

Greene County Community School District  
Regular Meeting  
February 17, 2021

The Greene County Community School District Board of Directors met in regular session on February 17, 2021 in the District Board Room, located in the Middle School. President Steve Karber called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the District Vision/Mission statement. Directors Mike Dennhardt, Steve Fisher and John McConnell; Superintendent Tim Christensen and Board Secretary Brenda Muir were all present. Due to COVID-19 concerns, seating was limited and the meeting was live streamed for public access. Director Catherine Wilson attended virtually.

Fisher made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

During Open Forum, Darren Jackson and Meladee Graven, presented a \$2000 check for the School Nutrition program from the Grand Junction Presbyterian Church. The Board expressed great appreciation. Chad Stevens, City Building Inspector, spoke in support of the former Middle School project that Nate Adams would like to pursue.

The consent items were approved on a motion made by Fisher and seconded by Dennhardt. Motion carried 5-0. Consent items were: Minutes: January 20, 2021 regular monthly meeting; Bills as presented; Financial Reports: January 2021; Resignations: Amber Revell – High School Study Hall Monitor, Erin Aalfs – Preschool Teacher; Hiring: Bailey Cunningham – High School Special Education Associate, Teresa Blackburn-Bentz – Business Education Teacher, Ashley Havens – Family Consumer Science Teacher, Emily Laudner – High School Science Teacher; Transfer: Lauren Swain – from High School Special Education Associate to High School Study Hall Monitor.

After discussion on the Middle School property, Fisher made and McConnell seconded a motion to sell the former Middle School Building to Nate Adams, NJA Ventures, for \$1 as outlined in the Letter of Intent presented in the work session. The motion passed 4-1.

Ayes: Dennhardt, Fisher, McConnell, Karber; Nay: Wilson

The bids on demolition of the former Middle School gym were presented. Fisher made and Dennhardt seconded a motion to accept the low bid for \$149,750 from Murphy Construction. Motion carried 4-1.

Ayes: Dennhardt, Fisher, McConnell, Karber; Nay: Wilson

Superintendent Christensen and the Board discussed the continued COVID mitigation efforts. Masks are required in all buildings and school buses. Board members voiced their thoughts along with Bus Driver Mel Graven, Teacher Heath Telleen and Public Health Director Becky Wolf. No changes were made to the policies in effect.

Dr. Karber reported on the meeting with Representative Phil Thompson about legislation, particularly the “voucher” program, being discussed at the Capitol.

Administrative Reports were given remotely by Principals Scott Johnson, Shawn Zanders and Brian Phillips, Director of Teaching & Learning Karen Sandberg, Reading Specialist Julie Neal, Instructional Math Coach Audrey Hinote and Activities Director Todd Gordon. Grounds/Transportation Director Shawn DeMoss and Technology Director Brent Gerzema were in attendance and also reported.

Two versions of the 2021-2022 School Calendar were presented. The staff had been polled and preferred calendar option #1 by 62%. This version has full day professional development once a month on Mondays.

Fisher made and McConnell seconded a motion to hold a public hearing on the official calendar at the March 10, 2021 regular board meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration/Middle School Building Conference Room, at 101 Ram Drive, Jefferson IA. Motion carried 5-0.

Dennhardt made and Fisher seconded a motion to reappoint Tim Christensen as the District's Bell Tower Foundation Representative. Motion carried 5-0.

An early graduation request was received from 11<sup>th</sup> Grader Madison Hayes to graduate at the end of her junior year. McConnell made and Dennhardt seconded a motion to approve the request. Motion carried 5-0.

A review of Board Policies 604.1-604.8 was approved on a motion made by Fisher, seconded by Dennhardt, with no changes being made. Motion carried 5-0.

A fundraiser request from the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies class: Taking Informed Action – donations for Operation Underground Railroad, was approved on a motion made by Fisher, seconded by Dennhardt. Motion carried 5-0.

During his monthly Superintendent's Report, Tim Christensen reported asbestos removal is complete at the former Middle School; the Farm Bureau Board toured the High School/Career Academy, and reminded the Board that the March meeting will be held one week earlier, March 10<sup>th</sup>, due to Spring Break. He commended Buildings/Grounds/Transportation Directors DeMoss, Snowgren and Stofer for all the snow removal and the help on decisions concerning school closure due to weather. He also commended our School Nurses and public health for coordination of the COVID vaccines to staff.

President Karber declared the meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

As allowed under Iowa Code section 20.17(3), a short exempt meeting for negotiations strategy was held after adjournment.

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President

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Secretary