

**EMMETSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Board of Education**  
**May 19, 2021 Minutes**

All motions are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

The Board of Education of Emmetsburg Community School District met in a regular session on May 19, 2021 at 5:30pm in the HS Library.

Mr. Hanna recognized the board members in honor of School Board Recognition Month. The Food Prep students made a charcuterie board and sweets for the board members as well as the teacher union supplying a meat and cheese tray with crackers. Mr. Hanna spoke about each member, their duties and the terms they have volunteered.

Present: \_\_\_\_\_ Jane Hoyman, Bill Huberty, Kathy Roethler, Aaron Dietrich, Scott Kibbie  
\_\_\_\_\_ Val Morton, Katy Thomsen

Absent: \_\_\_\_\_ None

Also Present: \_\_\_\_\_ Darren Hanna, Lisa Chapman, Tracie Christensen, Tim Rodemeyer, Tyler Bjustrom  
Jill Schany, Arik Kerr, Darca Saxton, Sueanne Deitering, Dan Hewitt, Kari Menefee  
Kelly Josephson, Mary Ellen Jackson, Jessica Biddle, Amy Thompson, Robin  
Hauswirth, Sara Straw, Dave Dow, Rebecca Dow, Joe Schany, Brittany & Aaron  
Hernandez, Kim Campbell, Michelle Hatland, Ella Auten, Sloan Rodemeyer, Lucas  
Straw, Cooper Straw, Devan Garman, Rachel Miner, Makayla Rouse, Adeline  
Lowman, Kaylee Masese, Aliyah Dietrich, Lily Straw, Scott Lowman, Terry  
McCubbins, Jeremy Zeigler

Jane Hoyman, President, called the session to order at 5:30pm, acknowledged the fact of a quorum.

Kibbie moved to approve the agenda as amended (moved New Business Item H (Strategic Plan) to immediately following old business. Thomsen seconded. Motion carried.

**TEACHING & LEARNING-STEM INNOVATOR PROJECTS**

5th Grade EXL Student Project-Playground-Students addressed the board with their request for a playground at the Middle School. The students asked for permission to dig deeper into the project. According to their research more than half of the students responded positively for a playground.

6th Grade EXL Student Project-Crosswalk-The students have identified the lack of crosswalks on the campus. Areas of concern also include repainting of lines. Research has been conducted while also conferring with the Facilities Director and Frank Kliegl at the city. The students presented areas that need to have crosswalks added for the safety of both students and drivers.

Students exited at 5:43pm.

**CONSENT ITEMS:** Morton moved to approve the consent items and was seconded by Thomsen. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Policy 213 was read by Mr. Hanna regarding public comments.

Jessica Biddle addressed the board regarding the face mask mandate. Biddle cited extensive research in favor of no masks. Biddle asked the board to reconsider requiring a mask mandate in the district.

The board recessed at 5:55pm to send the students off to state track.

Dietrich exited at 5:55pm.

The board reconvened at 6:00pm with Kim Campbell addressing the board. Campbell expressed her support in keeping the mask mandate.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Board Policies:** Updated Policies 502.6-502.10, 503.8 were presented for approval. Roethler moved to approve the policies and was seconded by Thomsen. Motion carried.

**Strategic Plan:** Kari Menefee, Dan Hewitt, Rachel Miner and Devon Garman presented the Strategic Plan. The planning started last fall with planning sessions that led to a review and revisions. They are at the stage of presenting to the public. A questionnaire was given to all and responses were received. Assets, strengths, challenges and needs were addressed. Goals were set with action steps involved. The students had a huge part of developing the vision and general plan for Emmetsburg Community Schools in 2027. The main theme was creating an environment to learn. Information will be shared with many organizations as their input will also be valuable. The plan is still a working document. The group was asking for the board endorsement as they proceed. Kibbie moved to approve the plan and was seconded by Morton. Motion carried.

#### **PRINCIPAL REPORTS**

**High School-**Awards night was held May 11. There were 36 seniors that received 50 scholarships that totaled approximately \$90,450. Summer school will be held in June. Middle School PATHS and P.I.E. put together a student appreciation event to be held May 20 and 21st. May 24th the High School will have May Term. Kelly Josephson, Sara Straw and Jill Schany spoke about ISASP results as well as Edify and FAST data. Teachers were pleased with the growth.

**Middle School-**ISASP results have been evaluated. Summer school for Middle School will also begin in June. Fourth grade students came to the Middle School building last week. They attended P.E. and ate lunch in the building.

**Elementary-**The elementary track meet on May 7th was a success. There were 91 races and field events. Kindergarten round-up was held with 43 students attending. Teacher Leadership interviews are being held for new positions in the program. Amy Thompson, Jeremy Zeigler, Sueanne Deitering, Mary Ellen Jackson and Sara Straw reported on the ISASPs/SAMI test results for Emmetsburg West Elementary. Increased growth was experienced in all areas. Goals have been set and followed in the process. Professional development has focused on understanding assessments, priority standards and creating an assessment process. Goals are to continue with subgroup data, outline learning goals in intervention plans, staff communication, community involvement.

Thomsen exited at 6:55pm.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Personnel:** None.

**Board Policies (First Reading):** The board held a first reading of board policies 503-503.3R1, 705.1-705.1R2, 403.6.

**Summer Project List:** Hanna presented the list for summer projects compiled with Tom Griffin. Huberty moved to approve the projects and Morton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Transfer of Funds to Debt Service from General Fund:** Administration would like to pay for the chromebook lease from the general fund instead of PPEL. This expense has been approved through the ESSER guidance. Morton moved to approve the transfer and was seconded by Hoyman. Motion carried.

**Asset Management System:** Roethler moved to approve the agreement. Kibbie seconded. Motion carried.

**Equipment Breakdown Insurance Policy:** Huberty moved to approve the agreement as presented. Seconded by Hoyman. Motion carried.

**Rural Advocates of Iowa Membership:** Morton moved to approve the membership. Roethler seconded. Motion carried.

#### **Facilities Update:**

**Baseball Field:** The last update was made in 1970. FEH Architects will take the lead on the project. Projects include moving the baseball field back, putting in new lights, fencing, netting. Bathrooms and concessions are also being discussed. It is anticipated that site work will begin in the fall.

**Greenhouse:** Looking at Stuppy's Greenhouse to put up the greenhouse. Electricity and cement will push the project over \$139,000 which is the threshold for competitive bidding.

**HVAC Retrofit Agreement:** EDA Engineers are working with administrators to do initial studies for HVAC. The district is seeking approval for the HVAC upgrades in all buildings to be paid from ESSER funding. Other options include SAVE or PPEL funds. Roethler moved to approve the agreement with EDA Engineering. Kibbie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**FY22 School Fees:** Huberty moved to approve the schools fees for FY22 and seconded by Morton as presented. Motion carried.

**Mask Mandate Policy:** Public comments were received. Guidance from Public Health was received late Friday, May 14. Current county positivity rate is 3%. Superintendent Hanna recommended that the masks be recommended, not required, on school grounds, events, buses for those not vaccinated. Morton moved to approve Mr. Hanna's recommendation and Huberty seconded. Motion carried.

Kibbie moved to adjourn at 7:30pm. Seconded by Roethler. Motion carried.

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Board President

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Board Secretary