

MINUTES  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #325  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021

The Board of Education of Unified School District #325 met in regular session Monday, December 13, 2021 at the Board of Education Office at 6:00 p.m. Members present when the meeting was called to order were: Todd Kennedy, President; J.C. Sauer, Vice-President; Danielle Bohl, member; Shawn Hoover, member; Brock Johnson, member; Jed Keeten, member; and Patty Northup, member.

Officials present: Michael Gower, Superintendent; and Angela Thompson, Clerk.

Other interested persons: Nathan Strasburg, Middle School Principal; Todd Bowman, High School Principal; Justin Taylor, Tyson Wisinger, Christopher Eakin, and Krystle Schamp.

Representing the press: Jesse Rhea, KKAN/KQMA Radio.

CALL TO ORDER Todd Kennedy, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF  
CONSENT AGENDA J.C. Sauer moved the consent agenda including November 8, 2021 regular meeting minutes, treasurer's report, and warrants be approved as presented. Patty Northup seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS Thank You Card

COMMUNITY  
PRESENTATIONS Krystle Schamp expressed support for random student drug testing, but she shared concerns regarding the district's testing procedures and the test kits used. The Board thanked her for sharing her concerns and will look into these issues.

REPORT TO THE BOARD BY  
THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent reported that the City of Phillipsburg is considering an acquisition of the District's property along State Street in order to construct a new sidewalk and ADA ramp. Following discussion, Shawn Hoover moved the Board approve an easement for said purposes. Danielle Bohl seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Gower further reported that the City of Phillipsburg had requested use of an area south of the Elementary School to grow trees that will later be transplanted. The City will provide care for the trees and maintain the property used. Following discussion, the Board requested more specifics regarding the location of the proposed trees.

The Superintendent presented two proposed 2022-2023 School Year Calendars. Following discussion, Jed Keeten moved the Board approve the second option with an August 11, 2022 start date for the 2022-2023 School Year Calendar as presented. J.C. Sauer seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Gower presented additional information as requested by the Board for the replacement of the auxiliary gym bleachers to make them handicap accessible and provide more seating. Following discussion, J.C. Sauer moved the Board approve the purchase and installation of new bleachers for the auxiliary gym in the amount of \$45,345 from Heartland Seating. Brock Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Gower reported that the District received \$8,475 from the Patterson Family Foundation for COVID-19 supplies. Following discussion, Patty Northup moved the Board accept the Patterson Family Foundation grant in the amount of \$8,475. Danielle Bohl seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Gower shared the Fall 2021 School Nurse Report and expressed appreciation for all Michelle Cole has done for students and staff, especially during the pandemic.

REPORT TO THE BOARD BY  
THE SUPERINTENDENT  
(CONTINUED)

Mr. Gower revisited Coach Jarvis' proposal for a Spring high school boys tennis team and reported 12 confirmed participants and 9 confirmed events, two of which will be held in Phillipsburg. Following discussion, Brock Johnson moved the Board approve the addition of High School Boys Tennis. Shawn Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0. Coaching contracts will be approved at a later date.

The Superintendent shared information for replacing the chow wagon with a used U-Haul and a plan to shop for an inexpensive 2-wheel drive replacement for the high school's old pickup. Following discussion, the Board consented to move forward with the replacement of both vehicles.

Following brief discussion, the Board determined that there will be no change to current Covid protocols in the schools at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

SUPERINTENDENT  
EVALUATION

Todd Kennedy moved the Board enter into executive session for a period of 10 minutes, until 6:46 p.m., for the purpose of discussing matters of non-elected personnel, in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed. Jed Keeten seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Gower was asked to enter at 6:40 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:46 p.m.

Todd Kennedy moved the Board extend the Superintendent's contract for a period of one year, ending June 30, 2024, with salary to be determined at a later date. Patty Northup seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

NCKSEC INTERLOCAL  
#636 REPORT

Todd Kennedy reported on the recent Interlocal meeting.

PERSONNEL

Todd Kennedy moved the Board enter into executive session for a period of 15 minutes, until 7:03 p.m., for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel, to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed. Mr. Gower was asked to be present. Jed Keeten seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

The Board returned to regular session 7:03 p.m.

Todd Kennedy moved the Board re-enter into executive session for a period of 10 minutes, until 7:14 p.m., for the same purpose as stated above. Mr. Gower was asked to remain. J.C. Sauer seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Bowman was asked to enter at 7:05 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 7:14 p.m. No action taken.

ADMINISTRATIVE  
TEAM CONTRACTS

J.C. Sauer moved the Board extend the following administrative contracts until July 31, 2024, with salary to be determined at a later date:

Bowman, Todd – High School Principal  
Laurin, Crystal – Elementary School Principal  
Strasburg, Nathan – Middle School Principal

Patty Northup seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

WORK AGREEMENT  
APPROVAL

Shawn Hoover moved the Board approve the following work agreements:

Hoffman, Noah – School Kitchen Worker

Smith, Shelley – Part-Time Elementary Cook/ Kitchen Worker

Danielle Bohl seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

SECTION 125 FLEXIBLE BENEFIT  
PLAN APPROVAL

Jed Keeten moved the Board approve the Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan for 2021-2022 as presented. Danielle Bohl seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

REQUEST FOR USE OF  
SCHOOL FACILITIES

Information

RECOGNITION OF  
BOARD MEMBERS

Todd Kennedy presented plaques to Jed Keeten and Patty Northup and thanked them for their years of service and dedication to the USD 325 Board of Education. This is their last Board meeting as terms for both members end January 2022. Jed Keeten's service is from 2012 to 2022, and Patty Northup's service is from 2009 to 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, President Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED:

MINUTES RECORDED:

DATE: