



BOARD SUMMARY

The following is a summary of the October 15, 2007 meeting of the Linn-Mar Board of Directors.

(Note: Additional details on the following proceedings are available at the office of the Linn-Mar Board Secretary, Educational Services Center, Marion, Iowa)

Work Session

Ten Year Plan Implementation Committee Facility Update

The Ten Year Plan Implementation Committee updated the Board on their progress. The committee has reviewed infrastructure needs at each building, athletic field sites, studies done by the DLR Group and Anderson-Bogert Engineering, the plan to extend 29th Avenue as well as considering future needs such as new buildings, re-purposing buildings, athletic facilities, traffic flow and parking. They plan to present their final recommendation to the Board on November 5.

Board Learning: Chapter I

The Board heard presentations on learning goals and student progress as related to their learning goal of understanding what they can do to support student achievement. Indian Creek Elementary Principal Tina Monroe and third grade teachers Colleen Fritz, Leigh Ann Cleland and Lori Brown gave the Board examples of the learning processes they use in their classrooms. Letting the students set their goals and choose the reward they would like are some ways the students have accountability and become vested in the results.

Future Buildings

Superintendent Katie Mulholland reviewed possibilities for future school buildings. The DLR report explained that the Ten Year Plan Implementation Committee would not be determining which grade levels another possible secondary building would serve but would suggest that the secondary building be designed with versatility for different configurations of grade levels and combinations of grades 6-12 including a ninth grade center.

The DLR Group report recommends that only Westfield, Linn Grove, Echo Hill and Oak Ridge be expanded and other new facilities should be built as needed. The report suggests new building designs include areas that can be remodeled into classrooms once maximum capacity is reached.

Meeting

Library Book Reconsideration Presentation

The Board heard a parent request to reconsider the placement of the book, 12 Again, by Sue Corbett. The parent feels the book is not age appropriate for the 5 to 11 year olds at the elementary library level.

2008-09 At-Risk/Student Assistance Allowable Growth Plan

Executive Director of Student Services Julie Jensen and At-Risk Coordinator Kevin McCauley gave a presentation on the proposed budget for the At Risk/Student Assistance Allowable Growth Plan for the 2008-09 school year. During the 2006-2007 school year, 1,035 students were served. This year the program is operating on a budget of \$534,913 intending to serve a population of 6,026. For the 2008-2009 school year, the program is requesting a budget of \$558,297 serving an estimated 6,110 students.

Student Assistance Team Projects

The Board heard a report on the Student Assistance Team projects including Olweus and Marion Cares. Mike Shipley, Excelsior Intervention Specialist, reviewed a Power Point presentation on the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program at Excelsior and Oak Ridge Middle Schools. Answers to a survey the students have taken have been very helpful in identifying and finding solutions to bullying.

Stacia Dautremont, Prevention Specialist, and Lisa Mooney, School Social Worker, reported on the Marion Cares Program. The program committee consists of local business leaders and clergy; the Azure Apartment Complex Manager; Linn-Mar staff, counselors and school social workers. The committee is working to address resources needed to accommodate the changing demographics of Marion students and families.

Construction Report

Associate Superintendent Rick Ironside and Owner's Representative Steve Emerson reported on the District's construction projects to date. Ironside explained the mandatory landscaping requirements required in the City of Marion.

Linn Grove Elementary

The retention pond area will be completed this year but due to wet weather conditions may have to be done when the ground freezes.

Echo Hill Elementary

Emerson reported that the geothermal well work at the Echo Hill Elementary construction site is completed. The roof is on and the concrete floors have been poured.

High School

Carpeting in the band room still needs to be installed.

Novak

Bathroom renovation work has now been completed.

Foundation Report

Linn-Mar Foundation Director Tina Patterson and Marsha Harris, Foundation Board member, updated the School Board on the Foundation's activities for the 2007-08 school year, including the Endowment Campaign. An online giving option on the Foundation's website will be available for interested donors.

Official Enrollment Count

Executive Director of Instructional Services Dirk Halupnik reported on the 2007 Certified Enrollment count. The District is waiting for a couple of districts that had not finished their count as of meeting time and an extension has been granted. Halupnik will present the Board with the final certified enrollment numbers at the next meeting.

Superintendent's Update

Early Separation Report

Superintendent Mulholland reported that fourteen certified staff members have turned in letters of interest regarding early separation. The Board has made available 13 packages for the Class of 2008. Letters of interest were due October 12. Those interested teachers who have submitted a letter to the superintendent's office are eligible to submit a letter of retirement to receive the early separation package. The Board will approve early separation requests at the January 14, 2008 Board meeting. If more than 13 teachers submit a retirement letter by January 11, 2008, eligibility will be determined by date of receipt of the letter and years of eligibility.

