

FEBRUARY 19, 2024

The regular meeting of the Thedford Public Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Licking at 7:00 p.m. at Thedford High School. Members present: Bridget Licking, Jay Jones, Alison Werner, Dixie Hoffman, Spencer Burk and Matt Blackford. Also present: Superintendent Dahlberg, recording secretary Angie Pettit, FCCLA and SkillsUSA members and visitors.

Hoffman moved, Burk seconded to approve the agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

Blackford moved, Burk seconded to approve the minutes of the January 15th regular meeting. Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

Jones moved, Blackford seconded to approve general expenditures totaling \$248,661.25 and motion passed 6-0.

Jones moved, Burk seconded to pay hot lunch expenditures of \$14,232.05 and motion carried 6-0.

There were no community reports.

SkillsUSA students Jordyn DeNaeyer, Laney Dahlberg and Brooklynn DeNaeyer made a presentation to the board about the SkillsUSA chapter and the state projects they and others are competing in.

FCCLA students Lola Rowse, Brooklynn DeNaeyer, Abigail Peden, Chandler Pettit and Dominic Rowse informed the board about FCCLA activities that have been taking place. This included updating the board on National FCCLA conference last summer, District STAR competition last month (all THS competitors qualified for state in April), and other activities.

Superintendent Dahlberg gave an administrative report. He reported on the legislative session and upcoming bills, the football schedules for the next two years, an update on the state wrestling tournament, the girls basketball team in the District game, and the boys basketball team participating in sub-districts, CTE funding, Career Day on March 13th, a mental health grant, an update on NSCAS, and a science position update.

There were no board reports.

There was no public comment.

Discussion was held on the 2024-2025 budget. Expenditures are increasing faster than we are able to produce revenue. We will be losing ESSR (COVID) funding this year and may also lose \$60,000 in state funding. Overall, we will lose between \$350,000-\$400,000 in revenue. Legislature is trying to put a 3% hard cap on our tax request growth. We may only be able to make up \$60,000-\$200,000 in lost revenue depending on the legislature. Options for budget cuts were discussed, including a Reduction in Force of the teaching staff.

Superintendent Dahlberg presented resignation letters from Cindy Masten, high school secretary and Mark Reimers, 7-12 Science teacher. Hoffman moved, Werner seconded to approve the resignations of Cindy Masten and Mark Reimers as presented and motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

Superintendent Dahlberg presented an ELA curriculum for board approval. Discussion followed. Werner moved, Jones seconded to approve the order of Wonders English-Language Arts Curriculum six year subscription for \$47,567.89 using ESSR III funds. Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

President Licking adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, March 18th, 2024 at Thedford High School at 7:00 p.m.

The board will have a special board meeting on Tuesday, March 5th at 5:00 p.m. in the High School Library to discuss the 2024-2025 budget concerns and potential Reduction in Force.