

**Minutes of the Board of Education
Waterloo Schools
County of Black Hawk, State of Iowa
April 13, 2020**

The Board of Education of the Waterloo Schools, County of Black Hawk, State of Iowa, was called to meet in regular session at 5:00pm on Monday, April 13, 2020. The meeting was held electronically in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 21.8 and in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Present: Board Members: Endya Johnson, Jesse Knight, Sue Flynn, Stacie Mills, Astor Williams, Lyle Schmitt and Shanlee McNally
Superintendent, Dr. Jane Lindaman
Associate Superintendent for Educational Services, Dr. Stephanie Mohorne
Chief Officer of Human Resources/Equity, Kingsley Botchway II
Chief Financial Officer/Board Treasurer, Michael Coughlin
Assistant to the Superintendent/Board Secretary, Pam Arndorfer

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. McNally at 5:04pm.

Ms. McNally stated that Exhibit F (*Adoption of District Curricular Program for K-5 Literacy*) will be removed from the agenda for further review.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Mission Statement

The Waterloo Schools Mission Statement was read by Mr. Knight.

V. Public Hearing for the 2020-21 Budget Certification

The Public Hearing for the 2020-21 Budget Certification was declared open by Ms. McNally at 5:06pm. No public comments were brought forth. Pam Arndorfer, Board Secretary, stated that no requests to speak or public comments were shared prior to the meeting. It was moved by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Flynn to close the Public Hearing for the 2020-21 Budget Certification. Motion carried 6-0 on a roll call vote. Public Hearing closed at 5:08pm.

Mr. Schmitt joined the meeting at 5:10pm.

VI. Information from Individuals and Delegations

Dr. Jane Lindaman, Superintendent, shared that she had received a comment from a Cedar Falls resident asking how the District is working to support the social/emotional wellbeing of all our students. Dr. Lindaman will communicate the District's process and procedures to the individual.

VII. Consent Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Flynn and seconded by Mr. Knight that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as revised. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote. The following items were approved:

- Minutes of the March 23, 2020 Regular Board Meeting and the April 6, 2020 Special Board Meeting
- Bills Due & Payable and Bills Paid Between Board Meetings
- Revised Board Resolution – Pandemic Response and Emergency Suspension of Policy

Resolution – Pandemic Response and Emergency Suspension of Policy

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Ch. 279.8 authorizes local school boards to govern their respective districts, including adopting policies for their own governance; and

WHEREAS the Board may, by formal, action suspend or rescind board policy as deemed necessary, appropriate or in the best interests of the District; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national state of emergency and on March 15, 2020 Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds recommended closure of all public and private K-12 schools in Iowa until April 13, 2020 to contain the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds declared a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency under the authority granted through Iowa Constitution, Art. IV, §§ 1, 8 and Iowa Code §§ 29C.6(1), 135.140(6), and 135.144 and directed implementation of the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's Iowa Emergency Response Plan in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, most hourly non-exempt employees will be unable to report to work due to the District's closure and certified contract employees may be asked to work at remote locations to help provide continuity in educational services; and

