



**FENNVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION
JANUARY 4, 2024
BOARD ROOM – 1:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated within the agenda.

A. MEETING OPENING

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by President Toby Hutchins at 1:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Toby Hutchins	Present	Mr. Manuel Sanchez	Absent
Mrs. Juliet Michele	Present	Mr. Ross Thiele	Present
Ms. Natalie Bustillos	Present	Mr. Paul Hapke	Absent
Mrs. Angie Pena-Smith	Present		

4. Additions to the Agenda

None

B. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Open dialogue with all in attendance

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Thrun Policy

Attached is the long motion that needs to be read at the board meeting on January 15 to repeal our old policies and adopt the Thrun Policy Manual. I have also reached out to Thrun after our retreat to ask about both the board compensation that we changed and the question around drug/alcohol testing for any eligible driver who transports students, including van drivers. I have also attached version 5 of the Thrun Policy Manual that has removed almost all of the highlights except the two that I just mentioned. Version 4 with all the recommendations highlighted is still in the "Current Month" folder of our Board Teams. You should see both v4 and v5. Thank you for all the time and discussion around our policies these past three months.

2. Follow Up from the Instructional Rounds-lite

Thank you for welcoming both cabinet members and board members to walk through the schools and into a variety of classrooms. The board would really like to do this again next year and even asked to have more time. Hopefully next year, we will schedule something in the morning and designate a little more time and even more classrooms. I truly appreciate all the classroom teachers who kept teaching while visitors walked in and out of the classroom. The feedback from the board and cabinet members was incredible.

The Process: Groups of 2-3 individuals walked through anywhere from 6-10 classrooms and recorded what they saw and heard in relation to student engagement. When they returned to debrief, we reorganized into four different groups so that 18-30 classrooms were represented. These four small groups were asked to identify evidence of student engagement and affirmations of greatness within the classrooms. Finally, they were asked a prediction question: **"If you were a student in each of these classes and did everything you were supposed to do, what would you learn?"** Here are the responses from each of the four groups:

- Group 1
 - How to work well with others
 - How to read and comprehend text
 - How to be creative
- Group 2
 - We would learn (soft) skills to be successful adults such as collaboration and problem solving.
- Group 3
 - Collaboration: how to talk together and how to work together
 - Reading, writing, inquiry, language, and healthy habits in a safe learning environment
 - It's ok to interact with the teacher to contribute to the learning
- Group 4
 - We would learn how to engage with the content or task around us, both with and without technology, in a wide range of social settings and situations.

Dr. Greer thanked the board once more for serving our students each and every day, those walking around classrooms were singing your praises.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Open dialogue with all in attendance

E. MEETING CLOSING

1. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

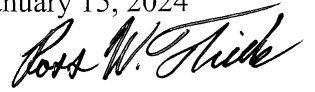
Recorded by Superintendent, Dr. Doug Greer.

Respectfully submitted by,

Approval Date: January 15, 2024

Ross Thiele

Board Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ross W. Thiele". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "R" and a stylized "W".

