

**Treynor Community School District  
Board of Directors  
Regular Meeting  
December 11, 2017**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call
2. Amend and/or Approve Agenda
3. Consensus Agenda: Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings, Bills, and Financial Statements
4. Recognition of Visitors and Open Forum (Public Comment limited to items on any current or upcoming published board agenda)
5. It's All about the Learning
6. Financial Tip
7. Personnel: Review and Approve New Contracts and Resignations
8. Open Enrollment Requests
9. Special Education Contracts
10. Emergency Replacement – HVAC Middle School Rooftop Unit
11. At-Risk/Dropout District Budget – 2018-2019
12. Grading Changes
13. Facilities Plan, including Discussion of Role of Voter PPEL
14. Second Reading of Board Policies – 500 Series
15. First Reading of Board Policies – 600 Series
16. Curriculum Review Process
17. Superintendent for 2018-2019
18. Principals' Reports
19. Superintendent's Report
20. Adjournment

Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Treynor Community School District met in regular session on Monday, December 11, 2017, 6:30 p.m., in the Board Room, located in High School Building, 102 E. Main St., Treynor, IA 51575.

**Call to Order & Roll Call**

President Graber called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and roll was taken. The following board members were present: President Graber, Sally Myers, Mickey Stogdill, and Brandon Vorthmann, Vice President Guttan-Fox was absent.

**Amend and/or Approve Agenda**

A motion was made by Myers, seconded by Stogdill, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

**Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting, Bills, and Financial Statements**

A motion was made by Myers, seconded by Vorthmann, to amend the November 13, 2017 regular meeting minutes to include a detailed description of the discussion during the Grundmeyer Search Firm agenda item, and approve the following:

- 1) Minutes of the November 13, 2017 special meeting,
- 2) Bills in the amounts of:

General Fund	\$52,730.31
PPEL Fund	\$1,417.36
Activity Fund	\$9,442.96
Nutrition Fund	\$17,251.34

3) November 30, 2017 Financial Statements.  
Motion carried 4-0.

### **Recognition of Visitors and Open Forum**

The following spoke during the Open Forum session:

1) Kelly Carman asked the board to please consider a grading scale of 90-80-70 etc. to more closely mirror post-secondary institutions and consider the grading scales of neighboring school districts.

### **It's All About the Learning**

High school teacher Jeff Koenck and 3 students from his Modern Issues class reported on the service project they undertook in conjunction with the Iowa Pride Challenge and Diabetes Awareness Month.

### **Financial Tip**

Board Secretary VanFosson provided an abbreviated history of the one cent sales tax funds and encouraged those in attendance to contact our Iowa legislators, Tom Shipley and Jon Jacobsen, to encourage them to extend the state-wide penny beyond the 2029 expiration during the 2018 session.

### **Personnel: Review and Approve New Contracts and Resignations**

A motion was made by Stogdill, seconded by Vorthmann, to approve the resignation from Gary Schuler as junior high football coach, and the coaching contracts for Phillip Kennedy as junior high wrestling coach and Justin Huisman as assistant high school softball coach. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Open Enrollment Requests**

A motion was made by Myers, seconded by Stogdill, to approve the open enrollment applications from 7 students (4 families) who live in neighboring districts but would prefer to attend Treynor Schools and one student who has moved into the Treynor District but prefers to continue attending a neighboring district. These applications all meet the open enrollment deadline or the good cause exception. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Special Education Contracts**

A motion was made by Stogdill, seconded by Myers, to approve special education contracts with Riverside, East Mills, Lewis Central and Glenwood Community School Districts for special education services provided by Treynor Schools for their resident special education students open enrolled into Treynor. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Emergency Replacement – Middle School HVAC Rooftop Unit**

Interim Superintendent Howell and Board member Vorthmann explained the current HVAC unit coving the middle school offices, reception area, and conference/workrooms is 35 years old, is not providing heat to the area, and parts are no longer available. Three proposals for replacement have been received:

- AirTech – 4 ton Carrier unit. Warranty: 5 years on compressor 1 year on parts and labor. \$21,595
- Rasmussen – 4 ton unit. Warranty: 5 years on compressor and 1 year on parts and labor. \$36,741
- Trane – 4 ton Trane unit. Warranty: 5 years on compressor and 2 years on parts and labor. \$28,265

Following discussion of the issue and options available, a motion was made by Vorthmann, seconded by Stogdill, to approve the proposal from Trane U.S. Inc., due to the specificity of the proposal provided and the district's past experience working with Trane. Motion carried 4-0.

Vorthmann left the meeting at 7:00 pm to attend a music program.

A motion was made by Stogdill, seconded by Myers, to fund the HVAC replacement using SAVE (state-wide penny) funds. Motion carried 3-0.

