

**UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DYSART-GENESE0-LA PORTE CITY  
Regular Board Meeting  
October 19, 2020**

**Call to Order:**

Board President Kevin Sash called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Union High School Library. The following board members were present: Corey Lorenzen, Kristi Martin, Ben Schemmel, and Jenna Scott. Absent: Darrell DeWinter and Brandon Paine.

**Agenda:**

On a motion by Schemmel, second by Martin, the agenda was approved as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

**Correspondence:**

The board received a thank you card from Bailey Weber for the flowers she received.

**Superintendent's Report:**

1. Weekly COVID Updates:
  - a. Supt Fleshner asked the board if there should be any changes made and with no changes suggested, the weekly COVID updates will continue going out as scheduled.
  - b. The number of students currently served remotely through the medical and voluntary programs was shared with the board.
2. Instructional Update:
  - a. Team working through TLC redesign,
  - b. ACT scores were 22.2, up from 21.5 last year,
  - c. Instructional Calendar - Snow Days vs Virtual Learning Days: Supt Fleshner asked the board input on how to count snow days. Because the students would not always have their Chromebooks with them, Supt Fleshner commented it would be difficult for students to learn remotely on a few hours' notice. The board consensus was to count snow days as snow days and not try to make them virtual learning days.
  - d. State Volleyball Tournament Schedule: If we play 1st round on Mon., Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> there would be no schedule change as the game is a night game. If we play 1st round on Tues., Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, there would be no school on Tuesday. Winning on Mon. or Tues., we would play on Wed. at 3:00 pm and would have a noon dismissal. Winning on Wed. would mean playing Thurs. at 3:00 pm, and we would have a noon dismissal.
3. Financial Update:
  - a. Certified Enrollment: down 42.8 students. Supt Fleshner reported the projections showed we would be down by 37 students so it was anticipated.
  - b. Supt Fleshner asked the board if they wanted to implement an early retirement program this year. The board asked him to pull together some numbers for them.
4. Facility Update:
  - a. Alliant Energy has expressed interest in about 3 acres of school property southwest of the middle school in Dysart. They would like to build a sub-station on the property. Supt Fleshner will be doing more checking on this

and also will check with the city to see if it is something they want built in that area.

- b. Future projects: HS boilers (replacement), HS freezer/cooler (replacement), HS track (resurface), MS Phase III, District phone system (replacement).
5. Food Service Update:
    - a. The Federal government has extended the free meals program for the remainder of the school year.
    - b. We will be continuing the Grab and Go meal plan as it offers the most flexibility to adjust lunch periods, etc.
  6. Marketing: Supt Fleshner shared the analytics for Facebook and the District website with the board.
  7. Daycare Update: The proposed lease agreement is on the agenda this evening.
  8. Youth Activities and Tournaments: Supt Fleshner asked the board their thoughts on allowing youth tournaments, such as wrestling and basketball, at the school this winter. The board consensus was to allow those activities to be held at the school this winter, with proper mitigations.
  9. IASB Virtual Conference: Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> & Nov.17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>.
  10. Next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2020 in the High School Library.

**Return to Learn Plan:**

On a motion by Lorenzen, second by Scott, the board approved continuing with the 2:15 pm dismissal time through winter break, removing the voluntary option of remote learning effective October 30th, and leaving all other parts of the Return to Learn Plan in place. Motion carried 5-0.

**First Reading of Board Policy Series 700:**

On a motion by Lorenzen, second by Schemmel, the board approved the first reading of board policy series 700. Motion carried 5-0.

**Lease Agreement with Little Knights Learning Center:**

The board discussed where the daycare would be built and possible financial responsibilities for the daycare and the school district.

**Jenna Scott stepped out of the meeting (7:42 pm)**

On a motion by Schemmel, second by Lorenzen, the board approved a \$1/year lease with the Little Knights Learning Center. Motion carried 4-0.

**SBRC Request for Special Education Deficit:**

Lorenzen made a motion that the Board of Directors of the Union Community School District approve the application to the school budget review committee in the amount of \$590,972.28 for special education deficit costs during the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried 4-0.

**Jenna Scott returned to the meeting (7:47 p.m.)**

**Board Policy 604.6 Procedures:**

The board discussed the procedures currently in place for policy 604.6, in regards to students taking college courses at the high school and then withdrawing. Hawkeye Community College charges the school district the tuition for any students taking the college course for at least two weeks however, their “drop date”, allowing students who wish to take a “W” and withdraw from the course is several weeks after that two-week period. That means the school district is responsible for paying the tuition regardless of whether the student finishes the course. The student/parent cannot reimburse the school for the tuition so the school district pays for the course the student does not complete. The school district’s practice has been to give the student an “F” on their high school transcript for any college course dropped after the first two weeks. The students are notified in advance in writing and when they are registering for the courses and are made aware that it could affect eligibility if they choose to drop late. After much discussion, on a motion by Lorenzen, second by Schemmel, the board voted to give students the same grade as Hawkeye Community College, including a “W” if they withdraw from the course. Motion carried 4-1, with Sash casting the nay vote.

**Early Graduation Requests:**

On a motion by Scott, second by Martin, the board approved the early graduation requests, pending they meet all of the requirements for graduation. Motion carried 5-0.

**Consent Agenda:**

Minutes of the September 21, 2020 board meeting

Claims to be Paid

Financial Reports

Personnel:

Resignations:	None	
Appointments:	Corey Lorenzen	HS Asst B-BB
	Theresa Renaud	MS Yearbook
	Sarah Torres	P/T Spec Educ Associate

Open Enrollment Requests

On a motion by Scott, second by Schemmel, the board approved the consent agenda. Motion carried 4-0-1, with Lorenzen abstaining.

**Adjourn:**

On a motion by Schemmel, second by Martin, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm. Motion carried 5-0.

Kevin Sash, Board President

Kathy Krug, Board Secretary