

Regular Meeting – April 26, 2021

Unapproved

The Charles City Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, April 26, 2021 in the High School (HS) Library. President Mack called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Present: Board members Freund (via zoom), Dight (via zoom), Rottinghaus and Bergland (via zoom) and Student member (via zoom) Jones. Absent: Student member Ruzicka. Staff members present included Superintendent Fisher, Acting Board Secretary Elsbernd (via zoom), Director of Finance, Marten and Director of Communications DeVore. Also in attendance (via zoom) James Grob, Charles City Press. There were six others in attendance either in person or by zoom.

The Mission/Vision statement was read by Director Rottinghaus

(Dight/Rottinghaus) to approve the agenda as amended. Under committee reports a Facilities and SIAC report were added. Motion carried 5-0.

There was one public comment. Jen Hoeft, who has an eighth grader at Charles City Middle School, read a statement asking the school board to make face masks optional for all students.

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

Strategic Goal 1: The Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (*ISASP*) testing is currently underway. There is a negotiations session Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. The District is anticipating an agreement being finalized with both union groups.

Strategic Goal 2: Our strength and conditioning program new equipment is expected to be here August 1st. The contract for strength and conditioning services with Synergy Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine is on the agenda tonight. Kurt Walderbach from Synergy is joining us tonight via zoom to answer any questions the board may have.

Strategic Goal 3: A special thank you goes out to Laura Walker, Bryan Jurens and Larry Wolfe for making this years Prom a success. Also all of the track workers making sure our home events run smoothly.

Director Rottinghaus commented she enjoyed the middle school play on Facebook last weekend.

Director Dight congratulated Ian Collins and the rest of the track participants for a job well done at the Drake Relays.

A Facilities committee report was received from Director Dight. A Negotiation & Compensation reports was received by Director Rottinghaus and a SIAC committee report was received from Director of Communications DeVore.

Superintendent Fisher provided a Covid update. Covid cases have remained low. We continue to follow County Public Health advice and require masks in the District. He understands some may not agree with the face masks policy, but we are trying to do the most good for the most people.

Pam Ost, The Learning Center (TLC) Director, gave the Board an update on TLC during this last year. They remained open the entire pandemic with the help of the school district providing meals to them during the summer. In March 2020 their enrollment went from 75 to 35 due to the pandemic. Today their enrollment is 100 with about 75 children attending daily. When they move to the North Grand Building they are anticipating their capacity to increase from 93 to between 165 and 185. The Board thanked TLC for their support to the students of the District.

Jenna Brumm, Heidi Osterhaus, and Jayme Sundby from Taher, presented the results of the food service survey that staff and students took. They also talked about the changes with food service due the District being on the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) this entire school year. This program serves free meals to all students in the District. Jayme Sundby thanked outgoing Director of Finance, Terri O'Brien, for all of her work with them. The Board asked several questions.

Superintendent Fisher provided a hiring update. He showed the board a PowerPoint of the hiring process the District goes through with each and every hire. This helps make sure we are making the best possible hire for that position. The Board asked several questions.

(Freund/Bergland) to approve the 2021 graduates of the Charles City High School and Carrie Lane as presented. Roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

(Dight/Bergland) to approve the bid from Synergy Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine as presented in the bid. Tom Harskamp sent a request for bids to two athletic training service providers. One bid was received. This agreement will be paid out of covid money and the activities fund. Motion carried 5-0.

(Bergland/Dight) to approve the third extension to the Food Service Management Company agreement with Taher Inc. for \$3.57 per meal. Taher Inc. and the district have come to an agreement for 2021-2022 food management service. This is the third extension to the fixed price agreement which was originally approved in 2018. Motion carried 5-0.

(Rottinghaus/Dight) to approve a resolution appointing paying agent, bond registrar, and transfer agent, approving the paying agent, bond registrar and transfer agent agreement and authorize the execution of same, and approval of form of tax exemption certificate, and approval of the resolution for the issuance and providing for and securing the payment of the bonds. At the April 12th Board meeting the Board approved the bid from First Security Bank and Trust of Charles City for the refinancing of the 2013 and 2015 Middle School bond debt. Roll call vote Motion carried 4-0 (Freund abstaining).

(Rottinghaus/Freund) to approve the agreement with Levi Architecture for professional services on the North Grand Building renovation project at \$30,000 as presented. Dan Levi, Levi Architecture, has been consulting with The Learning Center for work on North Grand Building (NGB) modifications. After some careful consideration by Jerry Mitchell, the recommendation of the leadership is to put the NGB utility and HVAC work out to full bid and we have requested an agreement for their professional design and bidding services. The District has committed to

setting aside \$150,000 for five years or a total of \$750,000 for structural improvements and essential maintenance to the 1970 section of the NGB. Motion carried 5-0.

(Dight/Freund) to appoint Evan Marten as Board Secretary/Treasurer replacing Terri O'Brien for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year effective April 27, 2021. van Marten has started work as the new Director of Finance for the District. Director O'Brien will work with the new director until June 30, her last contract date. Motion carried 5-0.

The oath of office was administered to Marten by Acting Board Secretary Elsbernd.

(Rottinghaus/Dight) to approve the resolution setting dates for public hearing and bid letting and the proposed plans and specifications, form of contract, and estimate of cost for the High School Track Improvement Project. The HS Track improvement project was approved by the Board. Veenstra & Kimm, who was approved as the engineer on the project, have developed the plans, specifications and estimated cost on the project. The project includes all labor, materials and equipment necessary to construct the existing HS track under two contracts. Project to include excavation, earthwork and grading as needed, removal of approximately 4,950 SQ of existing synthetic rubber surfacing, approximately 600 LF of crack repairs, and miscellaneous associated work, including cleanup. The budget for the project is \$250,000. Motion carried 5-0.

(Freund/Rottinghaus) to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- Approval of the following resignations:

Name	Position	Date Effective
Katelyn Stultz	Assistant Middle School Drama	4/26/21

- Approval of the following personnel appointments:

Name	Position	Amount	Start Date
Shantel Rimmer	Middle School Track Student Supervisor	\$15.00/hr.	4/26/21
Amy Peterson	FT Paraeducator	\$15.09/hr.	4/27/21
Michelle Dohlman	Elementary School Counselor	*	8/12/21
Kyle Staudt	10 th Grade Football	*	8/1/21
Bethany Borklund	Special Education Nurse	*	8/12/21

*amount and start date to be determined after the 2021-22 collective bargaining Agreement is approved.

- Approval of summer work assignments at \$9.00 per hour effective May 15, 2021: Kylie Adams, Wendy Labarge, Tim Labarge, Julie Tjabring, Bobbie Shultz, Jane Offerman, Kim Carman, and Sonja Cotton
- Approval of the Turning Leaf Counseling Agreement for the 2021-22 academic school year as presented.

Motion carried 5-0.

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

- Great insight of the hiring process
- TLC presentation was very nice to hear

- New Board Secretary Evan Marten is exciting
- Hearing about Prom and Drake Relays makes it seem like there is some sort of normalcy returning to students and staff. The Board has to consider the health of the students and they want what is best for all kids.

Director Rottinghaus read a letter that the Board received from a Kindergartener named Jack at Washington Elementary. He wrote a letter asking for basketball hoops on the playground. Director Rottinghaus announced the PTO will be paying for some basketball hoops.

The Board discussed other important upcoming dates. The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 10, 2021.

President Mack adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Paige Elsbernd, Acting Board Secretary