### **2018-2019 At-Risk/Dropout Budget**

281--Iowa Administrative Code 12.2(256) Definition of At-Risk

"At-risk student" means any identified student who needs additional support and who is not meeting or not expected to meet the established goals of the educational program (academic, personal/social, career/vocational). At-risk students include but are not limited to students in the following groups: homeless children and youth, dropouts, returning dropouts, and potential dropouts. Part of the funding for the At-Risk/Dropout Program comes from partial weighting based on student enrollment and the number of resident students eligible for free and reduced meals. The remainder of the funding is a property tax levy – one of the very few ways the Board of Directors can affect the property tax levy. Interim Superintendent Howell outlined the proposed budget and how the dollars would be used: 1) High school credit recovery; 2) Middle school supports for reading and math; 3) Elementary student counseling; 4) Elementary support for reading and math; and 5) High school support for reading and math. The proposed total budget for 2018-2019 is \$140,324, with \$9,689 estimated to come from supplementary weighted funding. The remaining \$130,635 would see \$32,659 (25%) come from regular general operating funds and \$97,976 from a property tax levy to be included in the

fiscal year 2019 certified budget. Following an explanation of the program and the funding, a motion was made by Myers, seconded by Stogdill, to approve the modified supplemental amount of \$97,976 for the At Risk/Dropout Budget for 2018-2019. Motion carried 3-0.

Board member Vorthmann returned to the meeting at 7:15 pm.

### **Grading Changes**

Mr. McNeal, high school principal, presented proposals for policy changes in regards to grading. 1) The high school staff would like to change the weight (value) that letter grades have on grade point averages. 2) The middle school and high school staff would like to make a small change in the ranges for each letter grade, believing the proposal would be a better representation of student achievement and not target mediocrity by having the range for a C being the largest. Board members were provided the proposed grading scale and the current grading scales for all conference schools. Two high school teachers and two high school students in attendance spoke on the pros and cons of making the grading changes. Board consensus was to add this item to the January 8, 2018 regular meeting agenda for action.

### **Facilities Plan**

Board members discussed the need and desire to move forward with the potential high school renovations/additions and elementary traffic improvements/transportation facility. Vorthmann stated he was leaning toward moving ahead with the elementary traffic/transportation solution, along with initiating a voter-approved plant and equipment levy to assist the district in maintaining current facilities. President Graber said the number one priority of the plan is the safety of the elementary students. Mr. Stogdill suggested talking with the city in regards to the storm sewer in the area where the transportation facility would be constructed. Board members agreed it was best to hold a work session in January to determine the timeline of the project(s), addressing possible construction phases, as well as the possibility of a voter approved physical plant and equipment levy.

### **Second Reading of Board Policies – 500 Series**

A motion was made by Myers, seconded by Stogdill, to approve the second and final reading of the 500 Series of the Board Policies – Students, with all recommended changes. Motion carried 4-0.

### **First Reading of Board Policies – 600 Series**

Interim Superintendent Howell reviewed all changes she recommended in the 600 Series of the Board Policies – Education Program - including all necessary changes recommended by Iowa Association of School Boards to comply with state and federal legislation.

### **Curriculum Review Process**

A 7-year review cycle for curriculum was presented by Interim Superintendent Howell to assure the K-12 curriculum is purposeful, defined, and shapes students' learning and behaviors. The cycle would include a four-phase approach:

Phase I: Learning and Reflecting

Phase II: Establishment and Development of Shared Direction

Phase III: Implementation of Shared Direction

Phase IV: Gathering Data and Reporting Progress

If approved, work on the review cycle would begin immediately, with science and math as the first curricular areas tackled.

A motion was made by Vorthmann, seconded by Stogdill, to adopt the 7-year review cycle for curriculum as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Superintendent for 2018-2019**

President Graber explained an option brought up during discussion with Trent Grundmeyer at the last meeting was to extend the contract of Interim Superintendent Howell for one additional year (2018-2019) to allow the board time to develop sound, strategic plans that would influence the hiring of a highly effective superintendent to implement those plans. A motion was made by Myers, seconded by Stogdill, to extend the contract of Interim Superintendent Howell for 2018-2019. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Principals' Reports**

Jenny Berens, Middle School Principal, reported:

1. Rita Laughlin, high school and middle school counselor, and I attended a conference on Mental Health in the Transgender Community in November.
2. The junior high winter concert is January 18<sup>th</sup>.
3. Semester tests are December 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.
4. Teachers will participate in a full day of professional development on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and students will return on January 4<sup>th</sup>.

Gary McNeal, High School Principal, reported:

1. Our students are participating in many community service projects, in addition to Mr. Koenck's Modern Issues class. Some of those are the National Honor Society collecting supplies for the Catholic Charities Domestic Violence Shelter in Council Bluffs and the wrestling cheerleaders "Pump Up the Pantry" project to help the local food bank.
2. Work continues on the high school SMART goals, with a decrease in the number of students with at least 5 absences for the first 9 weeks of school when compared to last year and a decrease in the number of tardies.

Jill Kay, Elementary Principal, reported:

1. Mr. Sutherland, Mrs. Tiarks, Ms. Brady, Mrs. Cox and I attended a math conference in Ankeny on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Elementary students are learning for math understanding, not just memorization.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Interim Superintendent Howell reported:

1. The Iowa Association of School Boards Annual Convention during the week before Thanksgiving was a valuable learning experience for our board members and me.
2. An initial meeting of the Labor-Management Committee was held on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Myers, seconded by Vorthmann, to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

These minutes are as recorded by the board secretary and subject to approval at the next regular board meeting.

Cindy L. VanFosson  
Board Secretary