

February 15, 2021

The North Mahaska Board of Education met in regular session on February 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the elementary library in New Sharon, Iowa. Those members present: Dirk Wilkin, Arvin DeBoef, Michelle Sampson, and Margaret Ratcliff. Also present: Angela Livezey, Amber Goemaat, Chris Sampson, Renee Ferguson, Athena Simpson, and Sarah McGriff.

Dirk Wilkin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

There was no written communication or public forum.

DESIGN CONSTRUCTION INTEGRATION GROUP – UPDATE

Ben Gannon and Sally Obernolte of DCI gave the following update regarding construction work:

Area A - Glazing of the storefront is complete. Floor and wall tile in locker rooms is being installed now. Painting will start this week as well as pouring concrete benches in locker rooms. They are also installing the final clear panels in the fitness area this week. Exterior wall panels will be installed on Wednesday.

Area B - Storefront is installed and they did some block infill to connect to the existing building.

Area C - Ceiling tiles will be installed on Wednesday. They still need to install flooring and exterior siding. Siding was on pause due to cold weather.

Fencing will be pulled in closer to the West side of the high school addition this week and completely removed this spring. The connector will be turned over for use as soon as rock is put on the walls. DCI will work to have the connector in use as soon as possible. Mrs. Livezey pointed out that the paint that is being used is flat while the rest of the school is semi-gloss. Mr. Gannon noted that this could be changed for the final coat.

Mr. DeBoef asked about outlets for the kindergarten classroom as he didn't feel there were enough. Mr. Gannon noted that all outlets that were scheduled to be installed have been installed at this point, but he and Ms. Obernolte will work to find additional areas to install outlets.

COMPUTER REFRESH & TECHNOLOGY UPDATE - CHRIS SAMPSON, APRIL ROMERO, AND LESLIE ALTHOFF

Mr. Sampson presented the computer refresh plan. The district's lease with Apple was completed last year and teacher's computers were refreshed last year as well. Mr. Sampson and the ITS team are proposing iPads instead of Macbooks, providing a lower cost and easier to manage option with the same usability

capabilities of a computer. Mr. Sampson presented three proposals, recommending the K-12 1:1 program. This includes AppleCare for three years, Mosyle management system for three years, 500 iPads, and 275 Logitech Crayons which would only be for grades 7-12 for note taking. The proposal also included buy back of current devices in order to apply towards the first year's lease payment.

The district currently has 200 iPads which were mostly all purchased within the last year and will be used within this technology 1:1 plan.

Mrs. Livezey explained that the timing of this proposal is because the current computers have been used for an extra year and have outdated some of the software needed. In addition, production of iPads and cases is still behind. Products won't be received for 8-14 weeks and invoices for these orders would not be remitted until July 2021, in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Wilkin asked about the cost of Chromebooks. Mr. Sampson explained that they did look into the Chromebooks. They are more expensive after purchase of bags for the computers and after testing the Chromebooks with the 2nd grade classrooms, they proved to be less durable. Leslie Althoff from ITS also added that iPads have a buyback program, while Chrombooks can only be recycled with no buyback.

Mr. Wilkin asked if AppleCare was necessary on top of our current break fix insurance. Ms. McGriff will look into this with the current insurer to confirm if AppleCare is necessary or not.

A motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by DeBoef to enter into a three year lease with Apple Financial Services at a maximum amount of \$247,536.75 contingent upon administration's decision of whether the current break fix insurance is sufficient and whether removing AppleCare will raise the price of the keyboards. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVE COMPUTER REFRESH

CONSIDER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR JR./SR. HIGH STUDENTS

Current policy states any student who has two or more Fs is ineligible until the next marking period. Mrs. Goemaat proposed changing this to ineligibility for 10 days and grades must be brought to passing within those 10 days or ineligibility continues.

Mr. Wilkin asked how this is tracked. Mrs. Goemaat answered that eligibility is checked at each marking period at which point the 10 days would start, should a student have two or more Fs.

A motion was made by DeBoef and seconded by Sampson to change the eligibility requirements . Motion carried.

SET DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY 22 BUDGET AND SCHOOL CALENDAR

A motion was made by DeBoef and seconded by Ratliff to set the budget public hearing date to March 15, 2021. Motion carried.

REVIEW SUPPORT STAFF HANDBOOK PAY PLAN POLICY

The board was made aware of an update to the support staff pay plan policy. Mr. Wilkin suggested including in the staff update the week before payroll that staff should double check their hours.

APPROVE BUDGET GUARANTEE RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Ratliff and seconded by Sampson to approve the budget guarantee resolution. Motion carried.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of North Mahaska community school district, will levy property taxes for fiscal year 2021-2022 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa.

APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT RISK POOL

The Board took up and considered matters relating to participating in a joint agreement relating to the establishment of a local government risk pool.

After due consideration and discussion, Director Margaret Ratliff introduced the resolution below and moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Director Michelle Sampson. After due consideration, the President put the question on the motion and the roll being called, the following named Directors voted:

Ayes: Margaret Ratliff, Michelle Sampson, Dirk Wilkin

Nays: Arvin DeBoef

Whereupon, the President declared the resolution duly adopted, as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the North Mahaska Community School District in the County (Counties) of Mahaska, State of Iowa (the "School District") is required by Section 274.3 of the Code of Iowa, as amended, to operate, control and supervise all public schools within the boundaries of the School District and is authorized to exercise any broad and implied power not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Iowa and administrative rules adopted by state agencies pursuant thereto, related to the operation, control and supervision of those public schools; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 670.7, subsection 1 of the Code of Iowa, as amended, the School District may join and pay funds into a local government risk pool to protect the School District against any and all liability, loss of property, or any other risks associated with

the operation of the School District and the costs of local government risk pools shall be included in the School District's management levy as provided in Section 296.7 of the Code of Iowa, as amended, or, if the School District has not certified a management levy, the costs shall be paid from the School District's general fund; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 296.7 of the Code of Iowa, as amended, the School District may enter into agreements obligating the School District to make payments beyond its current budget year to establish and maintain local government risk pools to protect the School District from tort liability, loss of property, environmental hazards or any other risk associated with the operation of the School District; and

