

Colfax-Mingo Community School District
Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting
Colfax-Mingo Jr/Sr High School Media Center
Monday, March 8, 2021

1. Call regular meeting to order and determination of quorum: President Chet Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present: Patrick Utz, Mary Poulter, Dawn Gibson, Doug Van Dyke, Mardell Tomlonovic. Absent: Jan Myers due to illness. Administrators present: Superintendent Anderson, Principal Summy and Principal Jones.
2. Van Dyke moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
3. Notice of Public Hearing for the 2021-2022 School Calendar: No written or oral comments received.
4. Recognition of Guests: Incoming Jr/Sr High Principal Alex Lancaster addressed the Board with thanks and enthusiasm to begin her duties July 1. The Board welcomed Principal Lancaster and looks forward to her new leadership.
5. Administration Reports:
 - 5.1.1. At previous board meetings, Specials Director Tina Ross had presented the process of developing and delivering Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) for qualifying students. Tonight, she reviewed the process for students who achieve their goals and exit the program. This year, she is pleased to report that five students have exited the program. It is a major accomplishment and celebration for these students.
 - 5.1.2. Curriculum Director Josh Russell reviewed highlights of professional development, PLC/TLC team collaboration, grading practices, piloting a new math series, revamping the Teacher Leader Plan, and the overall growth of the staff this past school year, maintaining their focus on the students, and adapting creative teaching methods.
 - 5.1.3. Behavioral Interventionist Tara Surprenant spoke of various social emotional issues. She highlighted empathy, the number one leadership skill, and how to identify and apply the traits of empathy. She works with student groups, in staff professional development, and with Parent Panels, to develop this skill. The Board watched a clip of implicit/explicit bias. She will continue to build on these beginnings so that the skill is engrained into our culture, and carries forward into life beyond the school years.
6. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Anderson reported on open enrollment numbers, the interview process for the Technology Director position, and anticipated ESSER III monies. Demolition of the interior of the Mingo building has begun this week, and the exterior will come down around the end of March. Persons interested in viewing the demolition may do so from designated safe areas. Kindergarten Roundup and a colating Parent Night will be scheduled at the end of March. The district will offer meals over spring break, and also during the month of June. Bringing snow removal in house has saved over thirty-thousand dollars. Superintendent Anderson participated in the UNI Career Fair and spoke with students interested in positions at Colfax-Mingo CSD. A recent AEA Superintendents' presentation highlighted information on the trends of future employees, including shorter tenures of employment and mobility. He also reported that the services of House of Mercy will be on-site to provide therapy options for students.
7. Consent Agenda:
 - 7.1. Tomlonovic moved, Gibson seconded to approve the minutes of the 2/8 regular and closed board meetings as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
 - 7.2. Utz moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the March 2021 payables as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
 - 7.3. Tomlonovic moved, Utz seconded to approve the January 2021 financials as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
 - 7.4. Change orders: none
8. Action Items:
 - 8.1. Personnel Matters: Poulter moved, Van Dyke seconded to approve the resignations of Sydney McLaughlin as Jr High English/Language Arts instructor, effective at the end of the school year, and the hire of Rachel Russell as 7-12 Special Education instructor for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried 6-0.

