

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Chatfield Public Schools

Special School Board Meeting

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the special meeting of the School Board of Independent School District No. 227, Olmsted, Fillmore and Winona Counties was held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with these members present: Jeffers, Isensee, Backer, McMahon, and Lowrey. Others Present: Ed Harris, Randy Paulson, Shane McBroom, Katie Goldsmith, Brian Kobs. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion

Mr. Harris reviewed with the group the budget reduction summaries from the spring and summer of 2019. He also shared additional information regarding Chatfield's enrollment history and how it compares to the 5-year projection.

It was indicated that enrollment is projected to continue falling due to smaller kindergarten classes. This will continue to impact revenues negatively and make annual budget cuts and the spending of reserve funds likely for the next few years.

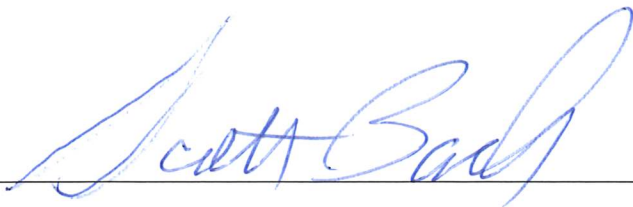
Mr. Harris presented a draft administrative budget recommendation to reduce the budget by at least \$300,000 over the next three years beginning with at least \$150,000 for the coming school year. Various examples of those reductions and fee increases were discussed. The Board will be presented with a refined list for consideration at the April 1 school board meeting.

It was also discussed that the current operating levy is set to expire and that the Board may need to consider approaching the voters for a renewal as soon as this coming November. Mr. Harris indicated that the additional budget reductions would put off the necessity of asking for an operating levy increase for 2-3 years if current projections hold.

Mr. Paulson and Mr. McBroom offered insights as to what the consequences of additional budget cuts over the next several year could look like.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

/s/  _____

Scott Backer, Clerk