

Regular Meeting – October 26, 2020

Unapproved

The Charles City Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, October 26, 2020 in the High School (HS) Library. President Mack called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Present via zoom: Board members Freund, Dight, Rottinghaus and Bergland. Absent: Student Board member Ruzicka. Staff members present included Superintendent Fisher, Board Secretary O'Brien, and Communication Director DeVore. Five others were in attendance in person or via zoom.

The Mission/Vision statement was read by Director Rottinghaus.

(Freund/Rottinghaus) to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

There was no public comment.

Superintendent Fisher reported District progress on the three Strategic goals: equity and achievement, culture and climate and facilities and infrastructure.

Strategic Goal 1: The District is rolling out a new cadence called Comet Clarity to provide even more clarity around our vision and mission. You'll start to see a new comprehensive roll out of information on our vision and mission to our community starting next week. We will have a change in our student board member due to a conflict. Superintendent Fisher will be working to name a new member by our next meeting.

Strategic Goal 2: Thanks to the Rotary for a \$1,000 donation towards our COVID Crisis fund. K-12 conferences are being held tonight. Thanks to all of our staff and their hard work to make them a success. We are doing student led conferences this year at our middle school using student leadership as one of our focus areas. We just finished up some of our culture/climate surveys at our campuses. We are seeing some high quality results.

Strategic Goal 3: The District is preparing for winter and getting all of our facilities ready for the cold weather. Finishing touches are being added to the baseball batting cages.

A Negotiations and Compensation committee report was received from President Mack.

Superintendent Fisher provided an update on COVID. The positive news is we went the better part of three weeks without a case. Students are making good decisions and continue to stay healthy. We are reinforcing the face covering policy. Although there are new federal CDC guidelines on what constitutes an exposure the state health department guidelines are not changing. The conference superintendents voted to require face coverings at conference events for entry.

David Voves, Marie Conklin and Scotti Hagensick presented information on the School To You (STU) Program. This program is a joint partnership between the STU Team and classroom teachers. There are currently 235 students, 15%, that chose the STU program. Three goals were shared. The Board asked questions.

(Rottinghaus/Freund) to approve the second reading of Board policy 101 Educational Philosophy, Mission, Vision of the School District as recommended. Motion carried 5-0.

(Rottinghaus/Dight) to approve the 2021 Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) legislative resolutions as proposed by the IASB. Director Dight will attend the IASB annual meeting and delegate assembly virtually and vote on the Districts behalf. Motion carried 5-0.

Terri O'Brien, Director of Finance, explained who decides how to use instructional support levy (ISL) funding and how it has been used in the past. The voters can approve or reject the ISL public measure put before them which includes the potential uses. In 2017 the last ISL vote, the entire ISL funding of 7% was approved for any General Fund use, which allows flexibility to use for materials or staffing needs. Historically the District has purchased supplies, classroom furniture, copiers, software, band and other equipment, textbooks and library books among other things.

(Dight/Freund) to approve the Charles City Community Educational Services Association (CCCESA) Memorandum of Understanding dated 10/26/20 regarding the creation of voluntary sick and personal leave donations by staff members as recommended. The memorandum provides for the creation of voluntary donations of sick and personal leave from one staff member to another. The teacher association added this wording one year ago. The District wants to create equity between the two associations. Motion carried 5-0.

(Bergland/Dight) to approve the CCCESA Memorandum of Understanding amending section 4.2 (5) of the master contract from two days to three days. This memorandum of understanding amends the number of employee hours forgiven when school is cancelled for students from two to three days. Any days missed beyond the three days may be made up so there is no loss of pay. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent Fisher explained how the District COVID leave bank was established and who it is for. At the August 8, 2020 School Board meeting, the Board established a District COVID leave bank and donated 500 days to the bank to be used after an employee exhausts all other available leaves for long term COVID illnesses. The leave bank could be used by sick employees with long term COVID illnesses who have run out of their existing leave protections and to ensure there is an abundance of leave to protect employees. This bank can be used by any employee.

(Dight/Rottinghaus) to approve the consent agenda items as listed.

- Approval of the following personnel appointments contingent upon completion of positive background checks.

Name	Position	Amount	Start Date
Danielle Bonnstetter	Central Services - Office Assistant	\$10.00 /hr	10/27/20
Karleen Sickman	Girls Basketball Mentor Coach	\$3,000	11/9/20

Motion carried 5-0.

The Board identified some of the Big Ideas that came out of the Board meeting.

- The School To You program is good for students and it is important to receive updates on the program throughout the year.
- We are modeling equity among our staff.

The Board discussed other important upcoming dates. The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 9, 2020.

Harry Heiligenthal, IASB, was in attendance via zoom, to lead the Board training on *How to Have Difficult Conversations with Grace* and Board engagement and communication as it pertains to the decision making process. The Board reviewed its role and the roll of the Superintendent. They were asked a series of questions on the topic and asked to reflect upon it.

President Mack adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Terri O'Brien, Board Secretary