

Drexel R-IV Board of Education
November 22, 2022
Board Meeting – Media Summary

1. Board approved the consent agenda which included the minutes of the October 17th regular meeting, the warrant report, payment of bills, treasurer's report and the petty cash report. There were no updates to the ESSER III or SRCSP Plans this month. The board also approved candidate filing dates. The board candidate filing period for the April 4th, 2023 General Election is from 8 AM on December 6th, 2022 to 5 PM on December 27th, 2022. The terms of members Jennifer Thomas, Leah Martin and Andy Gorsage are set to expire. Board also approved the Cass County Kids First Legislative Priorities. The board also heard administrative reports (attached).
2. Under Old Business:
 - The board reviewed draft language of a School Resource Officer Agreement with the Cass County Sheriff's Department.
3. Under New Business:
 - The board heard a review of the recently completed 2021-2022 audit. The district received a clean audit report.
 - The board renewed the district's property and liability insurance with M.U.S.I.C. for 2023. The renewal rate is \$51,859, compared to last year's renewal of \$50,053.
 - The board approved a softball cooperative agreement with Miami for the spring 2023 season.
 - The board selected Paige Gordon to be the district's nomination for the MSBA Belcher Scholarship.
 - The board had a first reading of MSBA 2022B Policy, Procedure and Form Updates.
 - The board reviewed a rough draft of the proposed 2023-2024 school year calendar.
 - The board approved a proposal from Heartland Seating to repair the bleachers in the William D. Gordon Gymnasium.
4. The board held an executive session, taking the following action:
 - Approved adding Nicole King to the substitute teacher list.
 - Approved Robyn Seba to serve as a long-term substitute.
 - Approved the resignation of Doug Chisam as head baseball coach.
 - Approved the resignation of Melissa Busch as football cheer sponsor.
 - Approved the resignation of Jenny Wheeler as varsity assistant volleyball coach.
 - Approved hiring Dylan Good as head baseball coach.
 - Approved hiring Tim Eastwood as a volunteer assistant baseball coach.

Submitted by,

Terry Mayfield,
Superintendent

Superintendent Report
November 2022

- ❖ The Veteran's Day Assembly was back to in-person again this year and we had a really good turnout and the ceremony was very well organized and all who were involved did a tremendous job honoring our veterans.
- ❖ The Senior Citizen's Thanksgiving Dinner was back in person this year and held at the Drexel Community Building – thank you to everyone who made this event possible this year.
- ❖ Athletics Updates:
 - The varsity girls volleyball team recently concluded an historic season:
 - 29-6 overall record, undefeated conference champions, district and sectional champions and state quarterfinalist.
 - The varsity football team recently concluded its' season as well:
 - 10-2 overall record and finished second in 8-Man District 1.
 - Drexel hosted a basketball jamboree on November 16th for the high school teams.
 - Drexel will be hosting the 2nd Annual William D. Gordon Holiday Basketball Classic December 27th, 29th & 30th, 2022. The tournament is looking for businesses to sponsor the tournament to provide tournament shirts for every player on each team.
- ❖ Operations Updates:
 - Transportation
 - Transportation Update – meeting with First Student Regional Director – some basic points from the conversation:
 - Switch from Apple Bus to First Student takes place in January.
 - Will be able to better monitor applicants in the First Student system and make the application process easier.
 - First Student can operate their own testing – cuts down on wait time to take tests.
 - Working to hire an actual transportation manager to serve Drexel.
 - Keeping the Cleveland, MO office open and staffed to serve the districts in this area.
 - Committed to continue providing service to district's in this area.
 - Will continue to honor the current agreements that are in place through the end of the agreement – did indicate that there will be a significant increase in pricing the next time the contract is up for bid/renewal.
 - Food Service
 - Food Service served an average of 143 breakfasts per day and 168 lunches per day during the month of October. We continue to experiencing some supply chain issues with some of our food and product deliveries.
 - Facilities
 - Over the next few weeks, I will be meeting with the custodial and maintenance staff to develop a work schedule and projects list to be completed over the Christmas break.

- Technology
 - I recently met with our IT provider (Midwest Computech) to complete a walkthrough and to evaluate the current condition of our infrastructure and develop a plan for possible upgrades. I would suspect we will need to make some updates and some additions. The last time we made any significant upgrades was at least 8-9 years ago and since then we have gone 1:1 and is maxing out our wireless access points for our Wi-Fi connections. These IT updates would be funded using E-Rate grant money that is available to the district.
- Health Services
 - The health office had a total of 668 office visits made by students for the month of October. Of those office visits, 30 students were sent home. In addition to the office visits, Nurse Darrah is still in the process of conducting vision and hearing screenings on our preschool students. K-3 grade has been completed along with most of our students who are in our special education program. Referrals have been made of which most of the referrals have been completed by parents.
 - The Cass County Dental team was here on 10-28-22. They serve our entire school population with the exception of preschool. Dental screenings and fluoride were provided to those students with parental consent. This program is wonderful in assisting students who have Medicaid or are underinsured as it can be very difficult to find dental care for that population of students. January 17-19, 2023, the Cass County Dental team will come to our school to provide actual dental services to those who have signed up. This will include x-rays, cleanings, sealants and virtual exams by a dentist. These services are being provided to those who do not have private dental insurance and are enrolled in Medicaid or are enrolled in free/reduced lunch.

❖ Grant Updates

- E-Rate
 - We have available \$54,108 in E-Rate grant funds to use over the next three years. These funds can be used to improve our technology equipment and infrastructure for items such as; increasing bandwidth, switches, servers, racks, routers, battery backups, wireless access points, cabling and firewall licensing.
- Emergency Connectivity Fund
 - We are also in the process of applying for \$86,100 in Emergency Connectivity Funds grant money for the purchase of additional chromebooks.
- GEER II Grant Funding
 - The pandemic significantly limited the ability of many parent to earn wages and therefore to support their students as they earned credentials for their own careers. Because developing a competitive workforce for high-demand jobs is a critical priority, Missouri implemented the Parent

Reimbursement Grant to offset parents' costs of credentials earned by students through career and technical education (CTE) and associated CTE instructional costs. I wanted to make you aware that we have a little over \$1,800 made available to us to reimburse parents/students who have had to purchase things as a part of their vocational program. I have talked to the students/parents who attend Cass Career Center and let them know about this opportunity. So you may see some reimbursements to parents coming through over the next few months that will qualify.

- Casey's General Store Grant
 - The district is finishing up a grant application to fund several potential projects for the district, including:
 - Funding for equipment, materials and supplies to equip a functional/life skills special education classroom.
 - Funding for equipment, materials and supplies to equip a video production classroom.
 - Funding for equipment, materials and supplies to enhance elementary, junior high and high school science labs and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) opportunities.

Thanksgiving has long been a time in which we have gathered to enjoy family, close friends, and good food. I am sure you look forward to this time to also enjoy family traditions, travel, or just to relax. This time of year is also dedicated to reflection and being thankful for what we have, what we have overcome, and what we have to look forward to. I would like to wish each of you and your families a happy, healthy and relaxing Thanksgiving holiday. May you and your families be blessed on Thanksgiving and throughout the rest of the year.

Respectfully,

Terry Mayfield
Superintendent