WHEREAS, the School District is authorized pursuant to Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa, as amended, to enter into joint agreements with other public agencies and with private agencies (both as defined therein) for the joint exercise of powers, privileges and authorities exercised or capable of being exercised by the School District; and

WHEREAS, because of the fluctuation of the costs of natural gas and variability of the quantities of natural gas used by the School District caused by changes in winter weather conditions, it is in the best interests of the School District to enter into a joint agreement with other public agencies, in substantially the form as has been presented to and considered by the Board (the "Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Agreement" or the "Agreement") providing for the forming and creation of the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Commission (the "Commission") for the purpose of establishing one or more local government risk pools (together, the "Local Government Risk Pools") to help the participating public agencies mitigate budget risks associated with winter heating and other natural gas consumption, to enter into contractual arrangements with private parties to access natural gas for the benefit of the participating public agencies, to establish premiums to be paid by the participating public agencies, to pool their risks and stabilize gas prices annually and to facilitate the purchase by and delivery to the participating public agencies of natural gas periodically;

NOW, THEREFORE, It Is Hereby Resolved by the Board of Directors of the School District, as follows:

Section 1. The participation by the School District in the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Agreement and the Local Government Risk Pools established in accordance therewith are hereby approved.

Section 2. The Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Agreement is hereby approved, and the President and Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to accept and execute the same and any related documents for and on behalf of the School District.

Section 3. The Board shall determine from time to time which, if any, of the Local Government Risk Pools established by the Commission are appropriate for the School District to participate in and shall enter into such related documents and agreements as may be necessary in

connection therewith and the President and Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the same for and on behalf of the School District.

Section 4. To the extent that the School District incurs obligations to pay premiums or other costs in connection with such Local Government Risk Pools, the Board agrees to include in its annual budget sufficient funds to pay such obligations each fiscal year from its management levy and/or general fund levy.

Section 5. The President and the Board Secretary (or their acting designees) are hereby authorized to execute and deliver any and all agreements, documents and instruments required in connection with the Agreement and to carry out the purposes set forth in this resolution.

Section 6. All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Passed and approved the 15th day of February, 2021.

Dirk Wilkin

President, Board of Directors

Attest: Sarah McGriff
Secretary, Board of Directors

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

The Labor Management Committee and the district discussed that it would not be reasonable to have sporting events face-to-face but not have parent-teacher conferences in person. There will still be a virtual option for those who do not want to meet face-to-face.

2021-2022 PLANNING

Mrs. Livezey explained that options being considered for next school year include block scheduling, three sections of first grade, continuing three section grouping options for fifth grade students, hiring a 4th-8th grade reading interventionist, and a potential restructuring of advisory period into grade-like groups. Proposals for changes will be made at the March board meeting.

WINTER SCREENING DATA - FAST

Mrs. Livezey and Mrs. Goemaat presented the literacy and math winter screening data.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TRAFFIC FLOW UPDATE

The transition to the new pick-up procedures occurred this past week and was well received by those picking up students. The pick-up process is being completed by around 3:40pm each day.

COVID UPDATE

Currently, no staff or students are quarantined or ill with COVID-19.

LUNCH PROGRAM UPDATE

OPAA provided a written update regarding lunch program feedback and updates. The summer lunch program will be offered again this year. Considerations of where this will take place due to construction are still being discussed. Staff lunches are being offered once a week for the month of February, and participation has been good.

UPDATE ON MISSED INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

Mrs. Livezey informed the board that the students will need to make up 1 hour and 40 minutes of missed instructional time as of February 16. Staff contract days missed will be made up via curriculum work and other options during the summer. This is still being discussed between Mrs. Livezey and Mrs. Goemaat. Mrs. Livezey also updated that while the district had decided to not utilize online learning for snow days, reconsidering this policy now would not be feasible. The cost for one day of online learning will cost the district \$11,610 due to the need for WiFi devices for students. Once WiFi devices are activated the district must pay \$39.99/month (plus fees) per device for six months regardless of how many times they are used.

COMMENTS

Mrs. Ratliff expressed her appreciation that the district decided to keep students in-person for this school year. Mr. DeBoef seconded this comment.

Mr. Wilkin asked board members to let himself or Mrs. Livezey know if there are any topics they would like on future meeting agendas.

Mr. Wilkin asked if there was any reason to incentivize teachers to submit their contracts sooner. Mrs. Livezey noted that the NM staff is good about communicating if they are planning on making a change, and there are currently no funds set aside for this type of incentive.

THANK YOU

Mrs. Livezey thanked the Assembly of God for the use of the Rock Center for wrestling practice.

Mrs. Livezey also extended her thanks to the custodial staff for their hard work on snow removal and upkeep of the building with so many events taking place in January and February.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Ratliff and seconded DeBeof by to adjourn the meeting at 8:19p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting was called back to session at 8:20pm to approve an overnight visit as needed for two students who qualified for state wrestling. A motion was made by DeBoef and seconded by Ratliff to approve the overnight visit. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sampson and seconded by Ratliff to adjourn the meeting at 8:21pm. Motion carried.

Sarah McGriff
Board Secretary

Dirk Wilkin
Board President