

Greene County Community School District
Special Meeting/Work Session
October 20, 2021

The Greene County Community School District Board of Directors held a work session on October 20, 2021 in the District Board Room, located in the Middle School. President Steve Karber called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Directors Steve Fisher, John McConnell and Catherine Wilson; Superintendent Tim Christensen and Board Secretary Brenda Muir were all present. Director Mike Dennhardt was absent.

Fisher made and Wilson seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

The need to make a change in graduation requirements was discussed. According to Board Policy 505.5, we currently offer a Regular Diploma – 58 credits and a Basic Diploma – 42 credits, with an application to committee for approval. Academic Honors Diplomas are also available - 66 credits. The core requirements are the same on each diploma offered. The Iowa Department of Education compliance requires only one diploma be offered. Several pros and cons were discussed on lowering credits from the current 58. Superintendent Christensen suggested a committee made up of board, administration and teaching staff make a recommendation to the board in a future meeting, with a goal of having Board Policy changes in place in early Spring 2022.

Certified Enrollment was reported as being up 27.82 students. State funding is driven by enrollment. This increase should generate close to \$200,000 if a 2% supplement growth is approved by the legislature for next school year. The Superintendent would not recommend offering a retirement incentive, as has been offered in the last few years due to declining enrollment numbers we have experienced. Those incentives are financial tools and should not be an expectation of retiring staff. He would like to meet with the Negotiations Committee to discuss this further.

The Iowa Association of School Board's annual convention will be held November 17-18, 2021. This is just two weeks after the election. The board will have at least two new board members with incumbents Steve Karber and Mike Dennhardt not running for re-election. The first day has several breakout sessions for new board members. It was suggested if board members could not attend both days, Wednesday might be the preferred day. Registrations will be made as board members make their choices of sessions they prefer to attend.

Brief reports were given by Principals Scott Johnson, Shawn Zanders and Brian Phillips, Director of Teaching and Learning/Special Education Director Karen Sandberg, Reading Specialist Julie Neal, Instructional Math Coach/Family-School Liaison Coordinator Audrey Hinote, Buildings/Maintenance Supervisor Adam Snowgren and Technology Director Brent Gerzema.

President Karber declared the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

President

Secretary