

# Fowler Public Schools

## Board of Education

### MINUTES

#### **Regular Meeting, Monday, February 13, 2023 at 7:00 pm | Fowler High School Media Center**

Meeting called to order by Vice President Lori Miller at 7:00 pm.

**The Pledge of Allegiance.** Recited

**Roll Call taken:** Lori Miller, Jason Smith, Kristin Phillips, Bill Sillman, Brett Thelen, Matt Epkey present. Ryan O'Rourke absent.

Assistant Superintendent Neil Hufnagel, Principal Paul Minns, Athletic Director Kris Ernst, Business Manager Teresa Pline, Secretary Kim Nixon and Elizabeth Koenigsknecht were also present. Superintendent/HS Principal Mark Horak was absent.

**Presentation:** A verbal presentation was given by FHS Student Council members Quinn Watts and Carly Andros with Student Success coach Kari Engel presiding. They reported that they have had a successful year and have been implementing some new events and fundraising strategies.

Scott Koenigsknecht gave a verbal introduction as the new CCRESA superintendent and gave a thorough history of his qualifications and what he will be overseeing in his new position starting in July.

**Superintendent's/High School Principal** report by Mark Horak. Absent.

**Elementary/Middle School Principal** report by Paul Minns. Board member Jason Smith clarified with Paul Minns that two students transferred out of Waldron.

**Athletic Director's** report by Kris Ernst. Gave a verbal report that student Quinn Watts won the MHSAA Scholar-Athlete award, which is the MHSAA's most prestigious scholarship/award. He will be attending the AD meeting tomorrow, 2/15/23 where they will discuss 11-man football and vote on it for the conference.

**Public Act 48, Section 98b and District Achievement Goals** report by Becky Rotary. Gave a verbal report explaining the district benchmark goals for K-8 and FHS proficiency goals. We will revisit this again at the end of the school year.

**Board Member Comments and Observations:** No comments.

**Board committee reports:** None.

**Public Participation:** Eight guests. No comments.

#### **Old Business for Discussion:**

- A. Bond Project Update – Neil Hufnagel reported. State inspections were completed today. There is a short list of issues to be addressed. We are still on track to hold the varsity basketball games there on Friday, February 17th, and the open house on Saturday.
- B. Fitness Center and Facility Use Fee Structure – Neil Hufnagel presented a fee structure that consisted of a single use, group facility use, and monthly memberships that would cater to the needs of the school, community, and also provide some out of district opportunities

Public participant Ken Wieber asked to make a comment. Permission to comment granted by Vice President Lori Miller. He voiced his concerns on whether the fees were enough to maintain the facility, and also expressed a concern on the effect the new facility could have on neighboring fitness businesses.

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion by Kristin Phillips approving consent agenda items Regular Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2023; Special Meeting Minutes, January 17, 2023; Board Retreat Meeting Minutes January 30, 2023; and Approval of General Fund Monthly bills to be paid and funds transferred. Supported by Jason Smith. Motion carried 6-0.

**New Business for Action:**

Motion by Brett Thelen approving the overnight trip for DECA State Conference. Supported by Kristin Phillips. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Kirstin Phillips approving the hire of Elizabeth Koenigsknecht, Secretary to the Superintendent. Supported by Matt Epkey. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Bill Sillman approving the Adoption of Bond Resolution Series III. Supported by Jason Smith. Motion carried 6-0.

Teresa Pline reported on the 2022-2023 Budget Amendments. Explained that this process is approving the difference of what was proposed prior to the start of the fiscal year and what is actual. Motion by Brett Thelen to approve the 2022-2023 Budget Amendments. Supported by Jason Smith. Motion carried 6-0.

Neil Hufnagel explained the changes that were involved in Phase III of the Construction Project. Motion by Kristin Phillips approving the Bulletin 001 Changes for Phase III of The Construction Project. Supported by Jason Smith. Motion carried 6-0.

Kris Ernst, Kristin Phillips, Jason Smith, Brett Thelen, and Bill Sillman gave comments on the proposed facility use fee structure. Motion by Kristin Phillips to approve the proposed Fitness Center and Facility Use Fee Structure as presented. Supported by Jason Smith. Motion carried 6-0.

**New Business for Discussion:**

- A. Retirement of Keith Kleimola – Neil expressed his gratitude towards Keith Kleimola’s service and commitment to our community.
- B. Bus Driver Appreciation Week the week of February 20, 2023 – Kim Nixon explained how the district celebrated last year and how we plan to celebrate this year.
- C. Business Plan Membership For The New Athletic Facility – No comments.

Motion by Brett Thelen to adjourn meeting. Supported by Matt Epkey. Motion carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Smith/ek  
Secretary