

## **Minutes for May 15, 2024**

### **Regular School Board Meeting**

Chair Opatz called the regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 7:00 PM in the meeting room.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Lori Opatz, Rob Knettel, and Pat Meier.

Members absent: Ed Feia, Elissa Ebnet, and Nicole Burg.

Also attending was: Superintendent Chris Swenson, Elementary Principal Jim Stang, and Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka. Also attending: Transportation Director Rodney Ebnet and Technology Director Lance Feia.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to approve the amended agenda. Removed item 5.1. BSED presentation; Items added: 6.5. Adopt Resolution for Lease Purchase Agreement; 6.6. Approve purchase of Interactive Boards; 6.7. Approve purchase of Mac Laptops; 6.8. Approve purchase of PC Laptops; 6.9. Approve purchase of Chromebooks; 6.10. Approve purchase of Grade 4 furniture; 6.11. Approve purchase of SPED Van; 6.12. Approve the Milk Bid; 7.5. Authorization to hire JH Baseball Coaches; Authorization to hire Summer School Staff. Motion carried. All In Favor (AIF).

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to approve the consent agenda. Items in the consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from the 4/17/20/24 Reg Board mtg and 5/1/24 Work Session; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$384,721.61; Computer checks approved #55917 through #56081 and #30954 through #30973 in the amount of \$4,114.56; approval of the electronic transfer for April 2024, \$331,740.62; acknowledgement of the Treasurer's Report balance per books \$6,089,619.37; Call for a Work Session to be held on June 5, 2024 at 6:00 PM; Accept the following donations: \$3,700 from Michelle Breth to Track and \$1,157 from PTA to 4th Grade for a science museum trip; and approve lane change for Nathan Anderson from BS20 to MS effective at the start of the 2024-2025 school year. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair recognized individually and thanked all the Donors for their generosity!

Chair Opatz welcomed fellow board members, administration, and staff members.

Citizen Participation: None

#### **Reports:**

BSED Facility presentation canceled. Rescheduled for June 5th Work Session.

Meier on the BSED meeting noting additional hours were added for several staff members which is for summer work and is accounted for in the budget. He reported there also was discussion on possible bylaw changes.

Superintendent Swenson talked about strategic planning for the District. He is getting quotes from two facilitators to lead the process. Mr. Swenson reminded Board Members of Graduation on May 31st and the FFA Alumni Greenhouse ground breaking ceremony on May 29th.

Elementary Principal Stang reported Summer School is nearly set with 100 plus students and most of the staffing hired. He thanked Rodney Ebnet for coordinating extra field trip bussing, thanked PTA for spoiling staff during education appreciation week, and for all their help with Grandparents Day which went very well. Mr. Stang also thanked everyone that helped make Grandparents Day happen. He talked about the Level 3 SPED room which was very busy this year and he thanked all those involved in handling the room.

Business Manager report given by Mr. Swenson. He informed the Board that an electronic time card system is being researched and that it is time for the District to upgrade from paper timesheets. More to come.

**Business Items:**

Mr. Swenson entertained questions on the budget. Motion by Meier, second by Knettel, to approve the FY24-25 Revenue and Expenditure Budgets. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Swenson explained the bathroom renovation which is on the LTFM plan and the funds have been appropriated from there. Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to approve the bid from Hennen's Floor Covering for wall and floor tile in the boys and girls bathrooms near the LMC and wrestling room with a total cost of \$39,391.18. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Swenson reported 4 bids were received to add 30% more freezer space. He recommends accepting the bid from SCR. Motion by Knettel, second by Martini, to approve the bid from SCR, Inc. for the furnishing and installation of a freezer for the Food Service Department with a total cost of \$106,688.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Ebnet talked about the bus fleet, entertained questions from the Board and recommended purchasing one bus for next year. Motion by Martini, second by Meier, to approve the purchase of a new 77-passenger school bus from North Central Bus and enter into a lease-purchase agreement for said bus with Stock Growers Public Finance with a total cost of \$125,514.83. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Meier, to adopt the Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Execution Of A Lease Purchase Agreement And Related Documents And Certificates. On Roll Call voting in favor: Martini, Opatz, Knettel, and Meier. Voting against: None. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Feia explained the interactive board purchase using tech levy funds to replace old Smart brand smart boards that are failing. Motion by Meier, second by Knettel, to approve the bid from Ben Q to purchase Interactive Boards, total cost \$23,869.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Feia informed the Board that in order to meet all the requests some teachers will share these laptops rather than wait for another year. Ten will go to Ind Tech, Six to Science and one for a spare teacher machine. Motion by Knettel, second by Meier, to approve the bid from Apple Store to purchase 17 Mac Laptops, total cost \$23,086.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini to approve the bid from CDW to purchase 10 PC Laptops for the Ag department, total cost \$13,976.80. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Feia explained this is the annual chromebook purchase. The change in brand is because Acer will reimburse \$20 on each warranty repair. Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to approve the bid from Vivacity to purchase annual Chromebook order for grades 1, 5, 9, and Elementary Tech Specialist, total cost \$81,090.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Swenson informed the Board that Mr. Gerber worked with 4th grade teachers and recommended moving forward with the purchase of furniture for 4th grade classrooms. Motion by Martini, second by Meier, to approve the purchase of classroom furniture for 4th grade, approximate cost \$70,000.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Ebnet explained the need for a special van to accommodate wheelchair students and students in the 3's program. The higher roof and built in car seats will meet those needs. Motion by Martini, second by Meier, to approve the purchase of SPED Van from United Bus Sales, total cost \$106,961.00. Motion carried. AIF.

Mr. Swenson recommended accepting the bid from Stoney Creek Dairy. Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to approve the Milk Bid for 2024-2025 school year from Stoney Creek Dairy. Motion carried. AIF.

**Personnel Items:**

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to accept the resignation from Jennifer Clear, Secondary English/Language Arts Teacher effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. The Board thanked Ms. Clear for her 9 years with the District and added she will be missed. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to hire Lisa M. Jarnot for the Secondary School Counselor Position for the 2024-2025 school year at MS Step 9. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to hire Denise Waletzko for a Long Term Sub for a First Grade Teacher from August 26, to November 18, 2024 at MS10 Step 17 of the 21-22 Teacher Salary Schedule. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Knettel, second by Meier, to hire Summer Cleaners as presented. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Martini, second by Knettel, to hire Junior High Baseball Coaches as presented. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Knettel, to hire Targeted Services and ESY Summer School Staff as presented. Motion carried. AIF.

A review of the upcoming meeting dates took place.

Graduation May 31, 2024 @ 7:00 PM. High School Gymnasium.

Work Session June 5, 2024 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

School Board Meeting June 12, 2024 @ 6:00 PM in the HS Meeting Room.

**Adjourn**

Agenda completed at 7:57 PM. A motion to adjourn was made by Meier, second by Knettel. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Clerk Patrick Meier