

DUBUQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
January 11, 2021

President Ryan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Forum with the following members present in person: Bradley, Prochaska, Parks, Ryan, Sainci, Wittman. Present via Zoom: Donohue. Additional officers of the Board present: Kelleher, Lucas, Rheingans.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Moved (Wittman) and seconded (Sainci) to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Wittman) and seconded (Sainci) to approve the minutes of the annual meeting on December 14, 2020, as submitted. Motion carried 7-0.

Board Salutes

- Kudos to music ensembles from Jefferson, Washington, Roosevelt, Senior and Hempstead for performing in the *Telegraph Herald's* virtual Concerts for the Holidays
- Congratulations to Becky Stieber, school resource officer, on her retirement
- Sincere sympathy to the family of Thomas Howes, bus driver, who passed away December 14

Return to Learn Update

Superintendent Rheingans indicated that the legislative session started today. He has heard that state lawmakers may take action on this topic this week. Rheingans shared COVID data including county positivity rate, district cases, student absence, student academic progress, UEN comparison, and staff vaccination survey.

Interested persons were invited to speak.

Tammy Duehr, president of the Dubuque Education Association, shared that a survey of teachers found that 72% of respondents said they would feel comfortable returning after getting a vaccine, 18% said they'd feel comfortable before getting a vaccine and 10% marked 'other.' Duehr asked board members to continue with Hybrid until staff can be vaccinated.

Twenty-seven other persons addressed the Board (parents, teachers, staff). Nine advocated for students to return full time now (most of these were parents). All individuals want students back full time, although 18 indicated they should return when it is safe to do so, after staff have had the opportunity to receive the vaccine.

After discussion, the Board felt it would be premature to take action before hearing from the state. It would be unfortunate if lawmakers mandate a return plan rather than allowing local control. Conditions under which students can return to school full time might be more appropriately discussed rather than just setting a date.

Moved (Bradley) and seconded (Prochaska) to suspend the rules of order and go into open forum. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Bradley) and seconded (Prochaska) to reinstate the rules of order and return to regular session. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Sainci) to approve those items listed in the consent agenda. Bradley was auditor for the month. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Bradley) to approve the request to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for modified supplemental amount and supplemental aid for the 2021-2022 Dropout Prevention Program in the amount of \$4,844,232, of which \$3,633,174 is the maximum modified supplement amount and \$1,211,058 is the local match for expenditures necessary to implement the 2021-2022 at-risk and dropout prevention program plans. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Wittman) to approve final acceptance of the Alta Vista Campus Vocational Technology Building Addition Project and authorize payment of final project costs to Conlon Construction Co. in the amount of \$72,480.48 in accordance with the requirements of Iowa law and as more fully outlined in the submitted authorizing resolution. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Wittman) to tentatively approve the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of total cost for the Senior Additions and Renovations Project-Phase 2 and set the date, time, and location as March 8, 2021, at 5:30 p.m., at the Dubuque Community School District, 2300 Chaney Road, Dubuque, Iowa, for a hearing thereon and further authorize the advertisement for competitive bids. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Wittman) to tentatively approve the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of total cost for the Central Kitchen Oven Replacement Project and set the date, time, and location as February 1, 2021, at 4:30 p.m., at the Dubuque Community School District, 2300 Chaney Road, Dubuque, Iowa, for a hearing thereon and further authorize the advertisement for competitive bids. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Bradley) to tentatively approve the plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of total cost for the Kennedy Playground Improvements Project and set the date, time, and location as February 8, 2021, at 5:30 p.m., at the Dubuque Community School District, 2300 Chaney Road, Dubuque, Iowa, for a hearing thereon and further authorize the advertisement for competitive bids. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Bradley) to approve a 50% refund for first semester transportation pay rides. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Parks) and seconded (Wittman) to approve the Quarterly Budget Report. Kelleher presented the Quarterly Budget Report. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Sainci) and seconded (Parks) to approve the extension of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act Employer Paid Leave through March 31, 2021. Motion carried 7-0.

Moved (Prochaska) and seconded (Parks) to approve the Proclamation honoring Martin Luther King Jr. and authorize the President and Secretary to sign on behalf of the Board. Motion carried 7-0. President Ryan read the proclamation.

Moved (Wittman) and seconded (Bradley) to take no further disciplinary action related to students #810421 and #822379 at this time. Motion carried 7-0.

President Ryan declared the meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Joni Lucas, Secretary
Board of Education