



BOARD SUMMARY

The following is a summary of the November 21, 2005 meeting of the Linn-Mar Board of Directors.

WORK SESSION

Ten Year Plan

Superintendent Katie Mulholland presented elements for discussion including a timeline of the District's ten year facility plan. Mulholland reviewed the projects the proposed bond referendum would support:

- Construction of two new elementary schools
 - the first on property the district owns off Highway 13 in Marion
 - the second on the Oak Ridge School property on Alburnett Road
- make repairs and upgrades to Novak Elementary
- renovate and add on to the High School to accommodate more students
- remodel Oak Ridge School into a middle school only

Business Administrator Dave Nicholson explained the sale of bonds to pay for the proposed projects. Nicholson reviewed a worksheet provided by Piper Jaffray & Co. indicating the levy rate for the next several years. The levy rate for fiscal year 2007, assuming 5% growth in taxable valuation, would be \$3.86052. In 2008 it would be \$3.86144

Muholland then expanded the conversation to include long term construction projects that need to be addressed with other funding sources including:

- purchase of additional land for future projects
- relocation of the baseball fields
- air conditioning at Excelsior
- an addition to Oak Ridge to allow for the same capacity as Excelsior
- an addition and air conditioning to Indian Creek
- the relocation of Armstrong Field
- air conditioning at Bowman Woods and Wilkins
- an addition and air conditioning to Westfield
- conversion of Novak to an ESC
- building for high school age students
- renovation of Wilkins
- new transportation and maintenance building

Board members discussed the district needs and their order of importance, including the purchase of property for future building sites.

Elementary School Visit Report

The Board was updated on recent visits to new elementary school construction in other communities. The school visit committee included Support Services Director Chris Gullion, Transportation Director Denny Schreckengast, Food Service Director Susan Knight, Business Administrator Dave Nicholson, Superintendent Katie Mulholland, Oak Ridge Elementary Principal Dan Ludwig and teachers Dixie Knudsen and Cec Parks. The team visited four elementary schools in Waterloo and a new elementary school in Ankeny last week.

Superintendent Katie Mulholland described features in each building design. School officials shared information regarding the architects, price, energy efficiency, etc. with the committee. Business Administrator Dave Nicholson elaborated on the security, common areas, storage and accessibility of each building.

The committee intends to visit a few more buildings in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City soon.

Legislative Advocacy – Board Priorities

The Board discussed their legislative priorities and those of the Iowa Association of School Boards. The Board commented that three of the priorities they sent in were adopted by the Association, including the one cent local option sales tax. It was agreed that the board members would continue to contact legislators as needed and to continue with the monthly meetings with legislators while the Legislature was in session.

REGULAR MEETING

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Foundation Report

Foundation President Tina Patterson gave an update on Foundation Projects. Currently the Foundation has a \$231,000 endowment, a \$9,000 Kiwanis scholarship fund, a \$50,000 regular scholarship fund and a \$42,000 investment scholarship fund.

Patterson reported the third annual Smart Money campaign letter will go out later this month and the committee is wrapping up strategic planning. On January 1, the committee will kick off it's targeted endowment campaign and a challenge scholarship fund in which staff will be asked to contribute to a scholarship fund for a senior intending to pursue a degree in education.

The Foundation's target endowment has been \$1 million but is considering raising the goal to \$5 million and the scholarship fund to \$100,000. Patterson invited the Board to attend the Foundation meeting the third Thursday in January.

IASB Convention Reports

Steve Colton briefed the board on the initiatives the Iowa Association of School Boards has adopted for 2006:

- Infrastructure equity
- Allowable growth
- Professional development
- Public preschool access
- Student and taxpayer funding formula

Erik Miles attended a breakout session on cost-benefit analysis and how to study an educational program and determine whether or not it pays for itself. He also attended sessions which highlighted attributes employees are looking for in the workforce and the role of the board in improving student achievement. Miles also summarized the presentation by Governor Vilsack and his effort to improve education in the state through long term planning, preschool programs, expanding technology, teacher pay and athletic eligibility.

Board President Jim Green attended a session that discussed bond issue opponents. He also attended a project budgeting session which delineated the difference between general obligation bonds and SILO bonds. Green also attended a session regarding early separation policies and commented that the District's policy covered every aspect needed.

Project Update

Support Services Director Chris Gullion reported that the High School roof repairs have been finished. She described how the new membrane was fastened to prevent moisture from entering the building.

Gullion described how sand would be stored over the winter. Currently a salt/sand mixture is purchased from the city of Marion. In the summer, the sand would be used up in playground areas. It is not available for loading until 7:00 a.m. District crews start sanding parking lots at 4:00 a.m. and this would enable the trucks to be filled when empty. During the summer the concrete pad would be used to store mulch and bark for grounds and play areas.

Gullion is working with high school administration and the architect to determine how the mechanical system upgrades will interface with remodeling.

Gullion is investigating the costs of installing a well by the new concession stand near Excelsior and hooking it into the existing sprinkling system so the district can maximize resources by watering two fields at a time.

PERSONNEL

Classified Staff

Assignment-Reassignment

Name	Assignment	Dept. Action
Johnston, Kathy	HS Food Service General Help	November 15, 2005
Noe, Jennifer	Ex Full-time 1-on-1 Ed. Assistant	November 28, 2005

Classified Staff

Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept. Action
Coté, Petra	OR 1-on-1 Ed. Assistant	November 18, 2005

Smith, Jill	OR 1-on-1 Ed. Assistant	November 18, 2005
Willis, Stephanie	Wf 1-on-1 Ed. Assistant	November 4, 2005

Co-Curricular Positions
Assignment-Reassignment

Name	Assignment	Effective Season
Cavanagh, Kristin	From Head 7 th Girls Track to Head 8 th Girls Track	Spring '06 Track Season
Hall, Greg	From Asst. 8 th Girls Track to Asst. 8 th Boys Track	Spring '06 Track Season

Board Calendar

November

November 21 4:30 p.m. Equity Advisory, ESC
November 21 5:00 p.m. Work Session
7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting
November 23-25 Thanksgiving Break
November 28 5:00 p.m. Budget/Audit Committee Meeting, ESC

December

December 2 7:45 a.m. Board Visit, High School
December 5 5:00 p.m. Work Session
7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting
December 8 5:00 p.m. Board Retreat – Administrators
December 12 5:00 p.m. Budget Committee, Budget/Audit Committee
December 19 5:00 p.m. Work Session
7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

Motions were made to:

- approve policies in the 400 Series for second reading