April 13, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, April 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM in Room 104 of Central School on posted notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Kelly Dey, Serina Everett, Dennis Lorenz, Luke Savage and Craig Steinbeisser. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Daniel Farr; Clerk- Nicole Beyer; High School Student Representative Hailey Steinbeisser; High School Principal- Sue Andersen; Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson; West Side Principal- Jon Skinner; Central Principal- Brent Sukut and High School Vice-Principal- Loretta Thiel. Absent were Trustee Melissa Sanders and Curriculum/Federal Programs Director- Thom Barnhart.

At 7:00 PM Chair Dey called the meeting to order.

Ms. Dey welcomed the visitors in attendance: Bill Vanderweele with the Sidney Herald; Ross Hall – Activities Director; Carl Dynneson; Vince McGlothlin; Leah Norby, Sherry Turner, Lora Sundheim and Jeff Mead with Debbie and Mick Denowh arriving just before the Consent Agenda. Ms. Dey stated an opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items would be provided prior to the Consent Agenda. Those wishing to address the board on agenda items were asked to fill out the Audience Participation form and give it to the clerk to be recognized.

Mrs. Everett moved to approve the minutes for meetings held March 9 and 25, 2015, and the March 2015 claim warrants 222298 to 222357 in the amount of $318,758.15. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

Clerk Beyer presented Warrant # 222297 to Sidney Body Shop written 2/25/15 for $3,725.85. This warrant was for repairs on the jeep and conversations with the insurance company assured the District that payment would be made to Sidney Schools so the entire repair bill was paid when, in fact, payment was made to Sidney Body Shop and the District only owes the $500.00 deductible. Mr. Lorenz moved to cancel the warrant seconded by Mrs. Everett and passing 5 to 0.

The following Associated Student Body transfers were approved on a motion by Mrs. Everett, seconded by Mr. Steinbeisser and passed 5 to 0.

**FROM TO AMOUNT EXPLANATION**

Student Council (101) BPA (112) $ 25.00 Gift Certificate

Student Council (101) FCCLA (111) $ 26.00 Frequent Buyer Card

AP Testing (130) BPA (112) $ 270.00 Math Meet Meals

SMS Student Store (210) BPA (112) $ 121.00 Math Meet Meals

Resources Unlimited (128) Publications (108) $ 468.30 PCard payment charged wrong acct

**2014-2015 Talon Profit Transfers including Advisor Pay:**

BPA $1988.70 Close-Up $1584.96 Golf $ 783.48

Drill/Cheer $1109.43 FFA $1465.38 Freshmen $2640.60

Girls Basketball $1031.64 Intrnatl Club $1566.96 Juniors $ 792.48

Key Club $ 792.48 LEO $ 783.48 NHS $1244.01

Publications $ 388.74 Speech & Drama $2362.44 Seniors $ 589.11

Skills USA $2524.02 Softball $1190.22 Sophomores $1566.96

STUCCO $ 266.16 Track $ 463.53 Builders Club $ 463.53

Wrestling $1910.91 Eagle Kids $ 400.74 SEA (Check) $2616.60

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr provided the Trustees with the following updates:

**Correspondence:**

- Thank you from Janet Brannan for continuing the oil impact stipends

**Updated Enrollment Figures Grades K-12:** 1,394 as of today

**Legislative Updates:**

- Dr. Farr thanked the community for their vital communications to legislators regarding SB 260 which had been tabled in committee. The committee voted unanimously to send it to Appropriations; and

- HB 423 and SB 252 are still alive.

**Trustee Election**

- Cancelled by Nicole Beyer, District Clerk, on Friday, April 10th. Only two filed for the two open District 5 trustee positions and were elected by acclamation to three year terms expiring in 2018: Kelly Dey and Craig Steinbeisser. No one filed for the open out-lying District 1 position. The consensus of the Trustees was to advertise this position so an appointment could be made in May.

**Facility Updates:**

- A webex meeting with CTA was held this afternoon at 1:00 PM. Dexter Thiel was present for discussions on the West Side roofing project. They discussed the cost of completely removing the roof; the overbuild and timelines;

- CTA provided clarity on drainage issues;

- Conceptual layouts and time lines were discussed. These will not impact the internal remodel; and

- In summation, Ms. Dey stated progress should continue as intended with the possibility of a special meeting if decisions are needed once everything is resolved on the contract and prices;

**Additional New Hires to add to Consent Agenda:**

- Rhoda Lyons – HS Maintenance

- Ryan Troxel – Head Golf Coach

- DeDe Stieber – Elementary Special Education Teacher

- Tara Derenburger hired in March for the 2015-2016 High School English Teacher has withdrawn from the position due to the cost of living and other personal reasons. She had not signed a contract.

