

October 17, 2016

The North Mahaska Board of Education met in regular session October 17, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the elementary library New Sharon, Iowa. Those members present: Dirk Wilkin, Sherrill Strobel, Arvin DeBoef and Dan Gruber. Absent: Keith Foster. Also present: Angela Livezey, Doug Ray, Kay Zimmerman, Les Zimmerman, Roy Poe, Harriett German, Oliganida Gruber, Francine Chamra, John Chamra, Pat Winegardener, Gale Ferguson, Mike Salmon – KCL Engineering, Dale Lienemann – Estes Construction, RD Keep – The Sun, Brett Hutchinson, Kevin Funni – USDA/NRCS, Marcy Wanders, Janine Moore, Jason Walston, Renee Ferguson, Lindsay Miller and Cindy Quang.

BOARD TOUR OF ELEMENTARY AND JR/SR HIGH

At 6:00 pm the board went on a building tour of the elementary and high school to view all the building improvements.

Dirk Wilkin called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm.

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

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

COMMUNICATION

There was no written communication and public forum.

BOARD PRESENTATION – JULIE KNOOT, SCHOOL NURSE

Mrs. Knoot presented the board an overview of her daily and monthly duties as the North Mahaska Community School nurse.

OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE ON LAND LAB

Kevin Funni from the USDA/NRCS and the FFA Advisory team revisited the idea of the “Denitrification Bioreactor” for the FFA Land Lab. The Bioreactor is a trench filled with woodchips. The bioreactor will act as a filtration unit to allow water to flow thru and substrate for the bacteria to break down the nitrate that will then pass on to the FFA Land Lab. The FFA Advisory board believe this is a good education tool that will help educate our Ag students for the future. Mrs. Hutchinson, Ag teacher, stated that this will help our students to become good stewardship of the land.

ESTES CONSTRUCTION – BUILDING PROJECTS UPDATE

Mr. Lienemann from Estes Construction updated the board on the construction progress. Mr. Lienemann mentioned the plumbing and the electrical work has been installed for the science rooms. The framing for the front façade of the high school building is starting and the MRC has doorframes up and the walls are ready to be painted.

UPDATE ON ELEMENTARY HVAC

Mike Salmon from KCL engineering was at the board meeting to talk about the elementary HVAC system. Mr. Salmon mentioned that the elementary is set-up for air conditioning. All the ductwork and air handling is already in the elementary building. The school will need to

purchase the air condensing unit, the A/C coil and the piping. Mr. Salmon estimated the cost to be \$100,000 to \$120,000 to get the elementary building air conditioned.

NEW BUSINESS

CERTIFIED ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Mrs. Livezey reported enrollment at 509.54 for the 2016-2017 school year. Enrollment is up 22.79 from 486.75 in 2015-2016.

CONSIDERATION OF OPEN ENROLLMENT

A motion was made by Strobel and seconded by Gruber to approve William Vande Kieft late open enrollment request to Pella Community School District based on extenuating circumstances. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Strobel and seconded by DeBoef to approve the appointment as a group to the SIAC committee. One year remaining: Matt Augustin, Dustin Hite, Aaron Schock and Melissa Falb. Two year remaining: Janine Moore, Barb Vander Beek, Mark Moore, and Amber Goemaat. Three years of service remaining: Carrie Houser, Curt Lamberson, and Mike Gipple. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF OPENING EARLY RETIREMENT

The board discussed and came to the consensus that there will not be early retirement offered for the 2017-2018 school year.

RESIGNATIONS

There were no resignations.

APPROVAL OF LETTER OF ASSIGNMENT – RACHEL YANG

A motion was made by Strobel and seconded by DeBoef to approve a letter of assignment to Rachel Yang as a para educator. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ASSISTANT WRESTLING COACH – RYAN GROOM

A motion was made by DeBoef and seconded by Strobel to approve Ryan Groom as an assistant wrestling coach for the 2016-2017 school year. Motion carried.

APPROVE PSYCHOLOGY TEXT

A motion was made by Gruber and seconded by DeBoef to approve the Psychology textbooks “Psychology: Principles in Practice” by Holt McDougal for Mr. Sampson’s Psychology class. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

IASB CONVENTION – NOV. 17, DES MOINES

Mr. Wilkin, Mrs. Strobel and Mr. DeBoef will not be able to attend the convention.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DESK AUDIT

Mrs. Livezey mentioned to the board that she is working on submitting the desk audit to the state.

SUPERINTENDENT'S GOALS

Mrs. Livezey provided the board goals she would like to achieve. She mentioned increasing student achievement and cultivate a positive learning experience for students, including extracurricular activities. Mrs. Livezey goals also consists of renovating the high school and she is currently in the process of this goal.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

MRS. LIVEZEY – FAST DATA, PD OPPORTUNITIES

Mrs. Livezey talked with the board about the FAST Data testing that school administered for the fall of 2016-2017. The elementary screened about 96.33% of students (315 students out of 327 students enrolled). Only 65.4% of the students are meeting benchmark. Mrs. Livezey would like the elementary goal to be 80% of student meeting benchmark by the end of the school year.

MR. RAY – MAP TESTING, MTSS UPDATE, SECONDARY GOALS

Mr. Ray mentioned MAP testing will be November 9th to November 11th.

Mr. Ray talked about the MTSS committee attending a training in Ottumwa on September 20th and 21st.

Mr. Ray communicated with the board about his secondary goals for 2016-2017:

- 1) Continue to create a positive learning environment for students and reduce the number of office related referrals to social media. I would like to empower student council to take and model that leadership role.
- 2) To increase opportunities for students to learn more about career pathways.
- 3) Identify ways to increase ACT scores above the states and AEA average.
- 4) Continue to work with MTSS team and bring back information to share where we can identify and help students move forward in their own learning.
- 5) Meet regularly with instructional coaches on PD.
- 6) Continue to work on bullying and educate staff and students what bullying is and how to handle it. Be that "Upstander".
- 7) Have staff keep a positive attitude on the renovation of the high school, and keep them updated on progress.

Mr. Ray said homecoming week was really good this year. The skits for skit night had no bullying tied in with the skit. One day out of the week students dress-up as construction workers for the construction project we are in.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Livezey mentioned that Jamie Robinson, Emergency Management Coordinator for Mahaska County, contacted her about a migration grant opening. Mrs. Livezey said she would like to provide a safe room for the school. The cost of the safe room would be paid with 15% local money and 85% federal/state money if we would be selected for the mitigation grant.

Mrs. Livezey talked about the deck in the bus barn will be moved to the middle of bus barn to best utilize the space.

Mr. Gruber liked the idea that we can provide air conditioning in the elementary building.

Mrs. Strobel talked about her wonderful experience visiting the fifth grade classrooms.

Mr. Wilkin said that the painting in the elementary looks great.

Mr. Wilkin mentioned having a back-up plan for staff who will be gone for a period of time.

Mr. Wilkin adjourned the meeting at 9:40 pm.

Cindy Quang
Board Secretary

Dirk Wilkin
Board President