

Colfax-Mingo Community School District  
Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting  
Colfax-Mingo Central Office-Video/Phone Conference Call  
Monday, April 20, 2020

1. Call regular meeting to order and determination of quorum: President Patrick Utz called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present: Mary Poulter, Chet Williams, Dawn Gibson, Jan Myers, Doug Van Dyke, Jan Myers, Mardell Tomlonovic. Administrators present: Superintendent Anderson, Principal Summy and Principal Jones, and Director Beals.  
The Board met in a video/phone conference call originating from CMCSO Central Office to comply with recommended safety practices in regard to COVID-19. Per Iowa Code Section 21.8, when an in-person meeting is "impossible or impractical," a governmental body is permitted to conduct a meeting by electronic means.
2. Approval of Agenda: Poulter moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the agenda as presented. 7-0.
3. Public Hearing on the Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, and Estimated Cost for Colfax-Mingo Jr/Sr High School Athletic Improvements Pre-Grading Contract. No oral or written comments received.  
Per Iowa Code 279.22, the Board of Directors will hold a public hearing to notify the community of the intent to demolish the buildings owned by the district.
4. Recognition of Guests: Class of 2020 President Sydni Hostetter addressed the Board regarding the Class's desire to have a graduation commencement as close to normal as possible. The seniors request the line of communication remain open, and the voices of seniors, parents and the Board be combined. Her classmates look forward to crossing the stage, representing their families, and giving their speeches. The Board appreciated the input and message that Ms. Hostetter brought, and will consider many options in order to deliver a deserving graduation ceremony.  
Superintendent Anderson will prepare and distribute a survey to gather ideas and input
5. Administrator Reports: Members of the Transitional Leadership Committee updated the Board on the move to online correspondence for the remainder of the school. Michelle Grant, representing the secondary TLC, reviewed the Google classroom platform. Josie Wyrick, the elementary TLC representative, reported on Google classroom for the upper elementary grades. With this, they can post assignments, review specific student data, and determine student involvement. The SeeSaw program is used in the younger elementary sections, accessed through a simple Facebook feed. In both formats, staff are able to access and reply to students with video or pictures, provide response to assignments, provide resources, view students as they work, and also provide social and emotional support needs, too.
6. Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Anderson reported that over 200 meals per day have been provided in April. He gave a shout out to the kitchen staff, who have been flexible and outstanding in this new challenge. Other staff have continued their volunteer assignments to assist the program, with proper protective equipment. Everyone associated with this revised meal program has done excellent work and are very much appreciated. A schedule has been created for chromebook pick-up, and several families have been identified that do not have internet connection. There is access at the high school parking lot, and he is pursuing other points in the district that could be set up for access. The Board reviewed reports of online student participation to date. The Board discussed disposition of several student desks in storage. A few were sold on Gov.Deals, and no area churches or schools were interested in them. The district will consider offering them to parents in the community. Superintendent Anderson updated the Board on potential revenue decline in all funds due to the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

He would like to convene the Facilities Committee to discuss SAVE project costs and priorities in light of possible revenue decline.

7. Committee Reports: No committee meetings have been held in recent days.
8. Consent Agenda
  - 8.1 Myers moved, Van Dyke seconded to approve the minutes of the 3/23 regular meeting and the 4/6 special board meetings. Motion carried 7-0.
  - 8.2 Poulter moved, Gibson seconded to approve the April 2020 payables. Motion carried 7-0.
  - 8.3 None presented.
9. Action Items:
  - 9.1 Personnel:

Williams moved, Gibson seconded to approve the hire of Benjamin Merrick as high school English/Language Arts teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

Myers moved, Williams seconded to approve the hire of McKenzie Tjaden as elementary teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

Poulter moved, Van Dyke seconded to approve the following resignations:  
Sarah Thorsbakken as secondary counselor and high school football cheer coach, Heather Horton as shared PK-12 counselor, Chrystin Clark as high school dance coach, Stacey Rice as junior high head wrestling coach, Katie Krumm as junior high volleyball coach, and the transfer of Terra Tague to the elementary classroom from preschool, all effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried 7-0. A hire for the preschool will be based on fall enrollment.
  - 9.2 Tomlonovic, Williams moved to approve the Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, and Estimated Cost for Colfax-Mingo Jr/Sr High School Athletic Improvements Pre-Grading Contract. Motion carried 7-0.
  - 9.3 Williams moved, Poulter seconded to approve the bid of \$729,999.99 from the Elder Corporation for the pre-grading portion of the athletic complex project. Motion carried 7-0.
  - 9.4 Williams moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the contract of \$20,805 with Terracon to provide soil testing and compaction oversight during the pre-grading project. Motion carried 7-0.
  - 9.5 Poulter moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve Continuous Learning Plan that was presented to provide to student instruction for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried 7-0
  - 9.6 No additional guidance for schools regarding major school events was presented from the state Governor's office, so no Board action required at this time.
  - 9.7 The Superintendent nor the Board had reason to call a special board meeting, so no Board action required at this time.
  - 9.8 Myers moved, Van Dyke seconded to approve the 2020-2021 AEA Purchasing Agreement for products and services for the nutrition department. Motion carried 7-0.  
Van Dyke moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the contract to receive natural gas products through the CenterPoint Energy pool through June, 2021. Motion carried 7-0.
10. Discussion Items
  - 10.1. Superintendent Anderson: The Transitional Learning Team is creating a Return to Learning Plan, which will be require board approval. We await further guidance from the State before the plan can be finalized. It is due July 1, 2020. The Superintendent and Board discussed various options regarding the start date for the 2020-2021 school year: early start dates, hours vs days, month-to-month calendar, and planning for the potential of another pandemic interruption. Other discussion included contract options, funding sources, and summer school options.

There a number of ways the district can help provide for internet for those areas that lack adequate services. Districts could purchase additional access, with the possibility it would be reimbursed with CARES Act funds, provide access in the parking lot of the high school, equip buses with internet, and install internet services at the Mingo site. All are being considered, and the funding to support these services.

- 10.2 Superintendent Anderson is working with principals and the school nurse to identify a safe way for students and staff to perform in school buildings when they are re-opened, following state and federal guidelines as they pertain to the coronavirus threat.
- 10.3 The Board discussed the offer of an early retirement program for administration, and what components would be included. Superintendent Anderson will pursue options to present at a later meeting.
- 10.4 The Board reviewed the anticipated SAVE/PPEL projects and associated costs. The Facility Committee will consider a date to further review and prioritize before presenting to the Board for final approval.  
The Board moved into Exempt Session pursuant to Iowa Code section 20.17(3) to discuss strategy in matters relating to employment negotiations.
- 10.5 Board Take-Away - The Board summed meeting highlights: Pleased to have received seven bids for the pre-grading project; the student participation data presented proves that students and staff alike are committed to continue the education process; number of meals being served is meeting a great need in the district; and, these pandemic effects have provided great insight for the Board regarding the flexibility, focus, ingenuity and commitment all staff have in their duties for the students of the district.

11. Adjournment Williams moved to adjourn. Motion carried 6-0. Time: 8:05 pm