

MAQUOKETA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING, PUBLIC FORUM & BUDGET WORKSHOP  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2011

The Maquoketa Community School Board of Education held their regular meeting and budget workshop on Monday, February 28, 2011 at Central Office. President Schwenker called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. Directors, Hurdlik, Hawks, Pape, Tabor & Schwenker were present. Supt. Huckstadt, Board Secretary McKeon, and Administrators Vervaecke, Wilkins, C Snell, H Snell, J Bollman, and P Bollman were present. Dustin Cogan, Susan Risinger, Craig Burken, Karen Vickers, Ron Serpliss, Kathy Quinlan and Mike Wing were present. Sherri Melvold of KMAQ, Kelly Gerlach of Maquoketa Sentinel Press and Luann Cahill of Maquoketa Access Cable represented the press.

MOTION #104-10/11: Motion/Tabor, seconded/Pape to approve the following consent agenda items:

Agenda- Approved as presented.

Minutes – Approved the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 14, 2011 as presented.

Resignations – Approved the resignation of W. Dan Pinion as the High School Art Instructor effective at the end of the 2010-11 contract year. Members thanked Mr. Pinion for his years of service to the District. Five ayes, motion carried.

Pres. Schwenker opened the floor to receive comments regarding proposed staff recommendations for FY12. No comments were made.

Ron Serpliss, Karen Vickers and Craig Burken shared information on a possible joint project between the Maquoketa Community School District and Eastern Iowa Community College. The college is making an application for an Accelerated Career Entry (ACE) grant. The State grant would be utilized to build an 80' by 30' expansion onto the existing welding shop and to remodel existing areas to bring them up to current compliance standards. The facility update would allow the welding program to be expanded to include training in robotic welding, plasma cutting, and the utilization of a CNC lathe. The building would become property of the Maquoketa Community School District. The financial implications for the school district may be a portion of the furnishings (estimated at \$28,000) shared with EICC as well as the increased overhead costs such as insurance, utilities and maintenance. If the grant is awarded, it is anticipated the construction would be completed the summer of 2012, with programs offered during the 2012/13 school year.

Supt. Huckstadt reviewed all matters related to the budget for fiscal year 2011-12. Included was: Certified enrollment decreased by 45.4 students; allowable growth is still unknown and expected to be set at 0 to 2%. No matter where allowable growth is set, Maquoketa Schools will be in a second year of budget guarantee. The higher the allowable growth, the less burden on property taxes; Federal and State sources used to support several teaching positions will need to be monitored; budget authority will likely decrease in FY12 and again in FY13; review was made of three scenarios the Technology Committee is considering for the next phase of technology plans for the District; and utility and fuel costs continue to rise.

Board took a short recess at 6:35 p.m. and reconvened at 6:42 p.m.

Supt. Huckstadt continued his review with the following: The current, estimated and proposed financial position of the General Fund was provided; due to loss of students and funding, the district will reduce expenditures by not filling vacated positions of early retirees/resignations where possible; FY12 levy rates at 0%, 1% and 2% Allowable Growth was provided. The rates were with \$250,000 budget in the Management Fund, \$350,000 cash reserve levy in the General Fund and the maximum in the Physical Plant and Equipment Fund; a summary of taxes with cash reserves ranging from \$250,000 to \$450,000 was provided. Levies range from \$14.78296 up to \$15.44946 per thousand dollars valuation. The current total tax is \$14.03184 per thousand dollars of valuation.

The proposed timeline for the budget is: During the regular meeting on March 14, 2011, establish the hearing date and direct the secretary to publish a notice; and on April 11, 2011 conduct the hearing and adopt the budget. The budget will need to be certified to the County Auditor by Friday, April 15, 2011.

MOTION #105-10/11: Motion/Tabor, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Pape to approve the French Club trip to France in June 2012. Five ayes, motion carried.

MOTION #106-10/11: Motion/Hawks, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Hudrlik to approve the following staffing recommendations for the 2011-12 school year: Fill Middle School special education vacancy by reassignment of current staff; fill Third Grade classroom vacancy by reassignment of current staff; fill .5 FTE of H.S. Social Studies vacancy by reassignment of existing staff; rehire 1.0 FTE Chemistry / Physics Instructor; rehire HS Art position at a reduced FTE / Seek opportunities to share time; and combine Transportation Director and Head of Maintenance Positions. Five ayes, motion carried.

MOTION #107-10/11: Motion/Hawks, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Tabor to authorize the Superintendent to monitor funding sources and take necessary action to meet time lines and dead lines to provide contract termination notices in accordance with the Master Contract and Iowa Code. Five ayes, motion carried.

Pres. Schwenker announced the Board would go into exempt session following the meeting for the purpose to discuss negotiations strategy.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be on March 14, 2011 at Briggs Elementary School.

Pres. Schewenker adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

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Bill Schwenker, Board President

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Barbara A. McKeon, Board Secretary