



Feb.26, 2022

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Treynor School Board Speakers



L-R: Keith Christensen, Brandon Vorthmann

Brandon Vorthmann and Keith Christensen, Treynor School Board members, spoke to the Treynor Optimists. The Board is made up of five members.

COVID caused some delays in strategic planning, but the board is working on a facilities and maintenance list to assist them in budgeting for larger projects.

The Board is exploring establishment of a preschool for 4-year olds and researching options of locating this. Treynor is just one of four schools in the state without one. The first year costs have to be paid for locally and then funding is received from the state after that. Dr. Hopkins is checking out grant possibilities with Iowa West Foundation.

The school is studying implementing revised curriculum. Each subject gets cycled for review and revision. The Department of Education is looking for growth measurement rather than proficiency in a subject, which would be measured with standardized tests.

The number of students declined during COVID with children being home schooled, but this year the enrollment has leveled off.

There are difficulties in hiring new teachers because of wages being increased elsewhere. It is most difficult to get specialty teachers. Mr. Schuler, Industrial Arts teacher, is retiring, and the school feels fortunate to hire a young teacher from Minden who is teaching in Omaha as a

replacement. A liaison (at no cost to Treynor) from Iowa Western Community College also assists with the Career and Tech Education program and arranging job shadowing. Currently ag students go to Riverside and participate in FFA there. A desire for ag studies in Treynor has been expressed. It was also expressed that a quality school, teachers, parents and students are still a draw for retaining teachers!

Interesting topics discussed were: some schools doing away with grades, some schools going to 4 days a week, what makes a good school board member, books in libraries, keeping up with technology changes in equipment, and issues with hiring new school bus drivers worsened by new changes in requirements by the state in getting a CDL.

Next week's speaker is: Susan Miller talking about Dreamland Theater in Carson

All are welcome!

Quote

“Getting people to like you is merely the other side of liking them.”

Norman Vincent Peale

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, President called the meeting to order. Present were 16 members plus Avery Dykes, Kale Vorthmann, Kyle Moss, Angie Lane, Mike Holton and Kathy Luedke.

Dale led the Pledge of Allegiance and Bill Vorthmann gave the opening prayer.

50/50 was won by John Klein. Gary G won the Attendance Drawing, but was not present.

Bragging Rights: (\$ are used for youth activities)

- Judy Guttau and Bill Vorthmann contributed because of the excellent high school music concert Thursday evening.
- Gary Guttau announced that Hot Lips Houlhan, Loretta Swit, passed. He stated his Aunt Sabina Schmidt was an Air Force Major MASH nurse and was teased by his dad as being “Hot Lips”, which she stated it wasn’t like that. “Bena” was home in Treynor on leave when Pearl Harbor was bombed and she quickly went back. Later she helped troops being transported from Europe to England. She became Chief of Staff at Offutt Air Force Base and after retiring from the military was a school nurse in Treynor. Sabina was Gary’s godmother!
- Judy Guttau introduced her sister, Kathy.

BUSINESS:

- Mulch Madness in Treynor will be Thurs., April 28 to mulch trees at the high school with 5th graders. A decision on a grant application for five trees is pending.
- March 19 is the date for the Inaugural Volunteer Awards Event in Treynor sponsored by the Treynor Optimists. It will be held at the Treynor Community Building starting at 6 PM. A signup sheet to volunteer with the event was circulated.
- Gary Funkhouser announced the local Optimist Oratory Contest will take place on Wednesday.
- Dale Willenborg announced that Four Corners Community Foundation, formerly TS Community Foundation, is having a ribbon cutting event from 6:30-8 AM Monday, Feb. 28 at the Treynor Community Building.
- Can Kennel sorting will be Wed. at 2 PM to help the Treynor Music Boosters.
- John Klein stated there was info in the Nonpareil to nominate a teacher for the State Teacher of the Year award. Google/check with John if you would like to join this effort to nominate a local teacher. The nominations are due Tuesday, March 1.
- Dale Willenborg announced that 185 kites have been purchased by our club for the upper elementary students. The art teacher will assist them in decorating the kites. We will set a date for flying them and assisting the students with this.

- The Keep Kids Alive Mock Crash will be April 8.



L-R: Dale Willenborg, Avery Dykes, Kyle Moss, and Kale Vorthmann

Over \$1500 was received by representatives from the Junior Class in Treynor to be used for After Prom activities. The Committee is planning on a comedian, a food truck, bounce houses, and a wildlife animal exhibit. The committee is planning on 150 students. There will be 10 large gifts to be won by seniors plus a gift card. The students stated they earned money also from fruit sales, t-shirt sales, and fall concession stands.

- Dale Willenborg announced a board meeting after next week’s meeting; however, after the meeting he announced that it will need to be the following Saturday, March 12.

The meeting was closed with reciting the Optimist Creed.

HUMOR



Calendar

Events

Mar 2 Local Optimist Oratorical Contest
Can Kennel Sorting
Mar 12 Treynor Optimist Board Meeting
Mar 19 Treynor Volunteer Awards Event
Apr 2 Cub Scouts will be going door to door-
Scouting for Food and will distribute the
Optimist flag flyers. A few Optimists are
needed as well.
Apr 28 Mulch Madness

Birthdays

Mar 2 Ward Chambers
Mar 11 Ken Graham

Anniversaries

Mar 4 Gene & Erika Seran
Mar 8 Ken & Linda Graham

Programs

Mar Gary Funkhouser
Apr Chad Guttau
May Dale Willenborg

Speakers

Mar 5 Susan Miller, Carson Dreamland Theater
Also member of Iowa West Foundation and
SWI Education Foundation

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575