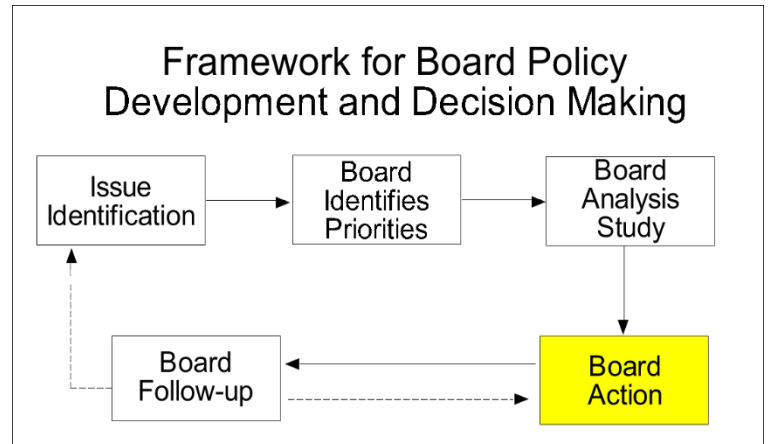


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

March 29, 2018



Agenda Item: Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School Charter Renewal

State Board Priorities: Eliminating Early Literacy Achievement Gaps

Implementing Iowa's Academic Standards

Creating a Safe and Rich Learning Environment

State Board Role/Authority: Iowa Code chapter 256F gives the State Board the authority to grant or deny charter school applications.

Presenter(s): Janet Boyd, Consultant
Bureau of School Improvement

Attachment(s): One

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School Charter be granted a renewal of their charter through the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Background: The Storm Lake Community School District received approval in 2005 for Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School. The charter was renewed in 2010 and the goals were revised in 2010 from the original charter.

Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School Charter School Renewal Application Narrative

Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School has served the students and families of Storm Lake well over the past twelve years. Many of our past charter school students live in the community, and the additional educational opportunities they have received has allowed them to be employed in highly skilled and high demand jobs including jobs in nursing, industrial maintenance, carpentry, business, auto maintenance, accounting and criminal justice.

The mission of the original Charter School was to make higher education more accessible, affordable and attractive to all students, especially for those students who do not see a college degree in their future due to language and/or economic barriers, thereby helping increase Storm Lake High School's overall graduation and college completion rates for all its students, particularly for a portion of its most disadvantaged youth. Many of these opportunities would have not been available for our students if the Iowa State Board of Education had not approved the Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School charter. It is our hope that the State Board will provide these same opportunities for future Storm Lake students by renewing our charter for four more years. Presented below, please find our renewal application responses.

Demographic Data: The data provided below is broken down by, grade level, subgroup, and gender for the last 4 years.

Table 1: Student Demographics- Grade 12

	2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017		2017-2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Low SES	13	39	29	50	34	51	21	45	44	75
ELL	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**37	63
IEP	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian	*	*	*	*	11	16	*	*	*	*
African-American	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	18	55	46	79	35	54	32	70	19	32
Non-Caucasian	27	81	49	84	51	76	37	80	52	88
Caucasian	*	*	*	*	16	24	*	*	*	*
Males	21	64	25	43	34	51	24	52	30	51
Females	11	33	33	57	33	49	22	48	29	49
Total Enrolled	33		58		67		46		59	

Note: An asterisk (*) indicates that there are fewer than ten students in that particular cell. No data will be publicly reported for those cells, to protect student privacy pursuant to state and federal law.

Note: Asterisks (**) indicate before this year, ELL categories were calculated based upon ESL services students were receiving. 2017-2018 data reflects students who have received ESL services.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT & GOALS

Goal 1: Increase the number of first-generation, Low SES, ELL and Non-Caucasian students attaining advanced postsecondary degrees/certificates or college credits.

Rationale: The program is seeing more students enroll and obtain college credit for the first time or building upon college credit taken in High School with the goal of transferring on to a four-year university. First generation and Low SES students are still showing high representation in enrollment with the Non-Caucasian subgroup making up nearly 80% of students attaining college credit. Due to differing total annual enrollments, percentages of students in each category will fluctuate. The subgroups of this category are broken down below. First Generation is defined as students who have had no other family member attend college. Due to the charter school being in existence for 12 years, the number of siblings enrolled in the charter has increased resulting in fewer first generation students.

