Moments Captured from Homecoming 2016

The following are photos, taken by Johnston students, of 2016 Homecoming events, including stadium painting, Rock Around the Clock, the parade, and the powder puff game.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year’s Homecoming one to remember.

Top left: parade, photo by Abbie Craig.
Top right: Rock Around the Clock, photo by Abby Watkins.
Middle: powder puff game, photo by Kati Anderson.
Bottom left: stadium painting, photo by Anelise Gebard.
Bottom right: Rock Around the Clock, photo by Ashton Streit.
Board Highlights from September 26

Highlights from the September 26 board meeting are reported here. For full minutes, go to the eBoards website.

Approval of Student Representatives to the Board of Education (Mark Toebben): The Board approved Nicole Hobson and Alexis Rivet as the student representatives to the Johnston Board of Education.

Superintendent’s Report

Construction Update (Corey Lunn): Concrete work for the new high school building is complete, cabinets are being installed in the science rooms, irrigation is being installed around the building, and final grading is near completion. Plans for the new JMS and Wallace buildings are progressing as scheduled.

Board President Report

Commendations (Mark Toebben): Congratulations to Laura Sprague for being named an Outstanding Chapter Member of the PRSA Central Iowa Chapter.

At-Risk Mental Health Committee (Matt Stahr): During the first meeting in September, the committee discussed goals and priorities with Chris Wilson, district prevention coordinator. There will be a Raising Healthy Dragons event for parents on November 28. The committee is sending out a survey to parents about potential topics for the event. The event’s goal is to educate the community about mental health.

Owner’s Group Committee (Deb Henry): During the September meeting, the committee discussed adaptive reuse projects for the current middle school and high school, change requests for building permits for a few elementary schools, and are beginning discussions on spaces for non-district groups.

Reports

Financial Year End Report FY16 (Jan Miller-Hook): An overview of the General Ledger Fund Balance, Special Education Deficit, and the Unspent Authority for fiscal year 2016 was presented. All three documents can be found on the online agenda.

First Reading of Policies (Marci Cordaro, Matt Stahr): Policy 504.2 Student Organizations, new Policy 506.1R1 Use of Student Records Regulation, Policy 507.1 Student Health and Immunization Certificates, Series 800, and Series 500 were read for a first time with recommended changes from legal, administration, and the Board Policy Committee.

Action Items

Election of Officers (Beverly Lyons): Election of the 2016-2017 President and Vice President of the Board of Education and administration of the Oath of Office. The Board approved to re-elect Mark Toebben as the 2016-2017 President and to elect Brad Ortmeier as the 2016-2017 Vice President of the Board of Education.

Approval of the Johnston Middle School Schematic Design (Jan Miller-Hook): A presentation was given to the Board of the Schematic Design for the Johnston Middle School project (current high school) at the work session preceding the board meeting. The Board approved the Schematic Design for the Johnston Middle School project.

Approval of the Wallace Schematic Design (Jan Miller-Hook): A presentation was given to the Board of the Schematic Design for the Wallace Elementary (current JMS) project at the work session preceding the board meeting. The Board approved the Schematic Design for the Wallace Elementary School project.

Approval of Out-of-State Travel Request to Indiana (Bruce Amendt): The High School Journalism Department requested out-of-state travel to Indianapolis, Indiana on Thursday, November 10, 2016 through Sunday, November 13, 2016. This trip is the National Scholastic Press Association's National Journalism Convention. Students will be absent from school on Thursday, November 10 and Friday, November 11. The Board approved out-of-state travel for the High School Journalism
Department to Indianapolis, Indiana on Thursday, November 10, 2016 through Sunday, November 13, 2016 for the National Scholastic Press Association's National Journalism Convention.

**Approval of Out-of-State Travel Request to Florida (Bruce Amendt):** The High School Dance Team requested out-of-state travel to Orlando, Florida on Friday, February 3, through Tuesday, February 7, 2017. The Varsity Dance Team qualified for the National Dance Team Championships at camp this summer. Students will be absent from school on Friday, February 3, Monday, February 6, and Tuesday, February 7, 2017. The Board approved out-of-state travel for the Varsity Dance Team to Orlando, Florida on Friday, February 3 through Tuesday, February 7, 2017 for the National Dance Team Championship.

**Approval of Financial Depositories (Jan Miller-Hook):** Iowa Code Section 279.33 required the Board Treasurer to furnish the Board June 30 depository information annually. The Board approved the attached balances as presented.

**Approval of Allowable Growth for Special Education Deficit (Jan Miller-Hook):** The Johnston Community School District requested allowable growth and a supplement aid payment for our negative special education balance for the 2015-2016 school year. We understand the amount of the supplement aid payment will be calculated by the Department of Management after all special education balances have been finalized. The Board approved the allowable growth for the Special Education deficit.

**Approval of SBRC for Modified Supplemental Authority for LEP/ELL Programs (Jan Miller-Hook):** The Johnston Community School District requested allowable growth for LEP/ELL expenditures in excess of funding in the amount of $146,340.89 for fiscal year 2016. The Board approved the application request to the SBRC for modified supplemental authority in the amount of $146,340.89 for excess costs of limited English proficiency/English language learners for fiscal year 2016.

