

Newton Community School Board of Education

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

March 12, 2018 – 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order – Travis Padget convened the board to order at 7:00 PM

Roll Call – Present: Josh Cantu, Donna Cook, Robyn Friedman, Ann Leonard, Cody Muhs, Travis Padget, Graham Sullivan, Bob Callaghan, Gayle Isaac, Christine Dawson **Others Present:** Diane Babcock, Andy Elbert, Jen Elbert, Alison Grier, Brenda Hodnett, Lois Holmes, Brian Keeton, LaNita Keeton, Cori Latcham, Lori Linahon, Jim Long, Sherri Long, Paula Lureman, Bret Miller, Michelle Modlin, Jen Norvell, Deborah Rose, Tina Ross, Sandy Scotton, Laura Selover, Lucinda Sinclair, Patty VanHaften, Doug Smith, Dave Dolmage (Newton Daily News), and Randy Van (KCOB)

Communications

None.

Consent Agenda – ACTION #10363

Leonard moved, Sullivan seconded to unanimously approve the consent agenda. Ayes: All Nays: None

Human Resources Update

Certified Personnel – ACTION #10364

Jared Gerber – (Volunteer) – Boys Tennis Coach (NHS) – effective March 12, 2018

Ryan Rump – (Contract) – Activities & Athletic Director/Assistant Principal (NHS) – effective July 1, 2018

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

Classified Personnel – ACTION #10365

Esther Grife – (Retirement) – Cook (Food Service) – effective May 30, 2018 (24 Years with NCSD)

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

Open Forum

Board President, Travis Padget, invited those to the podium who were present to speak during the Open Forum.

Doug Smith – spoke about the renewal of the Superintendent's contract

Superintendent's Report

Berg Middle School Construction Update – Superintendent Callaghan gave an update on construction progress at the new 5 – 8 middle school. He shared pictures of student artwork that will be transferred to the new middle school in digital picture format, applied to vinyl, and placed in stairways for display. Bob Hawkins has assisted with the photography on this project, and Callaghan thanked him for his work. Superintendent Callaghan also showed drone footage of the construction progress. The goal is to be in the new facility in January 2019.

Website Launch – Superintendent Callaghan previewed the new district website (www.newtoncsd.org) that is scheduled to go live on March 15, 2018.

Legislative Update – Superintendent Callaghan provided a legislative update, sharing that Governor Kim Reynolds signed a 1% increase in Supplemental State Aid (SSA). He also discussed the discrepancies between State and District Cost Per Pupil, the impact on school districts, and measures being taken to close the financial gap. Other topics were Transportation Equity, SAVE, and progress on the selection of a Statewide Assessment.

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

Consider Cooperative Agreement by and between University of Northern Iowa and Newton Community School District for the 2018 – 2019 Academic Year – ACTION #10366

Laura Selover presented a cooperative student teaching agreement for approval consideration. Friedman moved, Cook seconded to approve the Cooperative Agreement by and between University of Northern Iowa and Newton Community School District for the 2018 – 2019 Academic Year. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan

Resolution Appointing Bankers Trust Company of Des Moines, Iowa to Serve as Paying Agent, Bond Registrar, and Transfer Agent, Approving the Paying Agent, Bond Registrar and Transfer Agent Agreement and Authorizing the Execution of Same – ACTION #10367

Gayle Isaac presented this item for approval consideration. This resolution and the next three agenda items are legally required documents to complete the General Obligation School Bond Sale (Series 2018A). Leonard moved, Sullivan seconded to Adopt the Resolution Appointing Bankers Trust Company of Des Moines, Iowa to Serve as Paying Agent, Bond Registrar, and Transfer Agent, Approving the Paying Agent, Bond Registrar and Transfer Agent Agreement and Authorizing the Execution of Same. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan

Move that the Form of Tax Exemption Certificate be Placed on File and Approved – ACTION #10368

Friedman moved, Cantu seconded that the Form of Tax Exemption Certificate be Placed on File and Approved. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan

Move that the Form of Continuing Disclosure Certificate be Placed on File and Approved – ACTION #10369

Muhs moved, Sullivan seconded that the Form of Continuing Disclosure Certificate be Placed on File and Approved. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan

Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2018A, of the Newton Community School District, State of Iowa, in the Amount of \$7,690,000 and Levying a Tax for the Payment Thereof – ACTION #10370

Superintendent Callaghan congratulated the board for passing the final amount on the Berg Middle School bond sale. Isaac shared that the district will receive the funds on March 27, 2018. Friedman moved, Leonard seconded to Adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2018A, of the Newton Community School District, State of Iowa, in the Amount of \$7,690,000 and Levying a Tax for the Payment Thereof. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Sullivan Abstain: Padget

Discussion of Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget and Tax Rate

Cantu provided a recap of the March 12, 2018 Board Work Session and discussion regarding the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget and Tax Rate. Isaac presented two scenarios, with a 7% and 8% income surtax rate. Isaac's recommendation is an 8% income surtax rate, with \$140,000 Cash Reserve Levy, and a property tax rate of \$15.74. The board will consider approval of the tax rate at a future meeting.

Consider Setting the Date, Time, and Place for a Public Hearing for Adoption of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Certified Budget – (Recommendation: April 9, 2018 at 6:45 PM – EJV Beard Administration Center) – ACTION #10371

Muhs moved, Cook seconded to set a Public Hearing for Adoption of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Certified Budget for April 9, 2018 at 6:45 PM at the EJV Beard Administration Center, with a tax rate levy of \$15.74. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan

Denison Update

Laura Selover gave an update on the Denison Culture team, and the development of collective commitments which will be presented to the Steering Committee in a meeting to be held March 19, 2018. The group will discuss how to proceed and communicate progress with staff.

Business Service Report – Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services

Approval of Bills – ACTION #10372

Leonard moved, Cantu seconded to unanimously approve the bills. Ayes: All Nays: None

Chromebook Purchase

Gayle Isaac, Director of Business Services, shared information regarding the purchase of 60 Chromebooks for student inventory. The recommended quote was 60 32 GB Chromebooks from CDWG for \$18,060.00 and purchased with SAVE funds.

New Business – Old Business – Bob Callaghan, Superintendent

Future Meeting Dates

Regular Board Meeting: March 26, 2018 – has been cancelled, due to Spring Break

Regular Board Meeting: April 9, 2018 (6:30 PM) – EJV Beard Administration Center

Called Board Meeting: March 21, 2018 (Time TBD) – EJV Beard Administration Center

Spring Break & Good Friday Holiday – March 23, 2018 – March 30, 2018

Closed Session – ACTION #10373

Friedman moved, Cook seconded to unanimously go into closed session as provided in Chapter 21.5(1)(i) of the Iowa Code to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose performance is being considered to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation as that individual has requested a closed session.

Open Session – ACTION #10374

At 11:03 PM Leonard moved, Sullivan seconded to unanimously return to open session to consider the extension of the Superintendent's contract.

Consider Extension of Superintendent Contract – ACTION #10375

Muhs moved, Cantu seconded to Extend the Superintendent's Contract through 2020 – 2021. Ayes: Cantu, Muhs, Padget Nays: Cook, Friedman, Leonard, Sullivan

Adjourn – ACTION #10376

Cook moved, Sullivan seconded to unanimously adjourn the meeting at 11:14 PM.

Minutes Mailed
Approved by Action No. _____

President
_____, 2018

Secretary