinnell-Newburg Board of Education met in Regular Session on January 13, 2016, at 4:30 p.m. at the Grinnell-Newburg Community High School in the Board Room, 1333 Sunset Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Members Present: Barbara Brown, Meg Jones Bair, Jeff Knobloch, Jonathan Nance, Helen Redmond, Dustin Smith, and Jeff Smith.

Members Absent: None

Also in attendance at the table: Superintendent Todd Abrahamson (arrived at 6:00) and Board Treasurer/Secretary Lisa Johnson.

Administrators Present: Principals Sarah Seney, Brian Conway, Curriculum Director Kym Stein. All arrived at 6:00.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Brown called the regular meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Board Secretary Johnson called the roll. Seven members were in attendance.

2. Board Discussion

A. Ray & Associates - finalize the superintendent profile for the online application form

Linda Brock from Ray & Associates went over the results from the survey. She then proceeded to the recommended list of characteristics. Board members made slight modifications to the recommendation.

Next the flyer options were discussed. Option 2 was selected, with the heading from Option 3, as well some modifications to the photos. The application link was also discussed and board members want the graphics to mirror the flyer.

Brock asked the board what groups they want to be included in the interview process. Brock stated approximately 12 people in a group is appropriate. The feedback from the interviews will be individual and not a group feedback process.

The interview groups are:

Administrators

Teachers

Support Staff

Student

Community Leaders
District Volunteers (Parent/Boosters/Bond/SIAC)
Community Open Forum in the evening.

On March 2nd Ray & Associates needs a meeting with the interview groups to develop questions. March 2nd will also be the day the board will be selecting the final candidates for the interview process in a closed session.

Brock asked about the Administrative staffing levels pre and post a new Superintendent hire. Brown asked what the difference is between instructional leader and guiding academic achievement (Curriculum Director). Brock stated these are very different. It is very difficult to find a candidate who would be qualified for both. Sellars stated that with all critical needs (relationship building, budget, facilities, and academic leadership) gleaned from the constituent groups, that need to be addressed by the Superintendent, he does not believe it is possible to be one position.

Knobloch stated when the decision to hire both BP Principal and Director of Instruction was made, he knew at some point they would need make adjustments. Knobloch stated some of the duties would/could be shared between Principals. Brown added the TLC staff could also share some of this responsibility. Brock stated she understands that as budget decisions are made the staffing levels may change based on needs of the District.

Motion by D. Smith to approve the materials from Ray & Associates, seconded by Knobloch.

Motion approved 7-0.

Jones Bair read the mission and vision statement.

3. Fiduciary

Johnson discussed the November 2015 Financial Summary.

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Jones Bair, seconded by Nance to approve the consent agenda.

A. Approve/Amend Agenda

B. Minutes: 12/7/15 Work Session, 12/9/15 Policy Work Session, 12/9/15 Board

Meeting, 12/14/15 Work Session, 12/16/15 Finance Work Session 1/13/16
Facilities Committee

C. Claims and Accounts

D. Financials

E. Personnel:

1. **Resignations:** Damian Imhoff: Freshman Softball
2. **Offerings:** Kate Baumgartner: Technical Director - Musical
3. **Open Enrollment Out (2015-16):** Chloe Dunham, 5th grade to East Marshall
4. **Open Enrollment In (2016-17):** Tucker Foster: 9th grade from BGM;
Tanner Foster: 11th grade from BGM

Motion carried 7-0.

5. Communication from the Public

None

6. Communications and Reports

A. Board

D. Smith spoke with the Mayflower on his experience thus far with the school board. He updated them on the timeline for the Superintendent Search.

B. Campaign for Grade Level Reading: Presentation by Nicole Brua-Behrens and Monica Chavez-Silva

Brua-Behrens and Chavez-Silva presented on the local campaign for grade level reading. This is a national campaign that aligns the schools with community stakeholders. They discussed the timeline of the program, and various events taking place locally, as well as the various individuals and groups who are working together to support the program.

C. Curriculum

Kym Stein presented on the current initiatives facing the District over the coming years. This includes:

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which replaces No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- Smarter Balance, which replaces the Iowa Assessments
- Differentiated Accountability, which replaces the Site Visits
- Iowa Report Card, which is due to ESSA and came out earlier this year
- Teacher Leadership and Compensation (TLC) Grant is in the planning

phase and starts with the 2016-2017 school year

- ELI-Summer Reading Program
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), currently in the exploration phase with implementation in 2018-2019
- Social Studies Standards
- Professional Development Improvements (Standards Based Grading, PLCs, Iowa Core, AIW, DOK, etc.)

D. Superintendent

Abrahamson discussed the current facilities projects, including: HS Roof Replacement-Phase 2, HS bldg envelope and window replacement remodel, MS tank removal and boiler replacement, Softball field restoration, Tennis courts, Restroom renovations. He also stated the Governor has made some proposals for supplemental state aid and extending the sunset on the statewide sales tax (SAVE) but capping the annual increase to \$10.0M. He encouraged everyone to contact their representatives.

He also discussed a meeting among the Administrators to discuss budget reduction possibilities and grade configurations between the buildings. Abrahamson stated a change in grade configurations would not save any funds, but addresses other needs of the District. The current scenario the District is researching is a change of PK-1 at Fairview, 2-3 at Bailey Park, 4-5 at Davis and 6-8 at the Middle School. The High School would remain unchanged.

