

Minutes
MUSCATINE SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION
March 9, 2020

The Board of Education of the Muscatine Community School District, in the County of Muscatine, State of Iowa, met in regular session on Monday, March 9, 2020, at 7 p.m. at City Hall. President Tammi Drawbaugh called the meeting to order. Directors Karen Cooney, John Dabeet, Toby McCarter, Mike Morgan, and Denny Schuur were present. Director Aaron Finn was present via conference call as he was out of state on business. Also present was Superintendent Jerry Riibe.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Drawbaugh welcomed visitors and media representatives.

MHS Student Council Representatives Sydney Cox and Anahi Cenicerros provided information on recent and upcoming student council activities.

The following employees were recognized as March's Outstanding Employees for going above and beyond on a continual basis: Ashley DeVrieze - 4th grade teacher at McKinley, Miranda Dobson - 7th grade ELA teacher at Central Middle School, Toni Schmidt - Secretary at Muskie Early Learning Center, Ashley Steahr - Building Aide at Grant, and Alison Warren - Science teacher at Muscatine High School.

The following individuals spoke during Citizens Speak:

Daphne Donald, 1559 Washington Street, and Becky Eserhaut, 16209 H Avenue, presented information on this year's Race for the Schools. They shared that there will be new activities this year including face painting, bounce houses, and opportunities for photos plus a color-changing Muskie cup for all students who cross the finish line. Information and registration can be found at www.muscatineracefortheschools.org. Registration is now open.

As part of the Board Targets/Goals Report, information was shared regarding the coronavirus, curriculum audit, and the middle school transition.

Superintendent Riibe updated the board regarding the recent district edict regarding a travel ban for student groups traveling overseas as well as probable other travel within the United States. He shared that this is following the direction from the Iowa Department of Public Health to help mitigate the spread of the coronavirus within our community and to best protect our students, staff, and families. He shared that the Muscatine Orchestra Booster Club has decided to not adhere to this edict and will continue with their European orchestra trip over spring break. The booster club is assuming the legal liabilities for those members of the traveling party.

Holly Kaptain with CMSi presented information on the district's curriculum audit that was conducted this past fall. Ms. Kaptain noted that the audit report is intended to be a deficit report but wanted to also highlight areas of strength that was seen by the audit team. She shared that of all of the audits her company has done nation-wide, our district is one two where the request for an audit came from the school board itself. This shows a strength that the board is committed to serving all students well. Also noted were the increased numbers of AP courses offered and taken and the increased numbers of low-income students identified for gifted programming. Also noted was the district's strong financial position despite enrollment decline. Another area of strength is that all stakeholders (district and community) are focused on student success with a strong system of supports in place for our Muskie students.

Ms. Kaptain then reviewed each of the five standards that the audit team assessed which included: Governance and Leadership, Curriculum and Learning, Equality/Equity/Consistency, Feedback and Assessment, and Productivity and Resource Use. She provided an overview of findings for each of these standards. At the end of the presentation, she provided guidance on next steps.

Superintendent Riibe shared that moving forward will be a paradigm shift for central office, principals, teachers, students, and the community. Both he and Ms. Kaptain noted that the process will be slow but valuable in order to move our district and students to the next level.

Superintendent Riibe provided an update on the middle school transition process noting that three staff members who will not be moving to Susan Clark Junior High have chosen, based on seniority, their next year's position. He also noted that administration is continuing to work on scheduling and other activities for the transition process of staff and students.

A motion was made by Director Dabeet and seconded by Director Cooney to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- The minutes of February 10, 2020, Regular Session and February 24, 2020, Work Session.
- Employment Recommendations:
 - Resignations - Certified Staff: Sarah Baldi, MHS German teacher; Nicole Benisch, Grant Kindergarten teacher; Julie Evans, Early Childhood Special Education teacher, Muskie Early Learning Center; William Flowers, MHS At Risk Math teacher; Allison Coffman, MHS Science teacher.
 - New Hires - Schedule C: Barton Howard, Assistant Boys Track; Jamie Bosten, High School Mock Trial; Mario Franco, Assistant Boys Soccer; Bryce Lightner, Assistant MHS Football; Matt Rivera, Assistant MHS Girls Golf; Hannah Lingle, Assistant Girls Soccer; Traci Garcia, Assistant Girls Soccer; Michelle Roos, Assistant Girls Track; Rayce Miller, Assistant Boys Track; Cynthia Klebe, Assistant Boys Tennis.
 - Resignations - Schedule C: William Flowers, Assistant Girls Track and Assistant MHS Football.
 - Leaves of Absence - Certified Staff: Sarah Walsh, .5 for 2020-21 school year.
- Bills and Claims Against the District Dated March 9, 2020.

- Special Education Contracts with Wilton Community Schools (student i.d. #*1637, #*9666, #*4445) and Des Moines Independent Community Schools (student i.d. #*7622).

All ayes; motion carried.

A motion was made by Director McCarter and seconded by Director Schuur to set a public hearing for Monday, April 6, 2020, 7 p.m., at City Hall in Council Chambers for the purpose of certifying the FY 21 Budget. All ayes; motion carried.

A motion was made by Director Dabeet and seconded by Director Cooney to award a contract to Wolfe Construction Inc. for the MHS Fine Arts Renovation Project in the amount of \$224,295.

Discussion was held regarding Central Middle School's Auditorium. Superintendent Riibe stated that the district has no plan and has never planned to tear down the CMS auditorium.

All ayes; motion carried.

President Drawbaugh announced the following upcoming meetings and events:

March 9 - 12, 2020: Parent-Teacher Conferences

March 10, 2020: River Bend Mobile Food Pantry, MCSD Administration Center, 4:30 p.m.

March 12, 2020: 2-hour early dismissal for Parent-Teacher Conferences

March 13, 2020: No School; Conference Comp Day

March 16-20, 2020: Spring Break; No School

April 6, 2020: Regular Session; 7 p.m.; City Hall. (Please note this is the first Monday of the month.)

A motion was made by Director Schuur and seconded by Director Morgan to adjourn the meeting. All ayes; motion carried. Time: 9:24 p.m.

Tammi Drawbaugh, President

Lisa Mosier Bunn, Secretary