

MINUTES  
CARTHAGE E.S.D. #317 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 15, 2012

The regular meeting of the Carthage E.S.D. #317 Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Board President Jamie Pettit. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, absent; Mrs. Fritz, present; Mr. Menn, absent; Mrs. Markley, absent; Mrs. Stoverink, present; Mrs. Huston, present; Mr. Pettit, present.

There were no additional agenda items.

There were no individuals wishing to address the Board on stated agenda items.

New staff members Cindy McKinney, Erin Biery and Rachel Huston were in attendance. The meeting was recessed for 15 minutes in order to meet and welcome these teachers.

Mr. Ufkes entered the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Administrative Reports:

Mrs. Hardy did not have a lot to add to her report other than the middle school schedule has been revised to allow for one full time teacher to go to the primary school in order to create a third section of kindergarten.

The state has determined the final General State Aid calculations which resulted in a loss of an additional \$78,000 from last year. We are currently looking at a deficit in the education fund of \$359,000 in FY13. The superintendents have put together some financial information to send to legislators.

Our overall deficit in working funds is \$385,000. We are in better shape than some districts that are facing deficits of \$700,000-\$800,000. Statewide deficits range from \$87,000 to \$2,000,000. Those districts that are in the positive are the ones that are less dependent on state aid.

Mrs. Hardy pointed out that we are fortunate to be in the position we're in as there are many districts that are already operating on revenue only.

Diane shared that McGraw Hill will be in the district tomorrow training the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers on the new math series. Adams Networks will also be in district tomorrow to upgrade the wireless connection. The upgrade will allow moving around within the buildings and between buildings without having to reconnect. The wireless devices do go through our SonicWall since Diane purchased an upgraded SonicWall last winter in case of adding various wireless devices. The SonicWall scans everything that comes in through e-mail.

The actual kindergarten count for this year is 54 plus the one special ed student that transitions into the classroom for a limited amount of time each day.

It was moved by Mrs. Stoverink and seconded by Mrs. Huston to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Mrs. Hardy discussed the preliminary budget and pointed out some of the changes that have been made by the state.

We will have a budget hearing next month then take action during the regular portion of the meeting.

The Board and administrators walked through the primary school and high school prior to the regular meeting and were very pleased with the primary school. They did not visit the middle school since there were few changes made in that building.

The parking lot is to be patched with oil and chip tomorrow morning.

The rooms of the new teachers look good as does the football field. Snow fence has been put up around the bleachers to help keep kids out from under them.

Regarding the art program, it is assumed that students from WIU will come to the primary school as has been done in the past. Mrs. Hardy explained that there is not a mandated format of an art program, only the requirement that districts do offer it. Most classroom teachers have a part of their curriculum that can be classified as art so the only difference will be in the documentation.

The Board commended the custodial crew on the work that has been done over the summer.

It was moved by Mrs. Stoverink and seconded by Mr. Ufkes to enter into executive session at 8:37 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Ufkes and seconded by Mrs. Huston to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Roll Call: Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mrs. Stoverink, yes; Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes. Motion carried 5 – 0.