Table 2

	2014-2015 # of students attaining degrees or certification	2014- 2015 # of students attaining college credit	2014 - 2015 Total	2015-2016 # of students attaining degrees or certification	2015- 2016 # of students attaining college credit	2015- 2016 Total	2016-2017 # of students attaining degrees or certification	2016- 2017 # of students attaining college credit	2016- 2017 Total
First Gen.	*	32	39	*	26	26	*	16	21
Low SES	*	23	29	*	34	34	*	13	21
ELL	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
IEP	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asian	*	*	*	*	11	11	*	*	*
African American	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	*	40	46	*	36	36	*	28	32
Total Non-Cau.	*	42	49	*	52	52	*	36	37
Caucasian	*	*	*	*	15	15	*	*	*
Males	*	21	25	*	34	34	*	23	24
Females	*	29	33	*	33	33	*	18	22

Note: An asterisk (*) indicates that there are fewer than ten students in that particular cell. No data will be publicly reported for those cells, to protect student privacy pursuant to state and federal law.

Goal 2: Provide a more rigorous/relevant college/prep curriculum.

Rationale: The number of concurrent enrollment courses remained the same for the 2016-2017 year. As shown in Table 3, Storm Lake High School offers 78 possible FlexNet, PSEO or Early Bird courses that students may enroll. FlexNet courses are taken online and completed at the student’s pace. This allows each student to take advantage of dual credit courses and college prerequisites while in High School. Table 3 shows the number of college course offerings for the last five years along with the number of credits junior and seniors earned. Qualifying sophomores have also been included.

Table 3: Number of college credit course offerings at SLHS

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Number of Course Offerings	39	58	78	78	78
	Credits Earned	Credits Earned	Credits Earned	Credits Earned	Credits Earned
Sophomores	NA	NA	NA	NA	11
Juniors	205	181	225	185	252
Seniors	456	358	543	333	324

Goal 3: Raise ITED/Iowa Assessment scores in Reading, Math, and Science

Rationale: As shown in Table 4, during 2016-2017 school year, the percentage of students proficient in Reading, Math, and Science increased from the previous year. The increase was consistent across most sub groups with the exception of a slight decrease in Math proficiency among Asian and ELL students. In addition, the Asian, Hispanic, ELL and Low SES sub groups all showed gains in Reading proficiency with the biggest improvements coming from the Asian, ELL, and Low SES subgroups. The decrease seen in ELL Math and Science scores is a concern as the high school experiences an increase in the number of ELL students. To address this concern, the school district has hired an outside consultant to provide professional development and support to implement strategies that positively impact the learning of ELL students.

Table 4

Iowa Assessment 11th Grade Percent Proficient- School Wide Data					
	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Reading	62	66	71	64	72
Math	61	70	78	77	76
Science	67	67	69	65	71
Iowa Assessment 11th Grade Percent Proficient - Sub Group Data					
READING					
Hispanic	63	65	63	62	67
Asian	27	43	50	41	71
Caucasian	83	88	90	88	91
ELL	17	12	8	13	25
Low SES	52	59	64	57	64
MATH					
Hispanic	62	63	73	72	73
Asian	42	71	56	77	74
Caucasian	77	88	95	94	96
ELL	29	39	28	39	32
Low SES	55	63	73	69	73
SCIENCE					
Hispanic	69	61	61	63	69
Asian	39	50	50	65	68
Caucasian	80	88	95	85	87
ELL	26	30	16	35	24
Low SES	62	60	61	60	66

Goal 4: Increase the number of dual-credit/concurrent enrollment credit earned.

Rationale: Table 5 shows a decrease in the number of concurrent enrollment credits earned during high school because of the Iowa Department of Education’s offer and teach requirement and the reduction in the number of teachers qualified to teach concurrent courses. The number of college credits earned after high school, in the charter program fluctuates due to the number students who choose to participate in the charter each year. Although there is a decrease in overall credits earned, high school students continue to earn 6-9 concurrent credits on average per school year. Charter students continue to earn 20-25 credits on average per school year. The number of credits will increase as more students participate in the program. Table 6 shows the breakdown of these credits obtained by the various subgroups.