Jason from FEH discussed phase 2 of the HS roof replacement project. This includes replacing materials, increasing insulation, and replacing facia. This estimated at a cost of \$110,000 to \$120,000. The HS building envelope replacement was also discussed. There is minimal insulation and no vapor barrier, so problems with moisture will eventually occur. Many of the windows already have moisture damage beyond repair. This project would replace windows and the exterior panels, similar to what is on the auditorium addition. The cost for this project is estimated at \$350,000. There is also an alternate project to add an enclosed vestibule addition to the front of the building. The cost is estimated at \$128,000. He stated they are working at getting these projects out to bid in order to get in before contractors fill up.

Community member Huebner asked about additional exterior lighting. Abrahamson stated this will be addressed with the Tennis Courts.

7. Old Business - None

8. New Business

A. Approve Resignations for Early Retirees: Kathi Clement, Susan Gallo, Trudy Asplund, Donna Puls, Marybeth Foster, Karen Strovers, Cathy Buck, Pam Blagden

Motion by Jones Bair, seconded D. Smith to approve the resignations for early retirees: Kathi Clement, Susan Gallo, Trudy Asplund, Donna Puls, Marybeth Foster, Karen Strovers, Cathy Buck and Pam Blagden.

Motion carried 7-0.

B. Approve Early Retirements

Brown stated the years of service for the retirees.

Motion by J. Smith, seconded by Nance to approve early retirement for early retirees: Kathi Clement, Susan Gallo, Trudy Asplund, Donna Puls, Marybeth Foster, Karen Strovers, Cathy Buck, Pam Blagden.

Motion carried 7-0.

C. WoodRiver Energy Natural Gas Contract

Johnson stated this is approving the contract with WoodRiver Energy to provide natural gas to the High School and three Elementary Buildings. This does not change the service provider, Alliant Energy. Johnson stated over the past 5 years the District would have saved more than \$17,000 or 9% on the natural gas bill by partnering with WoodRiver Energy.

Motion by D. Smith, seconded by Nance to approve the WoodRiver Energy Natural Gas Contract.

Motion carried 7-0.

D. Contracted Service Agreement between IVCC and Grinnell-Newburg CSD

Abrahamson stated this is an annual contract for the classes our students take at IVCC.

Motion by J. Smith, seconded by Jones Bair to approve the Contracted Service

Agreement between IVCC and GN CSD.

Motion carried 7-0.

E. Memorandum of Understanding between IVCC and Grinnell-Newburg CSD

This is for a new automotive program that will use the bay at the bus garage.

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by D. Smith to approve the Memo of Understanding between IVCC and GN CSD.

Motion carried 7-0.

F. Out of State Travel: Outdoor Adventure Program

Abrahamson stated Mike Anderson has done a lot of great things with these kids.

Motion by Redmond, seconded by J. Smith to approve the out of state travel for the Outdoor Adventure Program.

Motion carried 7-0.

G. Approve Project Schedule for High School Roof - Phase 2

Abrahamson stated this is to approve moving forward to bid with the project FEH presented.

Motion by Knobloch, seconded by Nance to approve the High School Roof - Phase 2.

Motion carried 7-0.

H. Approve Project Schedule for the High School Exterior Envelope and Window Modifications

Abrahamson stated this is for the project FEH presented.

Motion by D. Smith, seconded by J. Smith to approve the the project schedule for the HS Exterior Envelope and Window Modifications.

Motion carried 7-0.

I. Approve Amendment to Professional Services Agreement

Motion by Nance, seconded by D. Smith to approve the amendment to the Professional Services Agreement to include a vestibule as an alternate in the HS Exterior Envelope and Window Modifications project.

J. Smith stated the main entrance for building needs to be easily identified. He recommended putting it in as an alternate. Brown stated this is a significant cost, just to design it. Knobloch would entertain the idea of an open vestibule. Nance agreed. Jones Bair believes this is not a priority at this time. Brown asked about discussion at the Facilities committee on the priority of this versus other projects. Abrahamson stated it is not a priority, but due to the current exterior project and requests from others to make the entrance more clear he thought they could entertain the idea. Redmond stated people will access the door closest to where they park regardless of where the front of the building is.

Motion failed 1-6. Nance approved.

9. Board Discussion

Redmond asked if the links to board meetings could be included in the building's announcements. Abrahamson stated he would communicate this to the buildings.

Brown stated the board is continuing to move forward with the Superintendent search process. She also thanked all the many volunteers who came to the initial profile building meetings, as well as those who took the time to participate in the survey. J. Smith also thanked people.

Jones Bair enjoyed the article in the paper on the instructional coaches selected for the next year. Redmond invited everyone to the upcoming SIAC meeting. J. Smith is excited to see the grade level learning. Tammy Strawser will also be conducting a survey for the TAG program to help determine needs.

10. Board Talking Points

None

11. Adjournment

Motion by J. Smith, seconded by Redmond to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Board Calendar:

Policy Committee Work Session

2:00 p.m., January 20, 2016

SIAC Work Session
Regular Board Meeting

5:00 p.m., January 20, 2016
6:00 p.m., January 27, 2016