

Van Meter Community School Board of Education
Regular Session-Monday, December 19, 2011
5:30 p.m. @ Secondary Library

ATTENDANCE

Present: Directors Liz Thompson, Brian Gordon, Jim Folkerts, Lance Lauterbach, Dan Koster, Superintendent John Carver, and Secretary Shonna Trudo
Absent: none
Guests: Jen Sigrist, Lynne Caltrider, Elaine Mercial, Eldonna Skahill, Maribeth Arentsen, Marsha Fries, Rebecca Comer, Kelly Bell, and Bart Jones

CALL TO ORDER

President Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY SECRETARY

Secretary Trudo noted that Director Gordon was absent, but expected to arrive later.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Folkerts moved, seconded by Director Koster to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

CLOSED SESSION – Pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5 (1) (i): Superintendent Goals/Evaluation

Director Folkerts moved, seconded by Director Koster to approve holding a closed session as provided in section 21.5 (1)(i) of the open meetings law 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. A roll call vote was taken. Time: 5:32 p.m.

Director Lauterbach	yes
Director Koster	yes
Director Thompson	yes
Director Folkerts	yes
Director Gordon	absent

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:15 p.m.

The Board took a recess until 6:35 p.m.

OPEN FORUM

No comments from the public.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda

President Thompson presented the consent agenda items. Director Koster moved, seconded by Director Lauterbach to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2011 regular board meeting, bills for payment, financial statements for all funds, open enrollment requests, and personnel transactions all as noted below:

Open Enrollments - none this month

Personnel Transactions

Hirings:

- Zach Pacha – Asst. High School Boys Basketball Coach

Resignations:

- Gabe Arroyo – Asst. High School Football Coach

Motion carried 4-0.

Director Gordon arrived at approximately 6:40 p.m.

Dropout Prevention Modified Allowable Growth Request

John Carver and Shonna Trudo reviewed the application for additional allowable growth for the district's dropout prevention program. They explained that this is an annual application and would result in \$60,000 of additional allowable growth (spending authority) for the district for the dropout prevention programs. Director Folkerts moved, seconded by Director Koster to approve that Van Meter School request \$60,000 of modified additional allowable growth to the SBRC for dropout prevention programs. Motion carried 5-0.

Van Replacement

Mr. Carver explained that the 2005 Chrysler minivan did not pass state inspection due to rust and is unable to transport students any longer. Bids were solicited for other minivans and bids will be received for the sale of the 2005 Chrysler. Director Lauterbach moved, seconded by Director Koster to approve the District using PPEL/SILO funds to purchase a 2010 Chrysler Town and Country minivan, stock # 9482500, from Gabus Auto Group for \$16,715. Motion carried 5-0.

Competency Based Pathways Waiver

Mr. Carver and Mrs. Sigrist explained that the Iowa Department of Education announced a waiver for districts interested in showing student learning in ways other than the 'Carnegie Unit', which is a time-based reference for measuring educational attainment. Director Folkerts moved, seconded by Director Gordon to have Van Meter School apply for a waiver from the Iowa Department of Education for competency-based pathways. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent Goals and Evaluations

President Thompson briefly reviewed the Superintendent evaluation process and self-reflective goals from Mr. Carver. Director Koster moved, seconded by Director Gordon to accept the Superintendent's goals and utilize the evaluation tools, Part II, as presented, with a semi-annual review in November, an annual review in April, with goal setting for the following year in May, and review of policy on an annual basis in the May meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

First Reading of Certified Early Retirement Policy

Superintendent Carver reviewed the proposed Early Retirement policy, explaining that it offers the same benefits as last year's policy. Director Gordon moved, seconded by Director Folkerts to approve the first reading of Early Retirement policy #406.7 as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Recognition of Academic/Activities Achievement in Lobby

The Board discussed adding to the space in the secondary lobby to recognize student academic achievement and student activities. The Board noted that this space should be somewhat temporary or easily moved until it is known how it will fit into the overall long term planning of the facilities.

REPORTS

Transitioning to 21st Century Learning

2012-13 School Calendar: Superintendent Carver reviewed two 2012-13 calendar proposals emphasizing the need for additional professional development to give the teachers time for collaborative learning and implementing the Iowa Core and Competency Based Learning. One proposal has a one hour late start every Monday morning and nine full days of professional development and begins August 15 and ends May 22, 2013. The second draft begins school August 15, ends May 23, has 10 full staff development days, and no late starts or early outs for staff development. Discussion from the Board and administration regarding the use of professional development time and how to minimize the hardship on families for additional childcare for late starts. Mr. Carver noted that he will continue to obtain feedback on the calendar proposals and will bring a calendar back for approval at the January meeting.

Elementary Principal Maribeth Arentsen reported on competency-based learning in the elementary and explained the process for reporting on various standards by grade level and the related arts. She emphasized all of the collaboration that takes place to decide what standards are based on, which standards will be assessed and how they will be assessed and reported on. Elementary teachers Lynne Caltrider, Eldonna Skahill, Elaine Merial, Rebecca Comer, Marsha Fries, and Bart Jones individually discussed curriculum, assessments and reporting at their grade level or specials area.

Director Folkerts left the meeting at approximately 7:50 p.m.

Business Manager

Shonna Trudo briefly reviewed area school districts' open enrollment in and out totals as compared to Van Meter School. She also mentioned that all updated Board policies are now available on-line through the new school website.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Carver reported on the new website and that the Twitter feed that is displayed on the website will only have tweets shown from those Van Meter School staff that have authorization to post messages. The PPEL/SILO plan will be re-visited during the January board meeting. Administration is currently analyzing 2012-13 staff needs, Architect Johnny Boyd has been working to develop building concepts that support learning, and plans to have a joint city/school meeting are underway for the beginning of the year.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Gordon moved, seconded by Director Lauterbach to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.

Time: 8:45 p.m.

These minutes have not yet been approved. For questions, please call the district office at 996-9960.

Respectfully submitted,
Shonna Trudo
Board Secretary
Van Meter Community School