**Montana Academic Recognition**

- Sidney High School academic teams were recognized as top teams in all class sizes.

**Calendar Events:**

- The next MQEC meeting will be in Helena, April 20, 2015. Will check agenda to see about attending in person or via conference call;

- April 21st 6:00 PM IBB is scheduled; and

- High School play directed by Christy Pierce will be April 24-25th at 7:00 PM in the Middle School Auditorium.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Hailey Steinbeisser updated Trustees on the following:

- Student Council provided cookies for St. Patrick’s Day and had a drawing for those wearing green. The winner received prom tickets;

- BPA will head to Nationals in Anaheim, California first week of May;

- District Band and Choir competitions are coming up;

- Student Council is preparing for Teacher Appreciation Week and 2015-2016 student elections;

- Juniors are preparing to take the SBAC (state mandated) tests; and

- Jason DeShaw will put on an assembly for students April 27th addressing mental health.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: April 7, 2015***

Mr. Savage summarized the following committee topics:

- Sue Andersen, High School Principal, detailed conference workshops attended regarding student development and moving electives to grades 9 and 10 with grades 11 and 12 taking high level classes in preparation for college;

- Loretta Thiel, High School Vice-Principal, reviewed a discipline chart;

- Ross Hall, Activities Director, reviewed winter sports recommendations and reported on the GPA for participants in boys and girls basketball and wrestling;

- Vacancies were reviewed. New Hires and Resignations are on the Consent Agenda;

- Non-tenure renewals and non-tenure non-renewals without cause were reviewed and are agenda items this evening;

- Dr. Farr updated Trustees on emergency authorizations and licensure of certified staff; and

- District Clerk annual evaluation and District Superintendent quarterly evaluation will be tonight.

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE No meeting in April***

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: April 6, 2015***

Mrs. Everett outlined committee agenda discussions:

- No new information on the Administrative Office space or CTE Wing Expansion;

- Olson Plumbing is suggesting possibly abandoning two lines in the high school courtyard;

- Bus Barn alterations from pit installation to building alteration continue to be topics of discussion;

- West Side bypass sewer system and Central 1949 first floor addition remodel are in the punch list phase;

- Contact has been made with high school industrial arts class regarding design and construction of a new high school awards area;

- Hussey Seating anticipates a cost of $37,160.00 and a loss of 66 seats per side to install handrails in balcony bleachers;

- Mrs. Andersen is recommending adding the use of the high school football field to the rental agreement because groups are often using the facilities- locker rooms or bathrooms resulting in the need for custodial services;

- Updated building summer maintenance lists were provided; and

- The West Side Expansion/Remodel project was discussed at length. Conceptual drawings with regards to the courtyard and roof system were reviewed. Phasing and dates were reviewed. Drainage issues and roof styles and cost continue to be areas of concern.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: April 6, 2015***

Mr. Lorenz highlighted the following information:

- March claims and February financial and lunch reports were reviewed;

- Dr. Farr provided current enrollment numbers, a Montana Quality Education Coalition update and reports on legislative bills including: HB 373- Bonding Limit, HB 423- 130 to 150% retention, SB 252- Removing 25% allocation to the General Fund and SB 260- Concentric Circles;

- 2015-2016 K-9 Detection Services Agreement is on the Consent Agenda;

- Reviewed rate increases and new plan offerings for 2015-16 with MUST insurance;

- Multi-district transfer which is on the Consent Agenda; and

- 2015-2016 preliminary budgets in relation to the possible need for levy elections were discussed.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: April 7, 2015***

Mrs. Everett reviewed the following committee discussions:

- Hard copy of curriculum work in the areas of Foreign Language, Math and English/Language Arts is scheduled to come before the Trustees in June;

- SBAC Testing and NWEA Testing are in progress. Problems with SBAC testing is frustrating teachers and students alike;

- The committee reviewed the Graduation Matters 2015-2016 grant the District received;

- PLC updates were reported;

- The transition from SchoolMaster to Infinite Campus (new Student Information System) has begun;

- New course proposals for the high school are on the Consent Agenda;

- Second reading of the Safety Policy updates for sections K-P are on the Consent Agenda; and

- Second reading of the new proposed Kindergarten Program Policy is also part of the Consent Agenda.