Switch Project

Superintendent Katie Mulholland and Board member Ann Stark reported on the Switch program, created by the National Institute on Media and the Family and sponsored by Cargill and the Healthy and Active America Foundation. The program was designed to monitor TV and video game time, physical activity, and eating habits. The eight-month study evaluated changes in fitness, food choices, and time in front of the TV. Cedar Rapids was one of only two school districts in the nation chosen for the program.

Joe McGillicuddy, a retired Cedar Rapids teacher, is the project facilitator. McGillicuddy will present the program to the Metro Superintendents in November.

Bids for Linn Grove Landscaping

The Board approved a bid for \$56,820.40 from Culver Lawn & Landscape Inc. for the required landscaping of Linn Grove Elementary.

2007-08 Junior Achievement Agreement

The Board approved an agreement with Junior Achievement at a rate of \$10.19 per student for JA programming at first, second and third grades.

Approval of Fund Raising Request

The Board approved the following fundraising requests.

Fund Raising Requests for Approval:			
Organization	Project	Amount	Date
HS Choral Dept.	Supernova	\$20,000.00	January 11-12, 2008

SBRC Spending Authority Approval

The Board approved the SBRC application for spending authority based on increased enrollment, open enrollment and special education deficit.

Approval for Innovative Calendar

The Board approved the practice of the innovative calendar which includes staff development days for teacher professional development and approved the application to the Iowa Department of Education for the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of 28-E Agreement for Crossing Guard

The Board approved a 28-E Agreement with the City of Cedar Rapids to establish and operate an adult crossing guard program at designated school crossings within the City of Cedar Rapids. The school in Cedar Rapids is Bowman Woods.

PERSONNEL

Certified Staff

Assignment – Reassignment

Name	Assignment	Dept. Action
Brown, Jaime	OR 1.0 FTE Title 1 Reading/Math Teacher	October 15, 2007
Loveseth, Amy	OR 1.0 FTE Title 1 Reading/Math Teacher	October 15, 2007

Classified Staff

Assignment – Reassignment

Name	Assignment	Dept. Action
Baker, Everett	From HS to OR 2 nd Shift Custodian	October 8, 2007
Crawford, Barbara	LG PT Ed. Assistant	October 15, 2007
Heims, Mary	LG-FS General Help	October 1, 2007
Rios, Brenda	LG 1-on-1 Ed. Assistant	October 8, 2007
Simons, Colleen	BW PT Ed. Assistant	October 8, 2007
Snell, Theresa	HS 2 nd Shift Custodian	October 17, 2007

Classified Staff

Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept. Action
DeMar, Susie	Wf 1-on-1 Ed. Assistant	October 5, 2007
Junion, Cheryl	LG Ed. Assistant	December 21, 2007

Co-Curricular

Resignation

Name	Assignment	Dept. Action
Goter, Renae	Asst. Girls Tennis Coach	October 11, 2007
Shiple, Michael	Asst. Varsity Baseball Coach	October 11, 2007
Wallace, Brianna	Asst. Girls Soccer Coach	October 11, 2007

Board Calendar

October			
October 15	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Work Session Regular Board Meeting	ESC Board Room
October 16	6-9:00 p.m.	IASB District Meeting	Prairie HS Study Hall
October 18	9:00 a.m.	ERMA Committee Meeting	ESC HR Conf. Room
October 18	4:00 p.m.	Equity Advisory	ESC Board Room
October 22	5:00 p.m.	Board Retreat: Certified Staff	ESC Board Room
October 22	7:30 p.m.	Construction Advisory Council	ESC Board Room
October 23	5:00-7:00 p.m.	Linn Grove Open House	Linn Grove Elementary

October 25	4:00-7:00 p.m.	SUCCESS Center Open House	SUCCESS Center
October 26	7:00 a.m.	Board visit	Wilkins
October 29	7:30 a.m.	Agenda Planning	Supt. Office
October 31	6:30-9:30 p.m.	ABLE I Orientation	LMHS Cafeteria
November			
November 2	9:00-4:30 p.m.	Board Leadership Conference	Gateway Center, Ames
November 5	4:00 p.m.	Budget/Audit Committee	ESC
November 5	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Work Session Regular Board Meeting	ESC Board Room
November 12	7:30 a.m.	Agenda Planning	ESC
November 12	5:00 p.m.	Policy Committee	ESC
November 14	8:30-3:45 p.m.	IASB Pre-Convention	Des Moines
November 14	1:00 p.m.	Delegate Assembly	Des Moines
Nov. 15-16		IASB Convention	Des Moines
November 19	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Work Session Regular Board Meeting	ESC Board Room
Nov. 21-23		Thanksgiving Break-No School	
November 29	5:00 p.m.	Board Retreat: Administration	ESC Board Room