

HUSTISFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2021

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by President John Bohonek at 6:01 pm.

II. Roll call of members

Board members signed the attendance roster at the start of the meeting. Members present: John Bohonek, Tracy Malterer, Steve Weinheimer, Lisa Bosse, and Dave Strynick. Kevin Muche was present via phone.

III. Verification of public notice: Heather Cramer, superintendent of schools, verified that the meeting was noticed to the public appropriately as required by S. 19.84 (1), (2), (3), & (4) Wis. Stats.

IV. Public Forum

There were 4 members of the public present during the board meeting. The members shared their thoughts related to the possibility of a future referendum in the district. The public commented on the newsletter and indicated that it was a positive step for the district in regards to communication. Maintenance concerns throughout the HS building were identified by members of the public. There were also concerns indicated on the outside of the elementary school. Social media presence was indicated as a positive as well. The community group also discussed the ideas of raising funds for projects within the district. The concept of what is best for our kids and remaining competitive with other districts was raised. The community members indicated that there are companies and places willing to donate funds to the schools but that there is nowhere to donate to and there is nobody reaching out to ask for the money. The idea of a purchase of an electronic sign was brought up as a possible item to raise funds for. Individuals talked about branding our district. Those present from the public indicated that things outside and visible need to be done to the buildings, not just the inside. People need to see results of money spent. The individuals from the public indicated that they are willing to help with fundraising efforts. They also are considering working on a committee to help with fundraising efforts.

V. Approval of Regular Agenda

A motion was made by Steve Weinheimer and seconded by Lisa Bosse to approve the Consent Agenda.

Passed 6-0 Roll Call Vote

VI. Board Development

A. Board Discussion/Workshop on Status of Buildings and future building projects.

The board discussed the current status of the buildings and the future of the district in relation to the buildings. Mr. Bohonek was disappointed that there were not more individuals from the public present to represent what the community wants. Mr. Bohonek update on what was complete with HVAC. He also discussed the roof proposals that were sought at the HS. Mr. Strynick discussed the need to really work together and to sell a plan moving forward. He indicated that this has been a challenge in the past and that it needs to be a solid plan. He also stated the need to get more involved. Mrs. Bosse indicated that there is a need to increase communication on the buildings and planning. Ms. Malterer indicated that there are many strategies that can be employed to help engage all stakeholders including families, alumni, community partners and others. She also indicated the importance of communication and branding. She identified from the previous community survey that the top three areas that were indicated for need of improvement were the building "guts", security, and the area of science and technology education. The board discussed that community members indicate that they do not want their taxes to go up. The last survey indicated that the community would support about 7 million dollars for a referendum. Ms. Malterer indicated that as a district we lose if we do not invest in the schools. Mr. Bohonek indicated that the district has been very fiscally responsible and has not incurred significant debt, however this is not as beneficial as one would think. Cuts have been made in the district in the past couple of years and currently the staff is at a minimum. Mr. Muche indicated the importance of getting the community excited about a project. He indicated that he was not opposed to fundraising efforts. He indicated that the community needs to get excited about community improvements as well as potential school improvements. Mr. Bohonek indicated the need for new doors, window, HVAC, and a roof. He indicated that this could be in the 4-million-dollar range. He asked the question of how as a district can we be most fiscally responsible. Several board members showed interest in a committee to discuss fundraising options. Ms. Malterer indicated the need for a "yes" type committee in the future. The board discussed items that have been done recently. Some of these items are a new roof at JHE, new doors at JHE, new bleachers and refinished gym floor, parking lot work, a new stove at the HS, door locks and upgraded camera system, flooring at JHE, and new doors and work at the HS along with HVAC work in both buildings. The board will continue with discussions related to a potential referendum. It will be on the board development agenda into the future.

VII. Interview /Discussion with Candidate Interested in Village School Board Position

The board met with Brian Thimm and did an interview with him.

VIII. Board Discussion in regards to Open Board Position

The board discussed Mr. Thimm as a potential candidate and agreed that he would be a fit for the board. Dave Stryck made a motion to approve Brian Thimm as the appointee for the village board vacancy. Steve Weinheimer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 Roll Call Vote.

VII. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Steve Weinheimer and seconded by Tracy Malterer to adjourn at 7:58 pm.

Approved by Voice Vote

Heather J. Cramer, Superintendent of Schools – Recorder

Tracy Malterer - School Board Clerk