

Greene County Community School District
Regular and Organizational Meetings
November 15, 2021

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

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

No comments were made during Open Forum.

Consent items were approved on a motion made by Fisher seconded by Dennhardt. Motion carried 4-0. Consent items were: Minutes: October 20, 2021 work session and regular monthly meetings; Bills as presented; Financial Reports: October 2021; Resignations: Greg Swecker – bus driver; Hirings: Karen Murphy – Elementary Math Interventionist, Kelly Freeman – High School Associate.

A discussion was held on not implementing Board Policy 406.7 – Voluntary Retirement, due to an increase in enrollment, which drives state funding. The new negotiations committee will meet to discuss this further and to look at other adjustments to the policy for future years, if it is implemented. Board Policies 406.6, 412.6 and 306.1 are still available for those retiring to receive compensation for unused sick leave. There is a deadline of February 28 annually for those applications. They are available on the district website.

Superintendent Christensen recommended expanding our iJAG (Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates) program to 9th & 10th graders. We currently have a program for 11th & 12th graders. Wilson made and Dennhardt seconded a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with iJAG for the 9-10 program, which begins January 1, 2022 for the 2021-22 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

Nate Adams arrived at 5:22 p.m. and updated the board on his project to convert the former Middle School to apartments. He is hopeful construction can begin in June 2022.

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, Activities Director Todd Gordon, Transportation/Grounds/Buildings Director Shawn DeMoss and Technology Director Brent Gerzema.

The canvas of votes was presented showing Cindi Daubendiek, Michelle Fields and Bonnie Silbaugh elected for four year terms.

Superintendent Christensen thanked incumbents Mike Dennhardt, Steve Karber and Catherine Wilson for their service and presented plaques and life time activity passes to each of them.

The meeting of the retiring board adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

The organizational meeting was opened by Superintendent Christensen. Oath of office to Daubendiek, Fields and Silbaugh was given. Roll call was taken with Cindi Daubendiek, Michelle Fields, Steve Fisher and Bonnie Silbaugh all present, along with Superintendent Christensen and Secretary Brenda Muir. John McConnell arrived later in the meeting.

Silbaugh made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to elect Steve Fisher as President and John McConnell as Vice President. Motion carried 4-0.

Oath of Office was given to Fisher; McConnell will be sworn in at a later time which does not need to be in an open meeting.

Fields made and Daubendiek seconded a motion for monthly meetings to be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:15 p.m. in the District Board Room, 101 Ram Drive. If a work session topic is requested, it will be incorporated within the regular meeting and limited to no more than one hour. Motion carried 4-0.

Board directors chose to serve on the following committees:

- County Assessor's Conference Board – Fisher
- Park & Rec – Daubendiek
- Negotiations – McConnell/Silbaugh
- Classified/Administrative Salaries – Fields/Fisher
- School Improvement Advisory – Fields/Daubendiek
- School Foundation – Silbaugh
- Facilities – McConnell
- Insurance – Fisher
- Scholarships – McConnell/Daubendiek
- Wellness – Fields/Silbaugh

Steve Fisher previously agreed to serve as the IASB Convention Delegate.

In the previous meeting, the need to update graduation requirements, with only one diploma offering, was discussed. A committee including teacher(s), High School Principal, High School Guidance Counselor, student(s) and board members will meet and come back to the board with a recommendation. Daubendiek and Fields agreed to serve as the board members on the committee.

Applications to the School Budget Review Committee for modified supplemental amount were recommended. Daubendiek made and Fields seconded a motion directing the district administration to submit requests to the School Budget Review Committee for \$202,134 in modified supplemental amount due to an increase in certified enrollment over the prior year and \$9,161 in modified supplemental amount related to the English language learning program for students who have exceeded five years of weighting that are included on the Fall 2021 certified enrollment headcount. Motion carried 4-0.

Silbaugh made and Daubendiek second a motion to cast the district's weighted vote for the board member representing Prairie Lakes AEA Director District 5 ballot to elect Janice Harbaugh. Motion carried 4-0.

The following fundraisers were approved on a motion made by Daubendiek, seconded by Silbaugh: Basketball Schedule Posters; Junior Class Chili Supper. Motion carried 4-0.

Board Policies 900-904.1 were reviewed. Motion was made by Daubendiek, seconded by Fields to approve the review of the policies with no changes. Motion carried 4-0.

Director McConnell arrived at 6:27 p.m.

An early graduation request was received from Asta Jurgensen to graduate at the end of the second trimester. McConnell made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to approve the request, pending completion of all graduation requirements. Motion carried 4-0.

During his monthly Superintendent's Report, Tim Christensen thanked all staff for their efforts in the beginning of another challenging school year. The field audit is complete for the district finances with good results. Board Members will begin visiting the buildings for lunch on a rotating basis beginning November 29, 2021. Public Health will offer a vaccination clinic during conferences this week. The OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards, in relation to COVID-19 vaccines, was discussed. We will watch how this plays out in appeals courts before adopting and enforcing policy. Attendance to the Iowa Association of School Boards Convention was planned.

President Fisher declared the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

President

Secretary