

REGULAR MEETING
December 15, 2014

The Board of Education of the Independent School District of West Burlington met for a regular meeting at 7:00 PM on Monday, December 15, 2014 in the board room at 607 Ramsey Street in West Burlington. Presiding over the meeting was President Sanders with all members answering roll call.

Administer Oath of Office to New Board Member: The oath of office was administered to Lee Boughton as the new board member.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Day and seconded by Conner to approve the agenda as presented.

Visitors/Open Forum: There were 5 visitors present.

Gary Deen – he told the board he was the spokesperson for a group regarding issues with taxes. He talked about TIF and the bond issue. They want to support the school but want more accountability from the district, such as what PPEL would be used for if the additional 67¢ was voted for. They would also like to see the resident students come first.

Dan West – Thought the district should send out a questionnaire similar to what the city did but make it a much shorter version, maybe 10 questions. This would give the community a chance to express what they would like to see. He also expressed disappointment in the board in not responding when he has sent letters. He also felt it was unprofessional for board members to make comments about others on facebook.

Steve Young – congratulated Lee Boughton as the newest board member. He also felt the district needed to focus on what the parents/community wants by inviting them to meetings for their input. The district needs to continue to ask what is right for our district and what is a “need” vs. a “want”.

Miscellaneous Communications: Lenny expressed disappointment at the state level regarding the state date for schools and the governor’s decision, basing it on participation at the State Fair.

Approval of Consent Agenda – the following items were under the consent agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)
- B. Approval of Financial Statements
- C. Approval of Payment of Bills – the bills were audited by Michelle Randall: activity - \$6811.50; nutrition - \$6042.81; and general/other - \$44102.87
- D. Open Enrollment – the following students should be approved for continuation to W. Burlington:

Naeomi Beaman	grade 1
Daylee Beaman	grade 8

The following should be approved for open enrollment to West Burlington under just cause. These students applied prior to the grade level cap policy.

McKenna Vance	grade 3
Matthew Vance	grade 5

- E. Selected Personnel Issues

Motion by Randall and seconded by Day to approve all items under the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

BUSINESS

Bond Issue Results: The bond issue was defeated 158 for and 385 against. A couple of things that really need to be done at the elementary are the gym and the drop off/pick up lane – the board will think about what they would like to do next.

PPEL Vote Results: The PPEL was defeated 267 for and 275 against. The PPEL can be brought back for another vote in either February or April.

Modified Allowable Growth/Dropout Prevention: These monies are used to pay certified staff and associates who work directly with struggling learners. It also help provide staff development. The district is requesting \$216,038 of modified allowable growth with \$54,010 meeting the 25% local budget match requirement.

Motion by Day and seconded by Boughton to approve the modified allowable growth/dropout prevention. Motion carried 5-0.

AD/Technology Director Long Range Plan: Jeff Housel, athletic director, gave the board a handout outlining his long range plan in the following areas: participation/number of coaches, enrollment/classification/conference/sharing, uniforms and equipment, facilities, scheduling, booster club, admissions, and new sports. His handouts are a part of the board materials.

Dave Roed, technology coordinator, talked about his long range goals. He will continue meeting with the technology committee. He also plans to work on the need to have more integration in the classrooms and the ability to upload/download assignment plus electronic delivery of materials. He hopes to continue to improve and update the servers and move more to the “cloud”.

KUNOS: There have been various problems regarding the KUNOS and the things they were supposed to able to do versus what they didn't do: automated grading, teacher monitoring of student devices, student sharing, syncing correctly. The cases were way too heavy for the devices making it difficult to carry; the control and management was hit and miss; these are currently dual processor while the new ones are quad processors; they just were not as easy to operate as the district was lead to believe.

This was 3-year lease arrangement with the district half way through. There is one more payment due. The district is forming a coalition with Keokuk, Albia and Van Buren to collect information regarding the issues everyone is having and will then present things to the company as the devices are not what the districts were lead to believe they were and see if some kind of a satisfactory compromise can be reached.

The technology committee will be meeting in February to see what direction the district wants to go in for technology.

Board Policy 403.1 – 1st Reading: The reimbursement rate for the bus driver physical is changing from \$55 to \$85. Motion by Randall and seconded by Day to approve the 1st reading of Policy 403.1. Motion carried 5-0.

Board Member Resignation/Open Seat: Lenny Sanders gave his resignation from his board position due to accepting a new job in the Ft. Dodge area effective immediately. There will be a special meeting on Jan. 12th to appoint someone to fill his spot. Depending on the date of the special election for the PPEL, a special election will also be held at that same time for a new board member. Those interested in filling the position until the election can contact the superintendent office.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Principals' Reports: The 1st semester is ending this week with finals and grades to be emailed to parents by the end of the day on Dec. 19th. The Jazz band has performed at both the Lions and Rotary meetings. The meeting for the Jump Start academy will be in January to see if New London and Ft. Madison are interested in joining. The high school will be reviewing their crisis management plans.

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Starting in 2017, 3rd grade students will be retained if they cannot pass the criteria, so the elementary is doing weekly testing any student that is behind in their grade level. The reading proficiency is at 76.6% which is higher than this time last year.

Superintendent Report: Mr. Schmitt discussed the new information regarding the start of school which now states that school cannot start until the week in which September 1st is in unless they can show it will have a significant negative impact on instruction. The finance formula will be undergoing some re-vamping in the future

Michelle volunteered for the position on the Des Moines County conference board.

Items for Future Agendas: special meeting on Jan. 12 prior to the board meeting with Mary Jane Vens; summer lunch program

Adjournment: Motion by Randall and seconded by Boughton to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Date Approved

Secretary

President