

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE UNITY POINT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, March 18, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Unity Point Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the president, Morteza Daneshdoost, with the following members present: Rick Asaturian, Morteza Daneshdoost, Andy Morgan, Suzanne Sanders, Gene Turk and Tom Upton. Others present were Lori James-Gross, Bill Laser, Jason Devin, Kerry Glenn, Chris Midden, Christy Cross, Debbie Gurley, Wendell Pohlman, and Jill Davis.

Gene Turk made the motion, seconded by Tom Upton to approve the Agenda with payment of wages for Act of God days following "Amendment of School Calendar for 2013-2014"; and with Resolution on Class Size to be considered with "Class Size Policy Discussion." Motion carried 6-0 with all voting yea.

Sandy Charlson arrived at 6:03 p.m.

Suzanne Sanders made the motion, seconded by Gene Turk to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2014 regular meeting, copy attached. Motion carried 6-0-1 with votes as follows: Asaturian – yea, Charlson – yea, Daneshdoost – yea, Sanders – yea, Upton – yea, Turk – yea, Morgan – abstain.

Morteza Daneshdoost recognized guests and visitors that were present. Jason Devin inquired about the Pledge of Allegiance Policy and the approach to daily unified recital by all classes. He suggested methods to help facilitate a unified approach to the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance including a student led approach.

Lori James-Gross suggested once a quarter the entire student population can recite the Pledge during the PBIS assembly.

Andy Morgan made the motion, seconded by Sandy Charlson to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

A list of community flyers recently approved by the administration was presented. Lori James-Gross read a letter received from Kathleen Ensor and Tony Williams expressing appreciation for their child's five years at Unity Point with a donation of \$250 to Booster Club. Lori also mentioned 32 of the 91 top 10 grade point averages for each class at CCHS are Unity Point students.

Rick Asaturian was unable to attend the IASB Spring Dinner meeting on February 25, 2014.

Discussion was held regarding the development of policy concerning class size. Lori James-Gross referred to UPEA contract language and policies of area local schools. The Board proposed adopting a Resolution concerning class size. Morteza Daneshdoost suggested Tom Upton develop proposed class size language with Lori James-Gross for discussion at the April 2014 meeting.

Lori James-Gross indicated the ISBE School Energy Efficiency and Maintenance Grant Awards were granted in the amount of \$270,000 and \$80,718 respectively.

Andy Morgan made the motion, seconded by Sandy Charlson to amend the 2013-2014 School Calendar which includes the use of 5 snow days and 6 Act of God days as approved by ISBE, per attached. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Gene Turk made the motion, seconded by Tom Upton to table approval of the 2014-2015 proposed School Calendar until the regular April 2014 meeting. Motion failed 2-5 with votes as follows: Asaturian-nea, Charlson-nea, Daneshdoost-nea, Morgan-nea, Sanders-nea, Turk-yea, Upton-yea.

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Andy Morgan made the motion, seconded by Sandy Charlson to approve the proposed 2014-2015 School Calendar with August 15, 2014 the first day for students, per attached. Motion carried 5-2 with votes as follows: Asaturian – yea, Charlson – yea, Daneshdoost – yea, Morgan – yea, Sanders – yea, Turk – nea, Upton - nea.

Lori James-Gross presented current enrollment figures, per attached. She also presented a 2014-2015 student registration update. Debbie Gurley indicated there were no student suspensions to report.

Gene Turk asked if non-certified staff were paid for Act of God days and snow days this school year. Per Lori James-Gross, General State Aid is not reduced which allows for payment of wages on these days. It was recommended he call the Regional Superintendent of Schools for clarification.

A motion was made by Andy Morgan, seconded by Rick Asaturian to adjourn the Board for an Executive Session to consider information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an employee or officer at 7:17 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Gene Turk made the motion, seconded by Rick Asaturian to resume regular session at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Andy Morgan made the motion, seconded by Rick Asaturian to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2014 Executive Session meeting, copy attached. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Sandy Charlson made the motion, seconded by Suzanne Sanders to accept the recommendation of the Administration to re-employ Brynn Freed, Amy Kolodziej, and Brett Pinnon as 4th year non-tenured certified staff; to re-employ C. J. Buss as 3rd year non-tenured certified staff; to re-employ Kelli Greenlee as 2nd year non-tenured certified staff; and to re-employ Stephanie Reece and Brenda Jones as part-time certified staff for the 2014-2015 school year. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

The Board complimented Lori James-Gross for her exceptional efforts at Unity Point.

Andy Morgan made a motion, seconded by Rick Asaturian to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 with all voting yea.

Morteza Daneshdoost, President

Andy Morgan, Secretary