DYSART UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #89

MINUTES: GOVERNING BOARD – REGULAR MEETING

2013-2014

December 4, 2013

Location:
Nathaniel Dysart Education Center

I. REGULAR MEETING - GENERAL FUNCTION

1. Ms. Traci Sawyer-Sinkbeil, Governing Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Governing Board members constituting a quorum were present; Ms. Traci Sawyer-Sinkbeil, Mr. Jerry Eynon, Ms. Jennifer Tanner, Mrs. Bonnie Schroader and Ms. Blossom Tande.

2. Ms. Sawyer-Sinkbeil led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. A motion by Sawyer-Sinkbeil/Schroader was entered to approve the Agenda Form, consistent with Board Policy and temporarily suspend any Governing Board Policy with which this agenda may be inconsistent.

4. Summary of Current Events

   • Presentations, Recognitions, Celebrations
     - The Sunset Hills/Western Peaks 6-8 Bands performed under the direction of Gary Branaman.
     - Mrs. Bonnie Schroader was presented with the ASBA Associate of Boardmanship Award given to those members who complete 60 CEUs of ASBA Core Curriculum.
     - Superintendent Update – Dr. Pletnick thanked Mrs. Schroader for her commitment to Board work and congratulated her on completing the 60 CEUs and receiving the ASBA award. Dr. Pletnick reported she will represent the District at the National Staff Development Conference in Dallas, TX next week and will co-present information on Providing Leadership for 21st Century Schools and Districts with a superintendent from Illinois. She was recently contacted by an education researcher working with the Office of Education Technology in the U.S. Department of Education who is leading a project to develop a research brief on how technology can be used to support personalized learning opportunities for students. A Summit will be held on this topic and she was invited to attend as a presenter. She had to decline due to other commitments but they are still interested in highlighting Dysart at the Summit by creating a two-page overview of our efforts and any lessons learned. I will be interviewed as well as a building-level leader and 2-3 teachers. The interviews will be completed between now and January 17th. This type of recognition speaks to the dedication of our staff to prepare students for college and careers in this new century.
   
   • Governing Board Update
     - Ms. Traci Sawyer-Sinkbeil congratulated the Valley Vista Unified Special Olympics football team for their recent win at the National Invitational Tournament. She reported attending the ASBA/AASBO webinar where historical data was presented on bond and override election results; what strategies were successful and not successful.
     - Jennifer Tanner reported she met with Ms. Sawyer-Sinkbeil and Dr. Pletnick to review and finalize a Rachel’s Challenge presentation intended to introduce the community to Rachel’s Challenge and generate involvement with the District. The information will be presented to the Board at a future meeting.
     - Jerry Eynon encouraged the students to continue their involvement in music and the arts. He said, “It was a real pleasure to listen to the young people tonight”.
     - Blossom Tande remarked she is thankful for the teachers and schools and for all they do to nurture student success academically, in the arts, in athletics and development of their leadership skills.
5. Audience with Individuals or Groups - NONE

ACTION/CONSENT

A motion by Fynon/Tanner was entered to approve the consent items as presented.  UNANIMOUS

ACTION/CONSENT

1. Recommendation to Approve a List of Hearing Officers for the Purpose of Student Discipline Hearings for the Remainder of the 2013 Calendar Year Approved as presented  UNANIMOUS

2. Recommendation to Approve Personnel Action Items for the Period of November 20, 2013 Through December 4, 2013 Approved  UNANIMOUS

3. Revision of the District School Calendar for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 School Years Approved as presented.  UNANIMOUS

4. Approval of the Minutes of the November 14, 2013 Arizona Education Foundation Luncheon and Awards Presentation and the November 20, 2013 Regular Governing Board Meeting Approved  UNANIMOUS

5. Hearing Officer’s Recommendation(s) for Long Term Suspension Accepted the Hearing Officer’s recommendation to long term suspend student(s) in the matter of Student Discipline Hearing(s) HOR1314-004, HOR1314-005, HOR1314-006, HOR1314-007, and HOR1314-008.  UNANIMOUS

6. Recommendation to Approve Overnight and Out-of-State Travel Approved as listed.  UNANIMOUS

7. Donations, Gifts and Grants Approved as presented.  UNANIMOUS

8. Approval/Ratification of Expense Vouchers 1022 and 1023 in the Amount of $3,606,867.17 Approved/Ratified  UNANIMOUS

9. Approval/Ratification of Payroll Vouchers 26, 7559, 27, 28, 7560, 29, 7561, 30 and 7562 in the Amount of $5,680,510.77 Approved/Ratified  UNANIMOUS

ACTION/DISCUSION

10. Revision of the Student Fee Schedule for 2013-2014 After discussion, a motion by Tanner/Eynon was entered to approve the revision to the Student Fee Schedule for 2013-2014 to include the high school and elementary fee for student travel.  UNANIMOUS
11. Recommendation for Approval of the Strategic Plan 2014-2017
After discussion, a motion by Schrader/Sawyer-Sinkbeil was entered to approve the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan as presented. Dr. Pletnick reported the District has been working on revision of the plan since March 2013 when the data gathering process began with a survey and has continued by tapping into the experience and expertise of our Dysart Community through the action teams who helped revise the goals and collect input from the community. The plan represents the voices of stakeholders across the district and is presented for adoption. Next steps include a plan roll out and then full implementation for the 2014-2015 school year.

UNANIMOUS

12. Boundary Advisory Committee Update
Dr. Kellis shared information regarding the process used to develop recommendations for boundary changes as well as information about committee meetings, Governing Board presentations, public hearings, and adoption of boundary changes. In addition, he shared the information presented to the advisory committee for their review and comment including plan options for boundary changes. The next step will be a Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 11, 2013. Dr. Kellis indicated Option B is recommended as the best option for the district as it has the least impact on currently enrolled students and is the best financial option. An item will be on the December 18th agenda recommending approval of boundary changes for the 2014-2015 school year. The Governing Board asked clarifying questions and received input from staff regarding the information presented.

13. Discussion Regarding Scheduling a Special Session to Discuss the Superintendent’s Mid-Year Progress Evaluation
Dr. Pletnick suggested the Mid-Year evaluation presentation and executive session could be held at the January 8, 2014 meeting of the Board. The presentation and executive session will be a part of the January 8th meeting.

Dr. Pletnick reported training this year will be held on Monday, December 9th facilitated by AEA representative, Renae Costa. IBA meetings will not be scheduled until February, 2014, when we have a better understanding of the direction the Governor and legislators are going with budget and funding. However, discussions about non-budget items will begin prior to February. Representatives for IBA are:

Cabinet/Facilitators:
Quinn Kellis, Cyndi Miller, Jim Dean, Teresa Heatherly, Patti Buck (either Teresa or Patti will serve as an alternate)

DEA representing 47% of the certified staff in the district:
Nikki Frye, Christina Garcia, Julie Halleck and Justine Palmer

DSAA representing 63% of the site administrators:
Therese Tipton, Karen Winterstein, Michael Hawkins, Steve Pierce, and Scott Kerr (one of them will serve an alternate)

DESP representing 3% (34 members) of the support staff:
Ginger Nesbitt and alternate, Rosemary Swierk
REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)
None

ADJOURNMENT
On a motion entered by Sawyer-Sinkbeil/Schroader and by a unanimous vote, the meeting ended at 7:58 p.m.

Signed

Date:

December 18, 2013