

OREGON-DAVIS SCHOOL CORPORATION

Monday, July 20, 2020
Regular School Board Meeting, 6:30 PM

Humanities Room, Jr/Sr High School, 5990 North 750 East, Hamlet, IN 46532

The Board of School Trustees of the Oregon-Davis School Corporation met in Regular Session on Monday evening, at 6:30 PM in the Humanities Room of the Jr/Sr High School.

1. Meeting Opening

1.01 Call to Order – Chris Lawrence

1.02 Pledge of Allegiance – Chris Lawrence

1.03 Roll Call – Chris Lawrence, Brandie Ecker, Kurt Hayes, Kyle Hinds, Annette Ferch attended over the phone

1.04 Public Comment - None

2. Consent Agenda

2.01 Approval of the Minutes – 6/15/20, 6/22/20

2.02 Approval of Financial Reports

Deduction Checks Posting Reports 6/5/20, 6/19/20

Vendor Claims - \$323,157.20

Payroll Claims - \$297,130.28

2.03 Approval of Travel and Facility Requests

Professional Leave

Field Trips

Fundraisers

Boys' Basketball – Selling ½ beef, ¼ beef, hog to pay for shoes, travel suits, etc.

Girls' Basketball – Golf Outing 8/22/20 at Hamlet Golf Course, program equipment

Girls' Volleyball – Raffle ¼ beef Aug/Sept, purchase equipment, etc

Jr. High/Elem Cheerleaders – Chicken Dinner 9/5/20, KL Fire Dept. purchase new uniforms

FFA – 9/22-10/22 date pending athletics, Pumpkin and Cider Night

Donations

Donation of beef for Boys Basketball Raffle – Anonymous

Donation of \$3000 from Northern Indiana Community Foundation – patrol car

2.04 Approval of Personnel Recommendations

Resignations

Amanda Egger, Varsity Track

Taylor Birk, Elementary Night Custodian

New Hires

Destiny Garbison, Jr/Sr High Night Custodian
Kim Saylor, part-time summer custodian
Kamrielle Saylor, part-time summer custodian
Julianna Noble, Volunteer Girls' Golf Assistant Coach
Dawn Lawrence, Asst. Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach
Kelsey Hayes, Head Coed Jr. High Soccer Coach
Seth Huitt, Volunteer Varsity Boys' Soccer Coach
Jason Cooper, Volunteer Asst. Girls' Soccer Coach
Tori Chesor, High School Cheer Coach
Megan Zook, Jr. High Cheer Coach

Mr. Bennett asked to remove the recommendation for elementary cheer coach. Motion was made by Mr. Hinds and seconded by Ms. Ecker. Motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Ecker made a motion to approve all fundraisers subject to change due to Covid-19 circumstances. Motion seconded by Mr. Hayes. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Lawrence then asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was made by Mr. Hinds, second was by Mr. Hayes. Motion passed 4-0.

3. Discussion/Action Items

3.01 Recommendation to Approve Reopening Plan

Mr. Bennett explained how this plan came about and listed individuals involved in crafting the plan. He then went over the highlights of the plan with a traditional return, a staggered schedule with possibly one day a week virtual and a full virtual environment. Regarding technology, they used what had been learned from the spring during elearning along with comments from parents and teachers to determine how they could improve a virtual environment. The student information system, Schoology will be used this year and will allow for more flexibility. They also discussed filter issues, authenticating devices at home, and lack of internet services at home. Hot spots will be purchased from NIESC to help with that situation along with teachers that did not have internet services at home. The over-all plan was developed using the state's IN-CLASS document guidelines. Mr. Bennett then went over details of the plan, emphasizing that things could change before the start of school. He also explained the processes for contact tracing, cleaning processes for the buildings and supplies that have been purchased to help in sanitizing and keeping students and staff safe. The Reopening Plan is available on the school website and will be updated as circumstances dictate. A self-screening checklist that parents will be asked to complete each day with their child will be distributed, staff will also be asked to follow the checklist. Mr. Bennett answered questions from the Board and the public after which Mr. Lawrence asked for a motion to approve the Reopening Plan. Motion was made by Mr. Hayes, second was by Mr. Hinds. Motion passed 4-1 with Ms. Ecker dissenting. She explained that the only reason she was opposed was because of the mask issue. She felt it needed to be mandatory in certain situations. This may not be an issue for long since Marshall County issued their mask mandate today and Starke County is looking at this also. Another question asked was about a virtual option. All Starke County schools are offering a virtual option.

3.02 Recommendation to Approve Budget Calendar

Motion was made by Ms. Ecker, second by Mr. Hayes. This is an annual action to help make sure all deadlines regarding the budget are met. Motion passed 5-0.

3.03 Recommendation to publish 2019-2020 Annual Financial Report

Motion made by Ms. Ecker, second by Mr. Hayes. This is another annual action. This report must be published in the Leader between August 1 and August 15. Motion passed 5-0.

3.04 Recommendation to Approve Elementary Dean of Students

Motion was made by Mr. Hayes, second by Mr. Hinds. The recommendation was to hire Ms. Heather Quinn as Dean of Students. She will perform many of the duties a principal would do while Mr. Bennett will remain as principal on paper. A committee of five interviewed four candidates and recommend Ms. Quinn for the position. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Other Business

5. Curriculum

6. Reports

6.01 Superintendent Reports – A reminder that registration will be on Wednesday, July 22 from 8 – 12 and Thursday, July 23 from 2 -6. Registration online for returning students is really encouraged. New students and those without internet access will be able to come in on the above dates. Some sad news was that Scill was going to use the facilities for graduation but that will now be going virtual. Also we were excited at the prospect of offering an EMT fire vocational class here at Oregon-Davis but because of a funding issue, Scill has backed out of that. Hopefully things can be resolved and the class could be held.

Mr. Bennett and the North Judson and Knox superintendents met today. They plan to get together again after the commissioners meeting tonight to have their plans reviewed again by the health department.

Further discussion took place regarding the fire and EMT class. Ms. Ecker made a motion and Mr. Hayes seconded the motion that the corporation draft a letter to send to the commissioners restoring funding for classes like this for Starke County students. Motion passed 4-0.

6.02 Principal's Reports – PD training meeting is taking place this week for Schoology trainers with PD with staff next week. The high school will have a half hour on Friday for clubs, class meetings, extra tutoring that will not take class time away.

7. Board Comments

Ms. Ecker asked about open house, maybe on the Soccer Field? Mr. Bennett will share more ideas later. It will probably not be the night before school starts. A Thursday night might be considered with an elearning day on Friday to completely sanitize the buildings afterwards.

Mr. Hayes wanted to let the staff and administration know how much the Board appreciates how hard they have been working on this plan and they appreciate how much work lies ahead for all of them.

8. Future Meetings

8.01 Board Meeting: August 17, 2020

9. Adjournment

Mr. Hinds made a motion to adjourn with Mr. Hayes seconding the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Brandie Ecker

Minutes recorded by Julie McLiver