Table 5

Number of College Credits Earned after Four Years of High School				
2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2107
887	846.5	1016	1708	922
Number of College Credits Earned during Four Years of High School				
631	372	505	617	308

Table 6

Subgroups of Credits Earned	In Traditional High School 2014-2015	Outside of Traditional High School	Total 2014-2015	In Traditional High School 2015-2016	Outside of Traditional High School	Total 2015-2016	In Traditional High School 2016-2017	Outside of Traditional High School	Total 2016-2017
First Generation	280	636	916	233	651	884	120	347	467
Low SES	195	437	632	281	861.5	1142.5	126	361	487
ELL	14	40	54	11	129	140	0	144	144
Caucasian	144	235	379	196	388	584	79	168	247
Non Caucasian	481	957	1438	421	1320	1741	229	754	983
Female	234	534	768	222	788	1010	114	324	438
Male	271	482	753	395	920	1315	194	598	792

Goal 5: All students will have individual learning plans.

Rationale: All students entering the Charter program have an individual learning plan mapped out with the Charter Counselor and other Iowa Central Community College officials. The Charter Counselor holds monthly Charter meetings, informational meetings during parent-teacher conferences, and one-on-one appointments as needed throughout the year to adjust or revise these plans. Students meet with their advisors ahead of the charter school year, given a proper college orientation, and meet with Academic Assistance and Accommodations Specialists to inform students of their resources on campus. Growth in students completing and obtaining college credits is a result of consistency in the program along with student and community outreach. Table 7 shows the number of Charter students who completed their program of study as well as the number of students who obtained college credit and continued on to a two or four year college or university.

Table 7

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Program Completers *	2	6	4	7	2
Continuing Credits**	53	21	45	38	35
<p>* These students completed their program of study and earned their degree. **These students will remain enrolled in college but beginning in 2016 will no longer be considered part of the Charter.</p>					

Dropout rate

7-12 Dropout Rate	
2011-2012	2.80%
2012-2013	2.19%
2013-2014	2.35%
2014-2015	2.23%
2015-2016	2.60%

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College Charter High School is very successful. It continues to serve some of the most underrepresented students going to college. The charter program is providing a way for more students to pursue their bachelor’s degree in more fields. Student achievement is measured by those who continue their education by finishing their second year Associates degree or transfer to a university. This year, two students completed their diploma programs (one in Industrial Maintenance and one in Welding Technology) and work in Storm Lake.

Additionally, eighteen of the 2015-2016 charter students were able to finish with their AA, AAS, or diploma degrees after their second year and are currently enrolled at Iowa Central finishing their program, enrolled in 4-year universities or have found employment. Of these eighteen students, seven joined the workforce, two transferred to the University of Iowa, three transferred to Iowa State University, and two transferred to Buena Vista University. Two students are pursuing their Nursing degrees at Iowa Central, one student transferred to DMACC to pursue a degree in Mortuary Science and one student remained at Iowa Central to pursue an additional degree in Robotics to better educate and market themselves to the workforce. The student enrolled in Robotics is also the first of their three siblings to enroll in the charter school. The second sibling was in the charter program last year and the third sibling is currently enrolled in the charter. This highlights the success of these individual students but more importantly, the value and opportunity the charter school provides to families in the community.

Over the last four years, the Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College Charter High School has seen 69% of students return to continue their education after their charter school year. Students not returning have found gainful employment, many in our

own community. This makes informing those who live and work here a priority. This is the fifth year that Iowa Central Admissions counselors will attend parent-teacher conferences to explain academic programs, transferring credits, and campus living, etc. in more depth. This will be the fourth year the charter program will visit Juntos, an Iowa State Extension community group that serves to educate Latino youth succeed in school and pursue higher education. This will also be the fourth year Iowa Central Representatives and the Charter Coordinator hold financial aid and scholarship workshops along with year-end events to congratulate each charter student on their achievements and collegiate plans. These collaborative efforts between Iowa Central Community College, Buena Vista University, and the Storm Lake Community School District has helped our success, complete our mission, and reach our goals each year.