- 8.2. Tomlonovic moved, Gibson seconded to approve the 2021-2022 school calendar as presented, and the hearing was published and held as required. Motion carried 6-0.
- 8.3. Van Dyke moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimated cost for Safe and Secure Entries, and elementary restroom updates as presented. Motion carried 6-0. The DLR Group presented additional enhancements planned for the nurse's office.
- 8.4. Poulter moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve April 19 as the hearing date for the plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimated cost for Safe and Secure Entries, and elementary restroom updates.
- 8.5. Utz moved, Poulter seconded to approve April 15 as the bid opening date for the plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimated cost for Safe and Secure Entries, and elementary restroom updates. Motion carried 6-0. Bids will be opened at 2 pm at the Central Office on this date.
- 8.6. Utz moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve a one-year extended contract with Durham School Services for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
- 8.7. Van Dyke moved, Poulter seconded to approve April 5 as the hearing date for the 2021-2022 school budget. Motion carried 6-0.
- 8.8. Poulter moved, Utz seconded to approve April 5 as the hearing date for the installation of lights at the Jr/Sr High softball field. Motion carried 6-0.
- 8.9. Poulter moved, Gibson seconded to approve March 29 as the bid opening date for lights for the Jr/Sr High softball field. Motion carried 6-0. Bids will be opened at 2 pm at the Central Office on this date.
- 8.10. Poulter moved, Gibson seconded to approve the Engagement Letter with Ahlers Law Offices to provide bond and disclosure counsel in preparation for, and finalization of, the sale of \$12M in general obligation bonds for the Athletic Complex project. Motion carried 6-0.
- 8.11. Van Dyke moved, Utz seconded to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$12,000,000 General Obligation school bonds, and the levy of an annual tax from taxable property in the school district, for the payment of principal and interest in the amount of \$743,189 on the bonds, due in the Fiscal Year 2022, commencing July 1, 2021. Motion carried 6-0.
- 8.12. Poulter moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the recommendation to restructure the Jr High winter sports season. Motion carried 6-0. The goal would be to have boys' wrestling, and any girl who chooses to wrestle with the boys, and girls' JH basketball prior to Christmas break, with girls' only wrestling and JH boys' basketball following break. This will allow us to best utilize our gym space and possibly allow one JH coach to do both basketball and wrestling seasons.
- 8.13. Tomlonovic moved, Van Dyke seconded to approve the discontinuation of the three-hour late start on Wednesday's and return to 90-minute late starts upon return from spring break, and through the end of the school year. Motion carried 6-0. Staff will arrange the ninety minutes to participate in staff professional development, and also serve students in need of classroom support.
- 8.14. Van Dyke moved, Tomlonovic seconded to approve the following resolutions for the months of February through April, recognizing each group for their efforts and contributions to support a positive, welcoming learning environment, and meeting the needs of students in many other aspects of their positions: February 1-5, National School Counselor Week; April 7, National Paraprofessional Appreciation Day; and April 21, National Administrative Assistant Day. Motion carried 6-0.
- 8.15. There are no special board meeting dates scheduled, so no Board action required. The next board meeting will be April 5, 2021 at 6 pm.
- 8.16. Gibson moved, Van Dyke seconded to approve the Student Teaching Contracts with Grand View University and University of Northern Iowa for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried 6-0.

9. Discussion Items

- 9.1. Business Manager Hodgson reviewed the 2021-2022 school budget process, highlighting tax levy rates by fund, anticipated revenues and expenditures, with explanation of any fluctuations, cash balance goals, and the five-year Unspent Authorized Balance goals. Superintendent Anderson explained personnel additions and personnel efficiencies for the upcoming fiscal years, and also the role ESSER II and ESSER III funds will have when considering enhancing student learning with temporary programs.

There are no amendments required at this time for the 2020-2021 budget, but construction costs in the next few months may change that trajectory.

- 9.2. Superintendent Anderson recommended seasonal personnel be issued contracts with employment guidelines. This would pertain in most part to snow removal, groundskeeping, and other short-term projects deemed necessary by the Director of Operations.
 - 9.3. Mitigation strategies for the 2021 Prom were discussed, and consensus is that masks be required at the event. Mask breaks will be scheduled. In addition, with proper distancing, couples will be allowed to remove their masks for the Prom Walk and pictures.
 - 9.4. The Board reviewed their 2020-2021 Board Goals, thanking Boardmember Poulter for her article in the Tigerhawk summarizing recent Board agenda items. Boardmember Utz will publish an article in the April Tigerhawk regarding Board responsibilities and misconceptions, Boardmembers Myers and Van Dyke will be featured in the May Tigerhawk, reporting on highlights as a board member over the last five years, and President Williams will finish the fiscal year with a June article, topic to be determined. At the upcoming April 5 meeting, the Board will review duties, responsibilities and the code of ethics, and also prepare for quarterly review of student learning goals, targets, and progress. The final Standard 5 regarding financial professional development will be on a future agenda as well.
 - 9.5. There have been no changes to the district's Return to Learn plan, so no discussion necessary.
10. Adjournment: Van Dyke motioned to adjourn. Motion carried 6-0. 8:41pm.

APPROVAL _____

Chet Williams, Board of Directors President

ATTEST _____

Debra A. Hodgson, Board of Directors Secretary