

MINUTES
CARTHAGE E.S.D. #317 BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2013

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: Mrs. Huston, present; Mr. Pettit, present; Mr. Ufkes, absent; Mrs. Fritz, present; Mr. Menn, present; Mrs. Markley, present; Mrs. Stoverink, absent.

There were no additional agenda items or individuals wishing to address the board on stated agenda items.

Mr. Ufkes entered the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Administrative Reports:

Mrs. Hardy shared that the sixth grade Egyptian Day is January 25th. The area superintendents met today and looked at the calendar for next year. The board reviewed the calendar as presented and will take action next month.

The high school boiler burner should be in by the end of this week as it is expected to take only one day to install it. The boiler has been running well for a while now. The Vice President of XCell said the boiler was in great shape and did not appear to have any weak spots. It was noted, however, that the new one is more efficient and should pay for itself in a short amount of time.

There is still no news on the hospitals tax status yet.

Diane reported on the new Connecting 4 Our Future organization. They are now working on the beginning stages of fundraising. The main public interest seems to be in the mentorship program however there are a few families that are interested in the food portion. Participants will be working with senior citizens and will communicate with their "mentors" via applications such as facetime or skype. Another element the group is looking at is being able to offer low cost physicals and possibly other medical services on site (school buildings) in order to assist parents.

Current members of the group include Diane, Leah Leffler, Amy Graham, Barb Heighton, Lori McNeff, Ada Bair and Marilyn Walker.

Diane also reported that Adams Networks has upgraded our bandwidth on their own accord; it was not something we requested. This increase will benefit Illini West as well as our district.

She has ordered two new servers and is looking at free virus software to test out. IW is currently using the software and likes it okay. This could result in a savings of \$8,000 over three years.

In recognition of Martin L. King day, the "I Have a Dream" speech will be shown at the middle school on Friday. Third and fourth graders will be brought over from the primary school which will give the kids the chance to be exposed to the middle school culture.

It was moved by Mr. Menn and seconded by Mrs. Markley to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

The December CAC meeting was cancelled due to the inability to find subs. They will be meeting tomorrow and Diane handed out the meetings' agenda. There will be three exploratory teachers at tomorrows' meeting.

Mrs. Hiland, Mrs. Unruh, Mr. Klein and Mr. Butcher will be looking at schedules and possible classes as well as the school improvement plan. They intend to be bringing some ideas to the board next month. On the February SIP day they will start writing core standards based units. The template is already in place for this.

Diane is also working on the Tech Plan that is due February 28th. She needs to do more technology surveys then will be ready to put together numbers for the tech plan.

Benchmarking has just been completed so they will begin looking at needed interventions. Benchmarking results are showing great growth at the primary school. The middle school has not been done yet. The new exploratory schedule will address math interventions as the middle school currently has no interventions and there is just no time to pull them right now.

There will be a lease committee meeting on January 29th at the high school. The committee will be walking the building so that we can view some of the high school concerns with them. None of our board members had issues to be added to the list of topics for the meeting. The Lease is in the first year of an extension through the 2016-17 school year; however, the lease does state that either party can terminate the agreement at any given time with 30 months notification.

It was asked if anyone was interested in serving notice. It was also asked if our serving notice would expedite the funding process at the state level but we don't believe that is the case.

The board will discuss a selling price for the building or portions of the property in executive session. It was also mentioned that maybe we should look at finding new facilities for us and selling the whole property to the high school.

Mrs. Hardy and the board reviewed the revenue and expense summary for the first half of the fiscal year. It was noted that we have received almost all of our revenue for this year. The state does still owe us \$179,465 however.

Mrs. Hardy has discussed motion sensors with J & S Electronics but still needs to discuss with them further.

Mrs. Hardy shared information on a new program for the district property insurance just to see if the board is interested in looking into this. She explained that we have been with Callendar & Co. for a number of years now and they have been wonderful to work with. This program is a self-funded cooperative run by school districts. There are currently 133 school districts in the state participating, including LaHarpe and Dallas City. Jo Campbell has been very pleased with the program and feels they have saved the district a lot of money. One feature of this program is that a district may get out of the program easily if dissatisfied. It was the consensus of the board to at least listen to the presentation since we are deficit spending.

It was moved by Mrs. Fritz and seconded by Mr. Ufkes to approve the second reading and adopt the policies as presented. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

It was moved by Mrs. Markley and seconded by Mr. Ufkes to enter into executive session at 8:28 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel and real estate. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Menn and seconded by Mr. Ufkes to offer a new contract as presented with Superintendent Vicki Hardy from July 1, 2013 through 2017-2018 school year as presented with salary to be determined annually for each of the contract years at a base rate of \$93,958.00 and goals to be established by June 30, 2013. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

It was moved by Mr. Ufkes and seconded by Mrs. Fritz to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 p.m. Roll Call: Mrs. Huston, yes; Mr. Pettit, yes; Mr. Ufkes, yes; Mrs. Fritz, yes; Mr. Menn, yes; Mrs. Markley, yes. Motion carried 6 – 0.