WHEREAS, it fulfills a public purpose to continue to pay District hourly non-exempt employees during this closure to prevent or contain the spread of COVID-19, to promote morale and to help retain current employees following the closure; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 the Iowa Legislature passed and the Governor signed SF 2408 granting waiver of the instructional time requirements in Iowa Code Ch. 279.10 for all public school districts closing before April 12, 2020 in order to prevent or contain the spread of COVID-19; and granting Governor Reynolds the ability to waive instructional time requirements for any public school district which closes on or after April 12, 2020 to prevent or contain the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020 Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds recommended extended closure of all public and private K-12 school in Iowa until April 30, 2020 to contain the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Iowa Department of Education, which has the authority to establish and interpret graduation requirements, and to oversee other crucial aspects of public education is providing written guidance to Iowa school districts on issues related to COVID - 19, including but not limited to student attendance, distance/online learning, high school credit, meal distribution, and other issues; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Waterloo School Board hereby suspends provisions of its board policies and/or whole policies, as identified by the District Superintendent or designee, **if such suspension is necessary to implement written guidance from state or federal agencies relating to containing COVID-19** for the duration identified in the Governor's State of Public Health Emergency declaration of March 17, 2020, or as otherwise determined by the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Superintendent will consult with and report to the Board regarding the emergency closure and efforts to implement written guidance from health and government agencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Superintendent is authorized to close any school facility without further action by the Board of Directors. Such closure shall continue during the emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic until such time as the Superintendent, in consultation with appropriate health and government authorities, deems it in the best interests of the District and its students to open schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Superintendent is authorized, based upon the needs of the District and guidance from health and government agencies, to direct staff assignments during District closures, including but not limited to essential employees who must report to work, employees who may be reassigned, and employees whose services are not needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that access to public school grounds and public school buildings of the District may be limited as directed by the Superintendent during District closures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified, exempt employees will remain employed during the school closure and until the number of days expressed on the contract have been fulfilled, unless otherwise approved by the Board. Days that contracted employees do not report for duty onsite or from a remote location, due to closure, do not constitute a fulfilled contract day except to the extent those days are forgiven by the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District is committed to providing their employees with their regular compensation during the time period that Governor Reynolds has recommended that schools be closed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. It is recommended that all non-certified staff continue to receive their regular straight time pay and benefits according to their employee calendar during the time period of March 23-April 30, 2020. It is further recommended that the Superintendent be authorized to extend this continuation of compensation pursuant to any future extension of school closures as recommended by Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the interest of public health and/or to comply with federal or state health department recommendations or guidance, the Board encourages the public to listen to its open public meetings via video conference, live streaming on facebook and/or the internet and the Board may also limit public comment to written comments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board reserves the right to adjust board meeting dates, times, and locations during the district-wide emergency closure in a manner consistent with the Open Meetings law, and notes that any or all board members may attend board meetings electronically as permitted by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that execution of this Resolution is conclusive evidence of the Board's approval of this action and of the authority granted herein. The Board warrants that it has, and at the time of this action had, full power and lawful authority to adopt this instrument. This resolution will remain in full force and effect until it is rescinded or amended by subsequent action of the Board.

Adopted and approved this 13th day of April, 2020.

By: Shanlee McNally, Board President

Attest: Pamela Arndorfer, Board Secretary

Exhibit C: Personnel Appointments and Adjustments

It was moved by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Mills that the Board of Education approve the personnel items as listed. Kingsley Botchway II, Chief Officer of Human Resources/Equity; Dr. Stephanie Mohorne, Associate Superintendent for Educational Services; and Dr. Jane Lindaman, Superintendent, provided information. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

VIII. Adoption of District Curricular Program for K-5 Literacy

This item was removed from the agenda for further review.

IX. Technology Purchase

It was moved by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Flynn that the Board of Education approve the purchase of 87 activPanels from CDWG at a cost of \$287,100.00 and three years of GoGuardian software at a cost of \$43,633.33 per year. Matt O'Brien, Executive Director of Technology, provided information. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

X. Budget Guarantee 2020-2021

It was moved by Ms. Flynn and seconded by Mr. Knight that the Board of Directors of the Waterloo Community School District, will levy property tax for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa. Michael Coughlin, Chief Financial Officer, provided information. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

XI. 2020-21 Budget Certification and Adoption

It was moved by Ms. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Flynn that the Board of Education certify and adopt the 2020-21 Budget with maximum expenditures of \$201,140,000 and property tax levy rate of \$14.20694 as presented. Michael Coughlin, Chief Financial Officer, provided information. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

XII. Durham School Services Contract Addendum Discussion

This item was presented as Information Only. Kingsley Botchway II, Chief Officer of Human Resources and Equity, and Michael Coughlin, Chief Financial Officer, provided information.

XIII. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Lindaman shared information about the District's Voluntary Continuous Learning plan – an email will be going out to parents and families later this week with full details

- The expectation is that students do participate
- These days will count toward instruction and will not need to be made up
- PK-1st grade students will be learning via paper/pencil packets (via meal distribution sites) as they have not been set up with Google accounts
- Grades 2-12 will take part in online learning along with paper/pencil option
- Lessons will be posted on a daily schedule:
 - Monday = Literacy
 - Tuesday = Math
 - Wednesday = Social Studies
 - Thursday = Science
 - Friday = World Languages
- Four "Big Rocks" – we will be focusing on:
 - Essential standards
 - Accountability / tracking
 - Feedback – connecting/communicating with students
 - Meeting needs of students in special populations (i.e. IEP, ELL, ELP)

XIV. Information from Board Members

Each board member was given the opportunity to comment.

XV. Adjourn

It was moved by Ms. Flynn and seconded by Mr. Knight that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela G. Arndorfer, Board Secretary

Date Approved by the Board of Education

THE SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION IS:

“the Board of Education approve the minutes of the April 13, 2020, Regular Board meeting.”