

**UNION COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DYSART-GENESE0-LA PORTE CITY
Regular Board Meeting
December 20, 2021**

Roll: The regular meeting of the Board was called to order by Board Vice President Brandon Paine at 6:00 pm in the Board Room. The following board members were present: Reid Carlson, Maureen Hanson, Lindsay Piph0, Ben Schemmel, and Jenna Scott. Absent: Corey Lorenzen.

Agenda: Board Vice President Paine requested an addition under item #13 Personnel for the resignation of Emma Harris as HS Asst Speech.

On a motion by Scott, seconded by Schemmel, the board approved the agenda as amended. Motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent's Report:

1. La Porte City Elementary and D-G Elementary were identified in the recent Iowa School Report card as high performing and as two of the top elementary schools in Iowa in Iowa US News World Report. Union High School and Union Middle School were identified as commendable (both above the State average).
2. COVID Updates:
 - a. Less than 5 total positive cases in the District as of Friday, Dec 17.
 - b. 91.8% daily attendance rate.
 - c. 6th Circuit Court lifted the stay on the vaccination mandate. Depending on what the Supreme Court decides, we may need to have an additional meeting early in January to approve board policies on the vaccination mandate.
 - d. Information on vaccination mandates from Ahlers & Cooney and IASB was shared with the board.

Five-Year Financial Forecast Presentation – Larry Sigel, ISFIS

Larry explained funding sources available to districts, including optional sources such as Instructional Support Levy and Dropout Prevention, spending authority, unspent balance, budgeting and the few areas of funding the district really has control over, and some of the possible unknowns that are dealt with during budget preparation (enrollment numbers, insurance costs, state supplemental aid). Larry went through a one-page summary for Union CSD, showing historical information on property tax and property tax rates, budget enrollment headcounts, open enrollment, unspent balance, special education deficits, per student funding, and solvency ratio.

Corey Lorenzen arrived at 6:55 pm – during Larry Sigel's presentation.

Board President Lorenzen now presiding over meeting.

Superintendent's Report – (continued):

3. TikTok Posting: We did have a higher percentage of absences on Friday.
4. Instructional Updates:
 - a. The December Instructional Team minutes were shared with the board.
 - b. The District has applied for a BELIEF grant. Up to ten districts will be chosen to receive the \$10,000 grants.
5. Financial Updates:

- a. During the January 3 Teacher Work Day, we are planning to offer an Insurance 101 meeting for staff to learn more about how medical insurance works and things to think about when making medical decisions.
 - b. Insurance committee is meeting later that same day.
6. Facility Updates:
 - a. Request to seek designs and costs for security cameras is on the agenda.
7. Transportation Updates:
 - a. Supt Fleshner is currently scheduling transportation and coordinating maintenance on buses and vehicles.
 - b. John Mix will be starting his position January 3, 2022.
8. Marketing Update:
 - a. Analytics for the District Facebook page and website were shared with the board.
9. Staffing:
 - a. The staffing plan for the 2022-2023 school year should be ready by the January regular board meeting.
 - b. Looking at adding the elementary yearbook positions as paid positions; High School and Middle School already have those paid positions.
 - c. Need to look at what we want to do for the D-G Elementary Principal position for the 2022-2023 school year.
 - d. Discussing softball sharing with Gladbrook-Reinbeck (they would come to Union). Have had meetings with parents and players, including surveys.
10. The next board meeting is scheduled for January 17th in the Board Room at 6:00 pm.

2022-2023 At Risk Plan:

On a motion by Schemmel, seconded by Paine, the board approved the 2022-2023 At Risk Plan. Motion carried 7-0.

SBRC Request for At Risk/Dropout Prevention for FY2022-2023:

Scott 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 \$113,293.00 for At Risk/Dropout Prevention during the 2022-2023 school year. Seconded by Hanson. Motion carried 7-0.

Approve Seeking Security Camera Proposals:

On a motion by Schemmel, seconded by Hanson, the board approved seeking security camera proposals for all buildings. Motion carried 7-0.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes of the November 22, 2021 Board Meeting

Claims to be Paid

Financial Reports

Personnel:

Resignations:	Emma Harris	HS Asst Speech
	Emma Peters	HS Asst Softball

Appointments:	Michelle Keegan	TLC Mentor
	Blanca Pierce	D-G Elem P/T Custodian
	Caitlin Rafter	D-G Elem 3 rd Grade

Open Enrollment Requests

On a motion by Scott, seconded by Schemmel, the board approved the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Adjourn: On a motion by Scott, seconded by Pipho, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Work Session – Communication Plans

The board discussed how to respond to the community when they have questions and reviewed what can and cannot be shared with the public. They also discussed topics that can and cannot be shared with board members by administration, especially in personnel or student issues where the board may need to act on terminations or discipline after the issue has gone through the proper channels. There are also legal privacy issues that need to be considered when dispensing information as well. The board also received a copy of the District Communication Flowchart and discussed the possibility of putting the Communication Flowchart on the district website.

The work session ended at 8:51 pm.

Brandon Paine, Board Vice President

Kathy Krug, Board Secretary