

## Newton Community School Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting  
E. J. H. Beard Administration Center  
East Conference Room

December 18, 2017 – 5:00 PM

## MINUTES

**Call to Order** – Travis Padget convened the board to order at 5:00 PM

**Roll Call** – **Present:** Josh Cantu, Donna Cook, Robyn Friedman, Ann Leonard, Cody Muhs, Travis Padget, Bob Callaghan, Gayle Isaac, Christine Dawson **Absent:** Graham Sullivan **Others Present:** Jolene Comer, Brenda Hodnett, Laura Lengeling, Tracie Lindholm, Paula Lureman, Trisca Mick, Bret Miller, Bill Peters, Todd Schuster, Brandy Underberg, Lourdes Underberg, Aiden Whitson, David Dolmage (Newton Daily News), and Randy Van (KCOB)

### Communications

Lourdes Underberg was recognized for her **Student Artwork** displayed at the EJH Beard Administration Center. She was introduced by NHS Art Teacher, Laura Lengeling. Superintendent Callaghan announced a \$5,000 **donation** received from Scott Pearson with HyVee in support of the community and schools. Superintendent Callaghan shared about a recent visit from **Jeri Dunitz**, former owner of the EJH Beard Administration Center. Principal Jolene Comer shared that **Emerson Hough Elementary School** has been nominated for a *Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools Award* for the 2017 – 2018 school year by the Flippen Group. A Flippen Group site team will visit Emerson Hough on January 30, 2018 to determine award qualification.

### Consent Agenda – ACTION #10309

Leonard moved, Cook seconded to unanimously approve the consent agenda.

### Human Resources Update

#### Certified Personnel – ACTION #10310

Superintendent Callaghan presented the Human Resources Update – Certified Personnel

**Hannah Hemann** – (resignation) – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach (BMS) – effective December 4, 2017

Cook moved, Friedman seconded to approve the Human Resources Update – Certified Personnel Report. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget Absent: Sullivan

#### Classified Personnel – ACTION #10311

Superintendent Callaghan presented the Human Resources Update – Classified Personnel

**Rachel Abel** – (agreement) – Food Service – effective December 4, 2017

**Brianna Fuller** – (agreement) – Educational Associate (EH) – effective January 3, 2018

**Peg Esperanza** – (agreement) – Bus Driver (Transportation) – effective November 1, 2017

**Scott Croson** – (resignation) – Delivery Driver (Food Service) – effective December 8, 2017

Muhs moved, Friedman seconded to approve the Human Resources Update – Classified Personnel Report. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget Absent: Sullivan

### Open Forum

Aiden Whitson was invited to the podium to speak about progress achieving his Boy Scout citizenship merit badge.

### Superintendent's Report

#### Middle School Construction

Superintendent Callaghan displayed pictures of construction progress at the new middle school site as of December 2, 2017. Construction is scheduled to be completed by March 2019. He commended Hansen Construction for their work thus far.

#### Enrollment Summary

Superintendent Callaghan reported a total of 2,955 K – 12 students enrolled as of December 13, 2017.

#### Attendance Update

Superintendent Callaghan shared student attendance percentages at each campus, with ranges from 88.90% - 98.47%.

#### Transiency Report

Superintendent Callaghan presented a student transiency report for those students who have either left the district, or entered the district since the October 1, 2017 certified enrollment count date. The report showed a net loss of 6 students.

#### Test of Weather Communication System

Superintendent Callaghan announced that there would be a test of the district's weather communication system conducted on December 19, 2017.

#### Legislative Update

Superintendent Callaghan shared that a Legislative Forum would be held on January 4, 2018 at the EJH Beard Administration Center, to include Senator Chaz Allen, Senator Amy Sinclair, Representative Wes Breckenridge, and community leaders. The forum will include a review of the upcoming 2018 Legislative Session.

**Learning, Leadership, and District Business** – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent and Gayle Isaac, Board Secretary & Director of Business Services

#### Consider Approval of Changes (additions and deletions) to the NHS 2018 – 2019 Academic Handbook – ACTION #10312

Principal Bill Peters explained updates to the NHS 2018 – 2019 Academic Handbook. Friedman moved, Leonard seconded to approve the changes to the NHS 2018 – 2019 Academic Handbook as presented. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget Absent: Sullivan

#### Board will Consider an Application for SBRC Modified Supplemental Amount for Dropout Prevention – ACTION #10313

Gayle Isaac explained the need to approve the submittal of the district's application to the State Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for Modified Supplemental Amount. Board Member Josh Cantu introduced the Resolution for the District to apply to the SBRC for a Request for Modified Supplemental Amount for At-Risk/Dropout Prevention in the amount of \$616,561 and moved its adoption. Board Member Friedman seconded the motion to adopt. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget Absent: Sullivan

**Discussion Regarding the Release of the Iowa Report Card**

Superintendent Callaghan announced the release of Iowa Report Card data for the 2016 – 2017 school year from the Iowa Department of Education. He explained the rationale of why some of the schools received an Unable to Rate.

**Denison Update**

Board Member Robyn Friedman gave an update on the Denison Culture Survey. A two-day retreat has been scheduled for January 19 & 26, 2018, with a moderator present to help the focus group determine next steps.

**Business Service Report – Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services**

**Approval of Bills – ACTION #10314**

Cook moved, Leonard seconded to unanimously approve the bills.

**Impact of Fund Balance (Restricted and Unrestricted) and Unspent Authorized Budget (UAB) on the Development of a Fiscal Year Budget**

A discussion of impacts in relation to budget development was led by Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services with documents, various scenarios, and projections displayed for board members.

**New Business – Old Business – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent**

**Future Meeting Dates**

**Regular Board Meeting:** January 8, 2018 (5:00 PM) – EJH Beard Administration Center

**Future Work Session or Meeting Dates** – January 8, 2018 (6:00 PM) – EJH Beard Administration Center

**Winter Break** – December 25, 2017 – January 2, 2018

**IASB Day on the Hill** – January 30, 2018 – (Des Moines)

**Adjourn – ACTION #10315**

Leonard moved, Muhs seconded to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 6:43 PM.

Minutes Mailed  
Approved by Action No. \_\_\_\_\_

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President  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2017

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Secretary