



School District of Altoona

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ALTOONA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting
District Board Room
1903 Bartlett Avenue
April 9, 2018
6:30 p.m.

1. The Regular meeting of the Altoona Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Robin Elvig, at 6:30 p.m. in the District board room.
2. Roll call was taken and the following were present:
Robin E. Elvig, President
Helen S. Drawbert, Vice President
Michael J. Hilger, Clerk
Bradley D. Poquette, Treasurer
David A. Rowe, Member
Joyce M. Orth, Board Secretary
Michael Markgren, Acting Superintendent
3. Reading of Public Notice was presented. All posting requirements were met and posting places are noted: Altoona City Hall, Altoona Post Office, school district office, high school office, middle school office, and elementary school office.
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Rules for Meeting
6. Approval of Minutes. a. March 19, 2018 Regular Meeting. Motion by Drawbert to approve the minutes, as presented, seconded by Rowe. Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Public Participation. a. Non-Agenda items - public comment and concern. (1) Michael Hilger was recognized for his years of service (April 4, 2011-April 23, 2018) and positive influence on education in our district. (2) Rick Risler, incoming board member also recognized and thanked Mike for his service.
b. Agenda items - public comment and concern. None.
8. Treasurer's Report. a. Approval of Checks for Payment. Motion by Rowe to approve General Fund checks totaling \$2,087,320.45 and Student Activity Fund checks totaling \$7,790.64 as presented, seconded by Hilger. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.
9. Information. a. Community Showcase. (1) "Feed a Child Nyre You" Program Impact. Jennie Childs provided an overview and update relative to the Feed a Child Nyre You program. In partnership with Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Feed My People foodbank, the program provides weekend food bags for district students who are in need. The program began in 2012 in memory of Jim Nyre, school volunteer and Bethlehem Lutheran Church member. The 6th annual "Walk for a Child Nyre You" fundraiser will be held on May 5.