**Chair Dey provided an opportunity for Community Comment on non-agenda items:**

Vince McGlothlin spoke to the article in the Sidney Herald regarding the reference to student participation and the expectation that kids need to work harder to succeed in sports. While he understood the statement about not blaming the coach for lack of success, he argued you also can’t blame the kids either. He requested better communication between coaches and students regarding accessibility and opportunities for student athletes- so that all have the opportunity to participate in the off-season events.. Not all students can participate at times available to coaches during the off-season. Many may make use of the Fitness Center. A better system of accountability- checks and balances needs to be addressed between coaching staff and student athletes.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**2015-2016 K-9 Detection Service Agreement with Montana Interquest Detection Canines**

**Multi-District Agreement Fund Transfer**

- $1,319,750.07 from High School District #1, Fund 229 – High School Flexibility Fund to Elementary District #5 Interlocal Fund (Fund 182) as per the three year MultiDistrict Agreement adopted March 10, 2014

**2014-2015 Student Attendance Agreement- Acknowledge Receipt Only –**

Sidney District student: Jordan Romero Grade 9 attend Savage Public Schools Parent: Melissa Elmore

**Second Reading of Safety Policy Revisions and Adoption Effective 7/1/2015:**

*- Section K Athletic/Phys. Ed. Facilities:*

*Page K-2 #8* “All coaching staff members will hold current certification in First Aid, CPR & AED.”

*Page K-2 #9* Add “& complete all required concussion management trainings.” At the end

*Page K-2 #11* Change to state “…all participants have exited the facility safely prior leaving themselves.”

*Page K-3 #1* Change to state “…that could cause player injury.”

*Page K-3 #11* Change to state “…supervised by a school recognized adult when in the gym, multipurpose room, weight room, locker rooms & practice fields for scheduled practices & events.”

*Page K-4 #4* Change to state “First Aid Kits/AEDS…administer First Aide, CPR and AED.”

*Page K-4 #5* Change to state “…current with First Aid, CPR & AED training.”

*- Section L Lab Safety/Inspections:*

*Page L-3 #15* Strike the words “as appropriate”

*Page L-3 #16* Strike the words “should be familiar with” replace with “shall know the”

*Page L-2 #17*  Strike the words “should be familiar with” replace with “shall know the” “…and proper use…”

*Page L-3 #23* Strike the words “will consider the following” replace with considerations are as follows:”

*Page L-6 #12* Change to state “…amounts needed for one school year.”

*Page L-6 #15* Strike the words “only one day’s supply” replace with “the duration of the lab activity.”

*- Section M Auditorium Safety Rules/Inspection:*

*Page M-2 #1* Change to state “…Fire extinguishers must be marked and be accessible.”

*- Section O Playground Safety Inspection Report*

*Page O-3 #18* Add: “Playground equipment will be cleared of snow as necessary to remove potential slip hazards (i.e., steps on slides).”

*- Section P Employee Accident Investigation Guidelines*

Forms to be filed for the “Report of Injured Employee,” “Report of Injured Student,” “Report of Injured Visitor”, and “supervisors Accident Investigation Report” will be reviewed for completeness.

**Second Reading of Board Policy 3110 – Entrance, Placement and Transfer. Adoption Effective 7/1/15**

- Establishes a K-1 program (half-time program for young students not academically and/or socially ready for full-time program) and a K-2 program- current full-time program;

- Sets birthdate parameters for the programs; and

- Sets formal assessment (i.e. Gesell) as a requirement to assist with proper educational placement of the child.

**Curricular and Activity Program Offerings. Approval of new high school course offerings 2015-16**

- Entrepreneurship (.5 Credit; Elective; Grade Levels 10-12)

- Graphic Design & Photo Editing (.5 Credit; Elective; Grade Levels 10-12)

- Communication Arts Creative Writing (.5 Credit; Elective; Grade Levels 10-12)

- Street Law III (.5 Credit; Elective; Grade Levels 10-12)

- Applied Economics (.5 Credit; Elective; Grade Levels 11-12)

- Abnormal Psychology (1 Credit; Elective; Grade Levels 11-12)

- Earth Science (1 Credit; Elective; Grade Levels 11-12)

- Techniques in Coaching/Officiating (.5 Credit; Elective; Grade Levels 11-12)

**Resignations**

- Bernette M. Braden – Part-time High School English Teacher (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

- Virginia Dschaak – High School PE and Cheer/Dance Coach (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

- Juliana Evans – Grade 2 Teacher (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

- Lynn Obermeyer – Title I Teacher (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

