

December 19, 2016

The North Mahaska Board of Education met in regular session December 19, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the elementary library New Sharon, Iowa. Those members present: Dirk Wilkin, Dan Gruber, Sherrill Strobel, Arvin DeBoef and Keith Foster. Also present: Angela Livezey, Doug Ray, RD Keep – The Sun, Oliganida Gruber, Chris VerSteegh – FFA Advisory Committee, Gene Fox, Amber Goemaat, Matt Augustin, Angie Smith, Steve Ehret, Dale Lienemann – Estes Construction, Mike Vogt- Cunningham and Cindy Quang.

President Wilkin called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

A motion was made by Strobel and seconded by Foster to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

A motion was made by DeBoef and seconded by Gruber to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATION

There was no written communication or public forum.

OLD BUSINESS

LAND LAB PROGRESS – CHRIS VERSTEEGH

Chris VerSteegh from the FFA Advisory Committee talked with the board about putting a 12 inch tiling system on the FFA Land Lab. The water flow from the railroad track has caused water to settle on the FFA Land Lab. Gene Fox from Fox Construction helped the board understand where the tiling will be installed also the advantages to tiling the FFA Land Lab. The estimated proposed cost to tile the FFA Land Lab is \$7,422.50. No decision was made to proceed with the project and the board will discuss this project at a future board meeting.

UPDATE ON ELEMENTARY HVAC

Mike Vogt from Cunningham presented the board more information and updates on the elementary HVAC system.

ESTES CONSTRUCTION – BUILDING PROJECTS UPDATE

Mr. Lienemann from Estes Construction updated the board on the construction progress. Mr. Lienemann mentioned by the end of the month the High School office, Family Consumer Science (FCS) and the Cafeteria should be almost done. The redesign of the HS bathrooms is in progress and the bathroom projects will start at a later date. Mr. Lienemann also discussed the bottom windows are still on backorder.

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATE ON TEACHER LEADERSHIP PLAN

Mrs. Amber Goemaat and Mr. Augustin elementary and high school instructional coaches, respectively, was at the board meeting to inform the board on the Teacher Leadership Compensation Plan (TLC).

APPROVAL OF STAFF – JR HIGH SOFTBALL (MCKENZIE MITCHELL) PARAEDUCATOR (HEATHER HELD)

A motion was made by Strobel and seconded by DeBoef to approve a contract to McKenzie Mitchell as a Jr High Softball coach for the 2016-17 school year. Motion carried.

A motion was made by DeBoef and seconded by Foster to approve a letter of assignment to Heather Held for a para educator. Motion carried.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

Steve Ehret, Activity Director and Angie Smith, Superintendent Secretary was at the board meeting to give the board an overview of the activity accounts.

SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICY UPDATES, 101, 102, 102.E1, 102.E2, 102.E3, 102.E4, 102.E5, 102.E6, 102.R1, 104, 104.E1, 104.E2, 104.E3 AND 104.R1

A motion was made by Strobel and seconded by Foster to approve the board policy update for 101, 102, 102.E1, 102.E2, 102.E3, 102.E4, 102.E5, 102.E6, 102.R1, 104, 104.E1, 104.E2, 104.E3 AND 104.R1. Motion carried.

CONSIDER BOARD RESOLUTION FOR SUPPORT OF PROMISE IOWA

A motion was made by DeBoef and seconded by Strobel to approve the resolution for the support of Promise Iowa. AYES – Wilkin, DeBoef, Strobel, Gruber and Foster. NAYES – None. Motion carried.

Resolution of Support: Promise of Iowa Public Education Campaign

WHEREAS, The state’s children constitute “The Promise of Iowa” through their potential as our future leaders, citizens, innovators and caretakers of their generation; and

WHEREAS, We believe funding a strong system of public education is the best investment Iowans can make to strengthen our economy, create thriving communities and improve the quality of life for every Iowan; and

WHEREAS, Our students face new challenges and opportunities in a changing world, and their public schools are evolving to help students prepare for their future; and

WHEREAS, We must continue to find ways to close achievement gaps so that Iowa public schools fulfill the ideal of equity and opportunity for all; and we must keep pace with improvements in other states, to ensure our public schools provide our students and state with an advantage; and

WHEREAS, State policy makers, locally elected school board members, educators and the business community all made a shared commitment in 2013 landmark legislation to ensure the next generation of Iowa students receives a world-class education; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature has been made progress in investing in public education, but in this era of competing priorities and limited resources, state funding has fallen short in meeting the real needs of our students; and

WHEREAS, The case must be made to the Legislature that Iowa taxpayers and voters support greater investments in our public schools and are willing to commit public resources to ensure every student in our state has a well-rounded curriculum and safe, modern school facilities in each community; and

WHEREAS, As locally elected citizens entrusted with public education, Iowa school boards must take on the responsibility to tell the story and rally public support and understanding for continued investments in public education that move our state forward.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Mahaska Community School Board of Education pledges to join and support the efforts of “The Promise of Iowa” campaign to ensure that Iowa lawmakers continue to prioritize investments to improve the community schools that create opportunities for more than 480,000 public school Iowa students.

ADOPTED by ACTION of the BOARD this 19th day of December 2016

Signed: Board President 

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

SALE OF OLD FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT

Mrs. Livezey mentioned that we held a garage sale on December 9th. We sold majority of everything at the garage sale. We currently have the old HS library tables and chairs, old HS gym scoreboard and old HS windows. The plan is the sell the Windows and Scoreboard via internet and social media.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mrs. Livezey mentioned she attended an ISFLC conference last week the presenter estimated the State Supplemental Aid will be less than 2%.

SALE OF LAND LAB CROPS

Mrs. Livezey sold the FFA “Grain for Grads” corns and beans. The “Grain for Grads” is donation of corns and beans from local farmers in the New Sharon area. That grains can then be sold to establish an FFA scholarship for seniors in the North Mahaska Community School District.

SCHOOL REPORT CARD DATA

Mrs. Livezey mentioned she will not be presenting the school report card. The state has embargoed that information to the public until further notice.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

MRS. LIVEZEY – FOSS SCIENCE KIT EXPANSION

Mrs. Livezey talked about exploring more Full Option Science System (FOSS) kits. Currently, we are getting FOSS kits from the AEA. The kits are all hands on and teachers are trained for each FOSS kit.

Mrs. Livezey mentioned for Positive Behavior Incentive System (PBIS) doing a news blast weekly. In the news blast she wants to highlight expectation and getting parental support.

Mrs. Livezey mentioned the Book Fair went very well. All items were sent back today.

Mrs. Livezey discussed the traffic flow report she received from EMC Insurance. In the report it mentioned having the crosswalks more visible and bright.

MR RAY’S – MENTORING PROGRAM

Mr. Ray talked about his Mentor/Mentee Program. Mr. Ray has 10 students that need support in classwork. Mr. Ray and the high school teachers select juniors or seniors that can help these students in need.

Mr. Ray gave an update on the RISE program students.

Mr. Ray spoke about the “Vocal Trash” assembly. Students and staff really liked this assembly. It was full of energy and the message about recycling was relayed to everyone that attended.

Mr. Ray mentioned the Wellness Committee met last week about getting staff and students more healthy.

BOARD COMMENT/THANK YOU NOTES

Mr. DeBoef talked about the book fair and how it’s ran by the North Mahaska Education Foundation. Mr. DeBoef thanked all the non-members that helped at the book fair.

Mrs. Strobel talked about the school website and keeping the information current and up-to-date.

Mrs. Livezey also talked with the board about the office staff doing some cross training.

ADJOURN

Mr. Wilkin adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Cindy Quang
Board Secretary

Dirk Wilkin
Board President