- (2) “Head Start Program” Impact. Debbie Davis, Head Start center manager, shared the program presentation. Head Start, a non-profit, federally funded program offers services to families, with income below poverty guidelines, for their children from birth to age 5. Program options, curriculum and assessment components, and benefits provided to children and to families were reviewed. The Altoona Head Start has operated as part of a collaborative model with the school district’s early childhood program since 1992. They are currently housed at 701 7th Street West. Beginning in the 2018/19 school year, the Head Start program will move into a new center on Hillcrest Parkway. **b. School Showcase.** (1) Student Representative’s Update. Emily Studinski, student representative, shared upcoming events including the Red Cross Blood Drive, National Honor Society Induction, Interact Club cleanup day, Cloverbelt Scholars of Excellence, senior lock-in, and prom. Emily also noted that the Forensics team took 2nd place at State and individual awards including a 1st (Emma Hoff), 5th (Elena Nichols) and 6th (Olivia Lang) place finish. (2) Student Representative Applicants for 2018/19 – 2019/20. Two applicants for the student representative position were included in packets. They are Alyse Tainter and Sedona Van Ert, class of 2020. **c. Committee Reports.** (1) Parks and Recreation Committee. Brad Poquette shared an update from the March 26 meeting. Topics of discussion included Devney Park playground features and purchase of the Unity Dome playground piece from the elementary school. **d. General Information.** (1) Election Results. The Board of Canvassers met on April 5 and confirmed the school board election results: Hilger, 549; Risler, 750. Statewide, school board members elected at the spring election take office on the fourth Monday in April (April 23). Mike Hilger congratulated Rick, and made a statement about his work on the school board and, in particular, tough decisions made by the board in recent months. **e. President’s Report.** (1) Interim Superintendent Search Update. The position was posted on March 23. Board members will screen applications and meet on May 1 at 8:00 a.m. to discuss applications and determine next steps. **f. Superintendent’s Report.** (1) Donations Update. A donation of \$500 from Xcel Energy was recognized. With this donation, donations of \$34,916 have been received since December 18, 2017. (2) Monthly Enrollment Update. Student enrollments as of March 27, 2018 were reviewed: elementary school, 592; intermediate school, 246; middle school, 356; and high school, 416 for a total of 1,610. (3) Volunteer Coaches Update. The following volunteers will serve as assistant coaches in the 2017/18 season: Kyle Henning, softball; Michael Larson, tennis; Jamie Oliver, track; Ed Rosenquist, soccer. (4) Eggs & Issues. The April 20 Eggs & Issues session will feature the annual “State of Altoona” update by Mayor Pratt and Mike Golat, city administrator. If attending, board members will let Joyce know by April 13. (5) Review of Recommended Handbook Changes. Recommended revisions to the Professional Educator and Support Staff Handbooks were reviewed. They included updates to the following sections (Professional Educator Handbook) Work Day/Hours of Work, Voluntary Early Retirement, Time Off and Leave – Compassion Clause and Personal Day; and (Support Staff Handbook) Voluntary Early Retirement and Time Off and Leaves – Sick Leave. In addition, a housekeeping change to replace the old strategic plan with the new is included for both handbooks. Helen Drawbert shared language from another district as it relates to the compassion clause (District-Wide Sick Leave Donation Bank), and asked Mike to look into comparables for sick and personal day payouts. Board action will be postponed (10.g. and h.).
10. Board Action after Consideration and Discussion. **a. Consider Resignation of Special Education Paraprofessional**. Motion by Rowe to accept the resignation of Liza Erickson, effective April 21, 2018, as presented, seconded by Poquette. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. **b. Consider Resignation of Middle School Track Coach**. Motion by Drawbert to accept the resignation of Brittany Morrison, from her position as middle school track coach, as presented, seconded by Hilger. Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. **c. Consider Resignation of Robotics Coach**. Motion by Drawbert to accept the resignation of Rachel Haling, from her position as robotics coach, effective for the 2018/19 season, as presented, seconded by Poquette. Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. **d. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Girls’ Track and Field Coach Position for 2017/18**. Motion by Poquette to employ Rachael Stilp and Brooke Kaldor, as middle school girls’ track (job-share) coaches for the 2017/18 season, as recommended, seconded by Rowe. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

e. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Assistant Softball Coach Position for 2017/18. Motion by Rowe to employ Taylor Varsho as assistant girls’ softball coach for the 2017/18 season, as recommended, seconded by Hilger. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. f. Consider Employment Recommendation to Fill Assistant Track and Field Coach Position for 2017/18. Motion by Drawbert to employ Erika Bohmke as assistant boys’ track coach for the 2017/18 season, as recommended, seconded by Rowe. Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. g. Consider Amendments to Professional Educator Handbook. Motion by Drawbert to postpone action, seconded by Rowe. Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. h. Consider Amendments to Support Staff Handbook. Motion by Drawbert to postpone action, seconded by Rowe. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. i. Consider Initial Adoption of 343.44 – Part-Time Open Enrollment. Motion by Drawbert to approve initial adoption of Policy 343.44, as presented, seconded by Hilger. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. j. Consider Initial Adoption of 343.45 – Technical College Course Program. Motion by Rowe to approve initial adoption of Policy 343.45, as presented, seconded by Hilger. Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. k. Consider Initial Adoption of 343.46 – Early College Credit Program. Motion by Rowe to approve initial adoption of Policy 343.46, as presented, seconded by Drawbert. Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0. l. Consider Approval of CESA 10 Services for 2018/19. Motion by Poquette to approve CESA 10 services in the amount of \$54,981 for 2018/19, as presented, seconded by Drawbert. Rowe, yes; Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Adjournment. Motion by Poquette to adjourn at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Hilger. Hilger, yes; Poquette, yes; Drawbert, yes; Rowe, yes; Elvig, yes. Motion carried 5-0.

The next Regular Meeting of the Altoona Board of Education is scheduled for Monday, April 23, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the District board room.

Joyce M. Orth CAP, Board Secretary

District Clerk

Date