- Alisha Steffan – Grade 2 Teacher (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

- Bonnie J. Vang - Grade 2 Teacher (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

- Jeremiah Groom – High School Custodian

**Negotiated Resignation Agreement effective immediately: Michelle Lair- Elementary PE Teacher**

**New Hires**

- Rhoda Lyons – High School Custodian

- Ryan Troxel – Head Golf Coach

- Karen Pollari – 2015-2016 Elementary Teacher

- John Sweet – 2015-2016 High School PE Teacher

- Jessica Sweet – 2015-2016 Middle School/High School English Teacher

- Jaime Harrison – 2015-2016 High School Art Teacher

- Heather Hough – Title I Aide

- DeDe Steiber – 2015-2016 Elementary Special Education Teacher

New hires approved pending results of background checks and clearance by Administration.

**2015-2016 Winter Co-curricular Agreements**

*GIRLS BASKETBALL BOYS BASKETBALL WRESTLING*

Heidy MacGrady – Assistant Danny Strasheim – Head Guy Melby – Head

Crystal Weltikol – Assistant Benji Berg – Assistant Ty Graves – Assistant

Sandy Sullivan – Middle School Brad Faulhaber – Middle School Nick Lonski – Assistant

Jordan Mayer – Middle School Jordan Mayer – Middle School Shane Gorder – Middle School

Josh Prevost – Middle School

*SPEECH & DRAMA:* Gail Staffanson – Head Christy Pierce – Assistant

**Non-tenure Certified Staff Recommended for Tenure Contract Renewal for 2015-2016**

Lorraine Allen Tamara Johnson Amy Larson Molly McLaughlin

Peggy Strupp Crystal Weltikol

**Non-tenure Certified Staff Recommended for 2015-2016 Contract Renewal**

Jennifer Baker Bonnie Bauer Kaitlin Bell Kaylynn Brazeal

Lina Buchanan Carl Dynneson Richard Feeley Evonne Fulgham

Ted Fulgham Hunter Gordon London Gordon Dan Hart

Marie Holler Jenna Kagen Veronique Kidd Maribel Morales

Monica Myhre-Mocko Lacey Nevins Kayla Scebenski Melissa Shiffer

Kilee Sundt Lindsay Wagner Matt Whelchel Rhetta Wilson

Shay Witt

**Licensed Staff/Program Directors Recommended for 2015-2016 Contract Renewal**

Ross Hall – Activities Director Michelle Monsen – Special Education Director Duane Pust – Psychologist

Johanna Cillo – Speech Therapist Lisa Christensen – Speech Therapist

The Consent Agenda was approved as presented 5 to 0 on a motion by Mrs. Everett and a second by Mr. Steinbeisser.

**Non-tenure Certified Staff Contract Non-Renewals for 2015-2016 without cause**

- Mustafa Anil Kara – Middle School PE

- Deb Denowh – Elementary Librarian

The motion for non-renewal without cause was made by Mrs. Everett and seconded by Mr. Steinbeisser. Mr. Savage recused himself from this item as his law firm represents Mrs. Denowh’s husband as evidenced in public record filed with the Richland County Clerk of Court. Mr. Lorenz was not eligible to vote on this issue as it is an elementary issue and he is a District 1 Trustee.

Ms. Dey asked if anyone wished to address the Board on this matter and cautioned those in attendance that discussions should not regard performance but support or not support the recommendation. Mrs. Denowh asked to address the Board. She provided copies of a letter to the board and spoke to her passion for her job, her concerns about using the librarian to teach typing with regards to accreditation standards and referenced her evaluations.

Ms. Dey asked if the Master Agreement had been followed with regard to evaluations. Dr. Farr replied yes. The non-renewals without cause were approved on a two to one vote with Mr. Steinbeisser voting against the motion and Mrs. Everett and Ms. Dey voting for the motion.

At 7:53 PM Chairwoman Dey announced that the next matter to come before the Board was a personal matter and that she had determined as follows: 1) that the matter of the individual’s privacy is involved; 2) that such privacy demands protection of the individual for the sake of reputation, and otherwise, little, if anything, could be gained by publicly disclosing the information to be discussed; and 3) that the demand for privacy in this matter clearly exceeds the merits of public disclosure. Therefore, she called for an executive session for the purpose of the District Clerk’s annual evaluation and the Superintendent’s quarterly evaluation.

Ms. Dey reconvened the meeting at 9:23 PM.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24 PM.

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Board Chair

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

District Clerk