

Greene County Community School District
Regular Meeting
January 19, 2022

The Greene County Community School District Board of Directors met in regular session on January 19, 2022 in the District Board Room, located in the Middle School. President Steve Fisher called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the President reading the District Vision/Mission statement. Directors Cindi Daubendiek, Michelle Fields, John McConnell and Bonnie Silbaugh; Superintendent Tim Christensen and Board Secretary Brenda Muir were all present.

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

No comments were made during Open Forum.

Daubendiek made a motion to pull the Year End Resignations, Retirement Resignations and the Elementary Principal hiring from the consent items and to approve the remaining consent items. McConnell seconded that motion. Motion carried 5-0. Consent items were: Minutes: December 16, 2021 regular meeting; Bills as presented; Financial Reports: December 2021; Resignation: Katelynn McDowell Louk – Middle School Custodian; Hiring: Jessica Ott – Middle School Math Interventionist.

Daubendiek made and Fields seconded a motion to accept the year end resignations of Tim Christensen, Superintendent – 15 years and Patty Fisher, High School Math Teacher – 18 years. Both were thanked and commended for their years of service to the Districts – Jefferson-Scranton, Greene County and Christensen, also East Greene. Motion carried 5-0.

Retirement resignations, effective at the end of the school year, were received from Jennifer Zmolek – Kindergarten teacher with 16 years of service, Kaija Kuusisto-Wolf – PK Associate with 26 years of service, Meladee Graven – bus driver with 23 years of experience. Daubendiek made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to accept the resignations and commend them for their service to the District(s). Motion carried 5-0.

McConnell made and Fields seconded a motion to hire Audrey Hinote as Elementary Principal, beginning in the 2022-23 year, at a salary of \$96,000 for 220 days of service. Motion carried 5-0.

FFA representatives Mallory Prescott, Grace Curtis, Allison Fields, Shannon Woodley and Cody Stephenson reported on their trip to the National FFA Convention and Expo, held in Indianapolis in October 2021.

Instructional Math Coach Audrey Hinote gave a presentation on the new K-8 math curriculum.

Reports were given on the Wellness Committee and Graduation Credits Committee meetings recently held. Brief reports were also 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 Audrey Hinote, Activities Director Todd Gordon, Adam Snowgren and Shawn DeMoss – representing the Buildings, Grounds and Transportation departments and Technology Director Brent Gerzema.

The Greene County Pre-Kindergarten Program Policies and Procedures Handbook was presented and discussed. Daubendiek made and Fields seconded a motion to approve the handbook, after correcting a date in one section. Motion carried 5-0.

2022 Soccer coaching contracts were approved on a motion made by Fields and seconded by Silbaugh. Motion carried 5-0. Carl Behne – Head Boys Coach, Chad Black - Assistant Boys Coach, Maribelle Hernandez – Head Girls Coach; the assistant girls coaching position is open.

McConnell made and Daubendiek seconded a motion to approve the following 2022 Baseball and Softball coaching contracts: Matthew Paulsen- Varsity Baseball, Kevin Paulsen – Assistant Varsity Baseball, Wesley Anderson – Middle School Baseball, Tom Kennedy – Varsity Softball, Marissa Promes – Assistant Varsity Softball, Jacque Schirmbeck – Middle School Softball, Heather Patrick – Assistant Middle School Softball. Motion carried 5-0. The assistant Middle School Baseball position is open.

Superintendent Christensen presented a proposed 2022-23 school calendar. He reported polling staff and 75% of the 77 respondents preferred the calendar presented. Fields made and Silbaugh seconded a motion to hold a public hearing on the 2022-23 official calendar at the next board meeting, February 16, 2022 at 5:15 p.m. in the District Board Room, located in the Middle School, 101 Ram Drive, Jefferson Iowa. Motion carried 5-0. The proposed calendar has school starting on August 23rd, with 6 teacher work days prior to that date; the last day for school is scheduled for May 26, 2023. It also continues with no school one Monday each month, with the exception of December, which has a longer break.

Motion was made by Daubendiek and seconded by Fields to approve the first reading of Board Policy 505.6 – Early Graduation. Motion carried 5-0. The revision removes the deadline for the student requests.

The following fundraisers were approved on a motion made by Daubendiek, seconded by McConnell: Java and Jazz – High School Band, Strawberry Sales and Valentine Days Treats – FCCLA, Bake Sale/Chuck-a-Duck – Interact for the McDonald and Oakes families, Monetary and art supplies collection for Blank Children’s Hospital – High School Government Service Learning Project. Motion 5-0.

The District Administration received notice from the LuVerne Community School to discontinue the sharing of the Curriculum Director position at year end. They praised the successes and accomplishments in the last six years, due to Karen Sandberg’s expertise in this role.

Board Policies 100-107 were reviewed. Motion was made by Fields, seconded by Daubendiek to approve the review of the policies with slight changes to Policy 106 – Assistance Animals, as recommended by IASB. Motion carried 5-0.

A bid was received from Iowa Athletic Field Construction Company for football field resurfacing and installation of an irrigation system for \$98,170. Daubendiek made and McConnell seconded a motion to approve the bid. Motion carried 5-0.

The following resolution, for a School Budget Review Committee request for funding relating to FY22 SWVPP increased enrollment, was approved on a motion made by Fields and seconded by Silbaugh: “As part of the district’s response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the district’s administration is authorized to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee for funding relating to the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Schoolwide Voluntary Preschool Program (SWVPP) increased enrollment in the amount of \$3,613.50.” The motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Fields, seconded by Daubendiek to ask for SBRC approval of Special Education Administrative Costs billable for the Grandwood consortium, Greene County’s share being \$15,887.38. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion was made by Fields, seconded by Daubendiek to ask for SBRC approval of Special Education Administrative Costs billable for the Woodward Academy Dayschool consortium, Greene County’s share being \$754.93. Motion carried 5-0.

During his monthly Superintendent’s Report, Tim Christensen reported the need to hire another ELL teacher with the push for diversity in the County, apprenticeship grants available for classroom associates and teachers and on a Comprehensive Needs Assessment being done for CTE (Career and Technical Education).

At 6:33 p.m. Silbaugh made and Fields seconded a motion to go into closed session as allowed in Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i): “To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual’s reputation and that individual requests a closed session.”

The Board came out of closed session and President Fisher declared the meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

President

Secretary