During the 2012-2013 renewal, the recorded credit count since the program started was 10,452 credits earned. Over the last four years, the number has increased to 16,973 credits earned with 174 students graduating and 201 students earning Associate's degrees. This is a tremendous highlight and reflects the hard work of these students and the success of the program. Such results point to a higher skilled workforce and are positively impacting our local economies.

ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

Is the school an effective, viable organization with effective leadership?

The Storm Lake/Iowa Central /Buena Vista Early College High School has been an effective and viable organization because of the solid leadership that has been provided by our Charter Director, High School Administration and Storm Lake School District. Since 2006, a full-time Director has been employed by the school district to monitor and assist the students who are involved in the Charter School. The charter director role has been filled by Brittany Hill since the 2013-2014 renewal year. There has also been consistent leadership within the High School administration as the principal has served in that capacity for the past 7 years and Superintendent, 6 years. In addition to working with students, the Charter Director communicates with parents, instructors at Iowa Central Community College and Buena Vista University, and the administration at all organizations. The Charter Director receives additional support for students from the guidance departments at the high school, Iowa Central Community College and Buena Vista University.

What role has the Advisory Council played in the school?

The Advisory Council receives progress reports annually on the Charter School's goals and offers input on ways to improve the programs offered to students. The Advisory Council is also instrumental in developing the components of the renewal applications. In addition to the Advisory Council, the Storm Lake Community School District Board of Education takes an active role in monitoring the progress of the charter students. Data is presented annually to school board members.

Are parents, students, teachers, and other stakeholders satisfied? How is information and input gathered from parents, students, teachers, and other stakeholders (e.g., local businesses)?

The Charter Director gathers input from parents, students, teachers, and other stakeholders through both group and individual meetings/surveys. The director makes bi-monthly trips to the Fort Dodge campus to check with advisors, instructors and students. Charter participants, both past and present, appreciate the opportunity to continue their education after high school. Parents are thankful for the tuition and textbook savings. Local business leaders appreciate the training and skills that charter students bring to their organizations.

Many of our past Charter School students live in the community, and the additional educational opportunities they have received has allowed them to be employed in highly skilled and high demand jobs including jobs in nursing, industrial maintenance, carpentry, business, auto maintenance, accounting and criminal justice.

FUTURE PLANS / GOALS

Describe the successes and challenges the charter school has experienced since its inception. What impact have these had on the charter school and its future?

With 72% of Storm Lake students qualifying for free and reduced lunch and 84% of students being Non-Caucasian, the Storm Lake/Iowa Central /Buena Vista Early College High School success has been the number of students who have had the opportunity to continue their education past high school. These post-secondary opportunities have resulted in many students securing skilled jobs in nursing, mechanical support, and building trades, which in turn has motivated more high school students to participate in the charter school program.

The number one challenge the charter school has experienced since its inception is the same challenge that many colleges face; keeping students focused and enrolled until they complete a program or degree. The charter program has continually been refined and improved to provide charter students with additional support to increase success. Despite challenges, the Storm Lake/Iowa Central /Buena Vista Early College High School has resulted in more students earning college credit and participating in a more rigorous curriculum than if the charter school was not in place.

Despite all these challenges, the Storm Lake/Iowa Central /Buena Vista Early College High School is an important part of the educational opportunities that are offered to the students of the Storm Lake Community School District and it is our hope that we will continue to serve them for an additional four years.

Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College Charter High School Goals	Department of Education Evaluation Based on Data Submitted	Meets/Does not meet/Inconclusive
GOAL 1: Increase the number of first generation, low income, English Language Learner and students of color attaining advanced postsecondary degrees and diplomas or two years of college credit	The charter has seen fluctuation in the number of first generation, low income English Language Learner and students of color attaining degrees and credits. Over the past three years the number has decreased.	Does not meet
GOAL 2: Provide a more rigorous and relevant college/career preparation curriculum.	The number of college credit courses offered at the high school has increased over time.	Meets
GOAL 3: Raise individual ITED scores in the areas of reading, mathematics, and science that will impact overall class performance.	The high school has seen an increase in 11 th grade percent proficient in Reading, Mathematics and Science on the Iowa Assessments. All subgroups have seen an increase in percent proficient in Reading and Mathematics.	Meets
GOAL 4: Increase the number of dual credit offerings and PSEO opportunities for all students, specifically monitor increased participation and performance of subgroups.	Overall the number of college credits earned after four years of high school has increased over five years, but there is a drop between 15-16 and 16 -17 school year. Additionally, the number of college credits earned during the four years of high school has dropped.	Inconclusive
GOAL 5: All students will have an individual learning plan that is overseen by Storm Lake High School and the Charter Administration.	All charter school students have individual learning plans.	Meets

256F.1 3. The Purpose of a charter school or an innovation zone school established pursuant to this chapter shall be to accomplish the following:	Department of Education Evaluation Based on Data Submitted	Meets/Does not meet/ Inconclusive
a. Improve student learning §256F.1(3)"a"	Based on Iowa Assessment scores the charter would meet this criterion.	Meets
b. Increase learning opportunities for students §256F.1(3)"b"	Access to an additional year of community college courses increases learning opportunities with out the burden of paying tuition.	Meets
c. Encourage the use of different and innovative methods of teaching §256F.1(3)"c"	It is unclear if the charter is utilizing different and innovative methods. No data exists to verify this criterion.	Inconclusive
d. Require the measurement of learning outcomes and create different and innovative forms of measuring outcomes §256F.1(3)"d"	Measuring college credits is a different form of measuring outcomes in comparison to other non-charter high schools.	Meets
e. Establish new forms of accountability for schools §256F.1(3)"e"	The required data collection and reporting of progress toward the unique goals of the charter to the state board represents a unique form of accountability.	Meets
f. Create new professional opportunities for teachers and other educators, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site §256F.1(3)"f"	No evidence or data is provided to measure this criterion.	Does not meet

g. Create different organizational structures for continuous learner progress. §256F.1(3)"g"	The charter provides an additional year for students to achieve college and career goals.	Meets
h. Allow greater flexibility to meet the education needs of a diverse and constantly changing student population. §256F.1(3)"h"	The charters structure promotes an environment that allows nontraditional college bound students especially English Language Learners to gain college credits.	Meets
i. Allow for the allocation of resources in innovative ways through implementation of specialized school budgets for the benefit of the schools served. §256F.1(3)"i"	Per pupil funding is used for an additional year for students who delay graduation to continue to take college courses.	Meets

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College Charter High School be approved through the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Although the charter does not meet all of its goals, students appear to be better off with the charter than without the charter. The Department believes the charter is providing an opportunity for underserved students to achieve a higher level of college and career readiness.

The charter school shall engage in continuous improvement with the Department to monitor goals and to align itself to newly emerging data systems at the Department. The charter shall continue to evaluate how they will meet the nine purposes of a charter school which are spelled out in Iowa Code 256F.1: Authorization and purpose. 3. The purpose of a charter school or an innovation zone school established pursuant to this chapter shall be to accomplish the following:

- a. Improve student learning.
- b. Increase learning opportunities for students.
- c. Encourage the use of different and innovative methods of teaching.
- d. Require the measurement of learning outcomes and create different and innovative forms of measuring outcomes.
- e. Establish new forms of accountability for schools.

- f. Create new professional opportunities for teachers and other educators, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site.
- g. Create different organizational structures for continuous learner progress.
- h. Allow greater flexibility to meet the education needs of a diverse and constantly changing student population.
- i. Allow for the allocation of resources in innovative ways through implementation of specialized school budgets for the benefit of the schools served.

IOWA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM Renewal Application Cover Sheet

Name of Charter School	Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School Charter School
Public School District	Storm Lake Community School District
Name and Contact Information of Superintendent	Dr. Carl Turner 419 Lake Ave. Storm Lake, IA 50588 cturner@slcsd.org 712-732-8060
Name and Contact Information for Charter School Manager	Brittany Hill 621 Tornado Dr. Storm Lake, IA 50588 bhill@slcsd.org 712-732-8065

The Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College High School Charter School seeks to **RENEW** its public charter school status. The Charter School Advisory Council and the Storm Lake Community School District Board of Education have approved the Renewal process and application on the meeting dates listed below:

Public Hearing: Wednesday, December 20, 2017
 Advisory Council: Wednesday, November 1, 2017
 Board of Education: Wednesday, December 20, 2017

Brief description of charter school (3-4 sentences) (Text box, will expand if needed.)

