March 9, 2015

The Winterset Community School District Board of Education met in regular session, Monday, March 9, 2015, in the Boardroom at 5:00 p.m. The following members were present: Jeff Nicholl, Brenda Clifton, Karen Brookhart, Kelly Cain and James Baur. Also present were Superintendent Meade, Board Secretary Leners, staff, guests and a member of the press.

President Nicholl called the meeting to order. All in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance. Director Cain read the mission statement and belief statement #4.

Motion by Brookhart, second by Baur to approve the agenda. Motion carried with all Directors voting in favor.

Visitor Comments: Dave Bragga asked the last time the school buildings were inspected for Radon. Superintendent Meade will follow up and provide him that information.

President Nicholl called for discussion and approval of the following consent agenda items:

1. Minutes of the 2/9/15 regular session
2. Approval of bills totaling $377,489.61
3. Personnel Items –
    a. approve contract Jessica Neumann 2nd grade teacher
    b. approve contract Mikael Rein 1st grade teacher
    c. approve contract Brielle Good 4th grade teacher
    d. approve contract Megan Dinkla 5th grade teacher
    e. approve contract Rebecca Stoeker HS Social Studies teacher
    f. approve contract Bart Black JH football coach
    g. approve contract Jen Devine co-head HS volleyball coach
    h. approve contract BJ Eldridge co-head HS volleyball coach
    i. accept resignation Carl Christenberry bus driver
    j. accept resignation Tracy Wilson Elementary head secretary
    k. accept resignation Cindy Bortell Middle School head secretary
    l. accept resignation Bill Bortell bus driver
    m. accept resignation Gayle Jacobs Middle School custodian
    n. accept resignation David Alfstad HS PLTW teacher
    o. accept resignation Maci Silliman HS softball
    p. accept resignation Ashleigh Wright color guard instructor
4. Open Enrollment: 8 incoming and 4 outgoing applications
5. Contracts and Agreements –
    a. James and Irma Harpole Scholarship revisions
    b. Special Education – Interstate 35
    c. Continuum Energy
    d. Madison Co Career Academy – Interstate 35
6. February Financials

Motion by Clifton, second by Cain, to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried with all Directors voting in favor.

Building Report: First grade teachers presented on the new English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum and how they have benefited from their professional learning communities (PLC)time.

Building Principal Reports:
Gary Anker – Elementary update – Mr. Anker provided more information on the elementary ELA "Journey's" curriculum.
Wendy Sawyer – Middle School focus on "Skills Iowa" assessment data.

Kate Wharton – Junior High update on "paragraph shrink" professional development and "Skills Iowa" data.
Lee Schipull - High School update on student activities, ITED incentives and the "Silver Chord" program.

Old Business – none

A public hearing was held on the 2015/2016 certified budget. It is the Districts intention to implement a combined tax rate of $17.49 – a decrease of $1 from the current rate of $18.49 This will be the fifth consecutive rate reduction. There were no objections voiced from attendees.
The Board will be asked to adopt a final budget at the April board meeting after the legislature sets the percentage of growth.

Motion by Baur, second by Clifton to adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Board of Directors of Winterset Community School District, will levy property tax for fiscal year 2015-2016 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa.
Resolution adopted with all Directors voting in favor.

Motion by Clifton second by Brookhart to adopt a resolution authorizing the redemption of general obligation school and refunding bonds, series 2008, dated July 1, 2008 and general obligation school bonds, series 2009, dated November 1, 2009 approving the escrow and amended and substituted paying agent, bond registrar and transfer agent agreement, and levying a tax for fiscal year 2015-16 for the redemption of general obligation school and refunding bonds, series 2008, dated July 1, 2008 and general obligation school bonds, series 2009, dated November 1, 2009.
Resolution adopted with all Directors voting in favor.

Motion by Baur, second by Brookhart to approve the 2015-2016 Master agreement as presented by the Winterset Community Education Association and Dr Meade. The new contract includes language changes and a total package increase of 3.33%. Motion carried with all Directors voting in favor.

Motion by Clifton, second by Cain to approve the second reading of the following policy revisions:
*905.1 “Community Use of Facilities” - policy amended to delete reference of the ICN room.
*905.1R4 “ICN Room Use” – This policy to be deleted.
*905.1E1 “Schedule of Fees” - policy amended to delete ICN room rental from listing of fees. Motion carried with all Directors voting in favor.

Motion by Brookhart, second by Cain to approve the alternative calendar for 2015-2016 as presented by Dr. Meade, to be implemented only if necessary to comply with State law. Motion carried with all Directors voting in favor.

Superintendent Meade presented the competitive quotes received for replacement of the High School gym floor. Operations Director, Randy Jeffs recommended the contract be awarded to lowest bidder Anderson Ladd from Waukee. Motion by Clifton, second by Baur to award the contract to Anderson Ladd in the amount of $78,518. Motion carried with all Directors voting in favor.

Motion by Cain, second by Brookhart to adopt the national Silver Cord program for all students beginning with the 2015-2016 school year. This program will instill within students the importance of community service. Students successfully completing 160 hours will be recognized with a silver cord to be worn at graduation. Motion carried with all Directors voting in favor.

Motion by Cifton, second by Cain to adopt the 2015-2016 fees as presented by Dr. Meade. The only increased fees will be instrument rental, summer band lesson rates, late pick up charges for PAWS (after school program) and a $.05 increase to all meal prices. Motion carried with all Directors voting in favor.

Board Member Reports – none

Superintendent Meade is working on a handout regarding the Districts greatly improved financial position and budget update. It is important to share the good news with the community.

Next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2015 at 5:00 pm.

At 6:50 p.m., Director Clifton left the meeting.

At 6:50 p.m., motion by Brookhart, second by Buar to move into closed session pursuant to Iowa code 21.5(l)i to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose performance is being considered to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual’s reputation, as that individual has requested a closed session (Superintendent Evaluation). Motion carried with all Directors present voting in favor.

Motion by Brookhart, second by Baur to returned to open session at 7:07 p.m. with Directors Nicholl, Brookhart, Cain and Baur present.

Motion by Baur, second by Cain to renew the contract of Superintendent, Dr. Susie Meade for the 2015-2016 school year and the two subsequent years. The 2015-2016 contract includes a 2.5% salary increase. Motion carried with all Directors present voting in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m..

The Board held an exempt strategy session pursuant to 20.17(3)regarding bargaining unit negotiations following the regular session.

Jeff Nicholl, President

Cammy Leners, Secretary