**Approval of Additional Staffing (Laura Kacer):** Due to the increase of an additional student and the intense behavior plans of each child, a .9 special education S & P associate is needed at Horizon Elementary. The hours will be 8:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. The Board approved the addition of a 0.9 FTE S&P associate at Horizon.

**Approval of School Improvement Advisory Committee 2016-2017 (Bruce Amendt):** Approval of members currently confirmed for School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) for 2016-2017. An update of additional member recommendations will come to the Board at the October 10 meeting, as gender balance and diverse representation are being sought. Board Committee assignments will impact membership of this group. Dates for SIAC meetings include: October 27, December 15, January 26, April 20, and May 25. The Board tabled the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) members for 2016-2017 until the list of members is complete.

**Approval of Board Policies (Marci Cordaro, Matt Stahr):** The board approved the following policies: Policy 303.3 Administrator Contract and Contract Nonrenewal, Policy 500 Objectives for Equal Educational Opportunities, Policy 501.4 Entrance Admissions, Policy 505.7 Commencement, Student Discipline Policies, Policy 606.1 Class Size-Class Grouping, Policies to be Omitted, Series 500, and Series 500/800.

**Approval of Policy 1007 Distribution of Materials/Information on School District (Mark Toebben):** The Board Policy Committee discussed the revisions on Policy 2007 Distribution of Materials/Information on School District Property By Organizations and Persons. The first reading was at the August 8, 2016 Board meeting. The Board tabled Policy 1007 Distribution of Materials/Information on School District Property by Organizations and Persons and Exhibit 1007.E1.

The next regular board meeting will take place on Monday, October 10, 2016.
Go Green: Donate a Tree
Help add natural beauty to the new Johnston High School athletic complex. Johnston Community members and businesses are invited to donate a tree to be planted outside of the new JHS stadium. Up to 31 trees will be planted - five Greencolumn Maple, six Shademaster Honeylocust, five American Sentry Linden, and 15 Eastern White Pine. All donors will be acknowledged on a plaque outside of the athletic complex and notified when the trees are to be planted. Visit the ICSD website if you are interested in donating a tree.

Healthiest State Initiative 1K Walk - Wednesday, October 5
(Event hosted by the City of Johnston, www.cityofjohnston.com)
Join the City of Johnston over the lunch hour to show your support for the Healthiest State Initiative. Head out for a 1K walk either outside your business, school, or home. Post a “Healthy Selfie” using #JohnstonIsHealthy on Facebook or Twitter and you will be entered into a raffle to win a healthy goodie basket from Johnston Hy-Vee. Want to walk with more people? The City will be hosting a community walk at Terra Park, 6300 Pioneer Parkway, at 11 a.m.

Six Recognized as Nat’l Merit Commended Students
The 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program recognized six Johnston High School students as “Commended Students.” These students were identified as among the top 50,000 highest scorers in last year’s PSAT/SAT qualifying tests. The district is very proud of these individuals for their outstanding academic achievement. Our National Merit Scholarship Commended Students are Donald Gee, Tyler Gurney, Tyler Ingebrand, Alexis Pottebaum, Luke Safris, and Triston Walsh. Click here to read more.

Help Identify Johnston Community Needs
Have you identified needs within our community? Are you looking for a way to share your thoughts and opinions? Johnston Community Education's Resource Council, in conjunction with the Johnston Partnership, is in need of individuals to serve on focus groups. The goal of these focus groups is to identify areas of need throughout our community. All information gathered from the focus groups will be put into a report and share with city, school, and chamber leaders. Focus groups will take place on six different evenings from 6-8 p.m. Dates include October 3, 10, and 11. If interested, please contact the community education office at 515-278-0552. Your voice is important, please contact us today to be involved.

Gifting the Gifted: Parenting Your Exceptional Child
Monday, October 3, 7-8:30 p.m., Johnston Middle School Library
Friends of Johnston ELP presents Gifting the Gifted, a fun, interactive presentation that will explore six valuable, and sometimes hidden gifts, to offer your exceptional child. Attend for an evening packed with ideas to bravely parent your child from a place of compassion and connection. Nancy Schornack, a licensed mental health counselor, will be the event's speaker and facilitator. Click here to learn more.

Johnston Wrestling Club - Sign Up Now!
The regular season for grades K-8 will begin practices in November. All practices are held at the Johnston High School wrestling room. The club has opportunities for all levels and an attitude for winning. Join the growing Johnston Wrestling family today! Registration information and details can be found at www.johnstonwrestlingclub.com.

Digital Backpack (e-Flyers)
Be sure to check the e-Flyers portion of the website for community organization happenings. Click on the flyers below for more details. Contact jane.morrison@johnston.k12.ia.us to submit your flyer.

- October 1: Guys Power Sing!
- October 6: Spectra Support Group for Parents
- October 15: Under the Sea Children’s Theatre Camp
- October 16: YMCA Boys and Girls Basketball League
- October 29: Mysteries of the Castle
- October: Goodwill Events Calendar
- October: Youth Soccer League
- Fall Programs & Activities at Courage League Sports
- Fall/Winter Theatre Classes
- Heartland Youth Choir