The Storm Lake/Iowa Central/Buena Vista Early College Charter High School Program is in place to make higher education more accessible, affordable, and attractive to **all** students, especially those who do not see a college degree in their future due to language and/or economic barriers. Its goal is to increase Storm Lake's high school graduation rate and college completion rates for all of its graduates, especially a portion of its most disadvantaged youth. The Storm Lake/ Iowa Central/ Buena Vista Early College Charter High School Program provides additional time and resources to better educate and inform students of potential career outlooks by giving post-secondary opportunities that they might not otherwise have.

If the renewal of charter school status is approved, the district agrees to the following assurances:

End of the Year Charter School report will be submitted

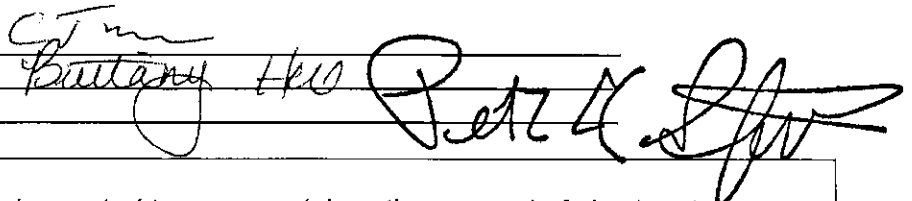
Renewal of the charter is sought for 4 years. (Maximum = 4 years)

Signatures needed for **RENEWAL** of Charter School Status:

Superintendent of Schools: _____

Charter School Manager: _____

Board of Education President: _____



<p>Iowa State Board of Education has voted to <i>approve / deny</i> the renewal of charter status.</p>

Regular Board Meeting
Storm Lake Community School District
Storm Lake School Administration Building
December 20, 2017
7:00 p.m.

- I. President Steinfeld called the Storm Lake Community School District Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. Directors Dierking, Raveling and Skibsted, Carl Turner, Supt. and Trudy Pedersen, Secretary present. Director Marroquin was absent.
- II. Visitors included Brittany Hill, Barb Lange, Betsy Lenzmeier, Heath Stille, Breanna Wieck and Rudy Wieck and administrators Kellie Anderson, Michelle Huntress, Juli Kwikkel, Beau Ruleaux, Jay Slight and Jeff Tollefson and three media representatives. Steve Brashears arrived at 8:00 p.m.
- III. Moved by Director Skibsted, seconded by Director Dierking to approve the following revisions to the agenda: addition of items IV.C.2.a.4 & IV.C.2.b.7 and deletion of Item XIII – Exempt Session. All present in favor.

Moved by Director Skibsted, seconded by Director Raveling to approve the agenda with revisions. All present in favor.

- IV. Moved by Director Dierking seconded by Director Skibsted to approve the following consent agenda items:

Minutes: Regular Meeting – November 13, 2017 and Special Meeting – November 29, 2017

Claims and Financial Statements for November as listed for the General, Management, Activity, PPEL, Debt Service, SILO, Self-Insurance, Flex, Nutrition and Enterprise Funds

Accept the following coaching and extra duty resignations:

Jared Henkenius	MS Student Council	pending suitable replacement
Bailey Mathews	MS Student Council	pending suitable replacement
Erin Nelson	9 th Volleyball Coach	pending approval as Head Varsity VB
Will Swanson	HS Student Council	pending suitable replacement

Offer the following teaching contract contingent upon obtaining an Iowa teaching license:

Megan Behrendt	Elementary Special Ed	BA-0	99 days	\$19,672
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Offer the following coaching contracts:

Brynn Beal	9 th Softball	9%	\$2,968
Kendall Candor	9 th Baseball	9%	\$2,968
Erin Nelson	Head Varsity Volleyball	16.5%	\$5,422

Accept the following instructional assistant resignations:

Samantha Chaiyawong	MS Special Ed
Cameo Garlow	MS Special Ed
Katelyn Leisinger	East Special Ed
Jacqueline Zapata	MS ELL

Offer the following instructional assistant work agreements for 7.5 hrs/day:

Caprice Davis	Elem Special Ed	\$11.00/hr
Cassidy Gransow	HS Special Ed	\$11.25/hr
Richard Morales	MS Special Ed	\$11.25/hr
Michele Pickett	Elem Special Ed	\$11.00/hr
Amy Rehnstrom	MS Special Ed	\$11.25/hr
Janice Stavnes	PT Elem Nurse IA	\$11.25/hr
Ashley Wolf Tornabane	Elem ELL	\$11.00/hr

All present in favor.

- V. There was no public forum.

- VI. Curriculum Report

- A. Jay Slight, Barb Lange, Heath Stille, Breanna Wieck and Rudy Wieck shared information about the implementation of Standards Based Grading at the Middle School.

- B. Moved by Director Dierking, seconded by Director Raveling to approve the addition of an Advanced Ecology course at the High School beginning in 2018-2019. This will be a year-long inquiry based STEM course for juniors and seniors and will incorporate Authentic Intellectual Work that meets the Value Beyond School standard. All present in favor.

VII. There was no personnel report.

VIII. Business Office Report

- A. Charter School Renewal – Brittany Hill explained the process that has been used to complete the Charter School Renewal Application and presented highlights of the application.

- B. Public Hearing – Charter School Renewal Application
President Steinfeld opened the public hearing for the Charter School Renewal Application at 7:12 p.m.

Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:13 p.m.

- C. Moved by Director Skibsted, seconded by Director Raveling to approve the Charter School Renewal Application and approve submitting it to the Department of Education for the State Board of Education meeting on March 29, 2018. All present in favor.

IX. Administrative Report

- A. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Skibsted to approve an additional request for early graduation pending completion of required coursework. All present in favor.

- B. Moved by Director Skibsted, seconded by Director Raveling to approve the purchase of a 2018 Chevrolet Suburban for \$40,830 out of the PPEL fund. This will replace a 2015 Ford Expedition that was totaled by the insurance company due to an insurance claim. The District received \$25,427 for the totaled vehicle. All present in favor.

- C. Dr. Turner presented an updated five year facility plan. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Dierking to approve the Five Year Facility Plan as presented. All present in favor. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Dierking to approve the Year 1 items at an approximate cost of \$290,200 to be paid out of PPEL and Sales Tax. All present in favor.

- D. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Skibsted to approve the Early Childhood Facility December Vote timeline. After a lengthy discussion and a request for more information from the Architects, the Board agreed by consensus to table action on this item.

- E. Moved by Director Skibsted, seconded by Director Dierking to contract with Steve Brashears of Real Estate Specialists to be the District's realtor for the Early Childhood Facility site purchase. All present in favor.

- F. Administrators reporting: Kellie Anderson, Juli Kwikkel, Jay Slight and Beau Ruleaux.

Dr. Turner read a letter indicating his intention to retire effective June 30, 2018.

Moved by President Steinfeld, seconded by Director Skibsted to reluctantly accept Dr. Turner's retirement letter effective June 30, 2018. All present in favor.

President Steinfeld gave Secretary Pedersen direction to start identifying possible consultants to help with the Superintendent search.

The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

- X. Moved by President Steinfeld, seconded by Director Skibsted to move into Closed Session at 9:11 p.m. according to Iowa Code 21.5(1)(j) to discuss the purchase of particular real estate only where premature

disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the Board would have to pay for the property.
Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Raveling, Skibsted, Dierking and Steinfeld Nays: None Absent: Marroquin

Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by Director Dierking to go back into open session at 9:39 p.m. Roll
Call Vote: Ayes: Skibsted, Dierking, Raveling and Steinfeld Nays: None Absent: Marroquin

XI. Moved by Director Raveling, seconded by President Steinfeld to adjourn at 9:44 p.m. All present in favor.

Trudy Pedersen
Secretary, Board of Education

Peter Steinfeld
President, Board of Education