April 11, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, April 11, 2016 at 7:00 PM in Room 103 of Central School on posted notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Kelly Dey, Serena Everett, Dennis Lorenz and Luke Savage. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Daniel Farr, Clerk- Nicole Beyer, High School Vice-Principal- Loretta Thiel, West Side Principal- Jon Skinner and Student Representatives Jordan Baxter and Landon Jones. Absent were Trustees Craig Steinbeisser and Melissa Sanders; Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson, Central Principal- Brent Sukut, Curriculum/ Federal Programs Director- Thom Barnhart and High School Principal- Sue Andersen.

At 7:01 PM Chair Dey called the meeting to order.

Ms. Dey welcomed the visitors in attendance: Cara Frandsen, SEA President, Katie Dasinger and Ashleigh Fox with the Sidney Herald.

Ms. Dey stated an opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items would be provided later in the meeting. 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.

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Trustees meeting held March 12th, 2016 and the minutes from the special meetings held March 22 and 29, 2016 as well as the March 2016 claim warrants 230113 to 230179 in the amount of $440,140.73. Mrs. Everett seconded the motion which passed 4 to 0.

The February monthly report of the Associated Student Body was reviewed and the following transfers were approved 4 to 0 on a motion by Mrs. Everett and a second by Mr. Lorenz:

$ 32.00 From ASB 410 Eagle Kids to ASB 408 Central General Fund – Warrant paid out of wrong account

$209.25 From ASB 138 Leo Club to ASB 128 Resources Unlimited- Correct posting error

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Student Representatives, Jordan Baxter and Landan Jones, updated the Trustees on the following:

**-** Student Council is planning to recognize all staff during Teacher Appreciation Week in May with treats;

**-** The team tunnel purchased by Student Council and the Seniors has arrived;

**-** Softball and Track have begun;

- Prom tickets went on sale today;

- LINK crew has formed peer mentors for Grade 9 students and has begun to plan orientation;

- A student focus group has been formed with members from the top 10% of the senior class and Student Council to work with Mrs. Andersen to review academic ranking process; and

- The High School Facebook page has 353 likes as of yesterday. People were checking the page often during basketball season for game scores. Club meetings, Talon schedule and sports schedules are posted on the page.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr reported the following:

**2015-2016 Staff Transfer:**

- Sonia Spaulding from one –on-one special ed aide at West Side to one-on-one special ed aide at Central

**Resignations to report:**

- Heather Hough – Title I Tutor at West Side effective as of May 23, 2016

- Bambi L. Stump – Title I Tutor at West Side effective as of May 27, 2016

- Nicole Monsen – Middle School Special Education Aide effective mid-April

- Jenna Noble – Middle School Volleyball Coach

**Enrollment: 1383 as of April 8th Grades K-12**

**Mill Levy Presentations:**

- Completed presentations at Kiwanis and Lions

- April 13, 2016 @ 2:30 PM – Sidney Public Schools staff at the Middle School Auditorium

- April 18, 2016 @6:30 PM – PEO group at Pella Lutheran Church

- April 19, 2016 @ 12:30 PM – The Lodge

- April 25, 2016 @ 6:30 PM Public Presentation at the Middle School Auditorium

- April 27, 2016 @ 7:30 PM at the Elks

**Calendar Events:**

- April 18- North Parking Lot Bid Opening at 3:00 PM in the Superintendent’s Office

- April 19- Special Board Meeting at Noon to select General Contractor for North Parking Lot

- April 22- No School – also SHS home track meet

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: April 5, 2016***

Mrs. Everett expounded on the following agenda items:

- Sue Andersen provided updates including the decision to dissolve Alternative Education; a prospective business teacher was interviewed and custodians will require additional help over the summer;

- Loretta Thiel provided an overview of the Boomerang Project being initiated at the high school;

- Michelle Monsen reviewed staff requirements, reported on pre-school screening results and extended year summer school plans and then explained the monies available to assist high school students with transitional opportunities;

- Classified and Non-tenure Certified Teacher contracts will be considered in May. This provides time for levy election results and a more current look at enrollment figures;

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

- Winter Coach/Advisor 2016-2017 renewals are on tonight’s agenda. Trustees were very pleased with the attendance of the coaches at the meeting to explain their goals and plans for the future as well as being available to answer questions about their programs..

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: April 4, 2016***

Mr. Lorenz outlined the following committee discussions:

- Lowell Cutshaw, Interstate Engineering, reported bid requests of the North High School Parking Lot were out with requests for both asphalt and concrete included. The Oval has been added as a bid alternate;

- CTA Architects and Bill Evenson with Kringen Construction, plan to begin in the old shop area in May. Dr. Farr reported that some of the chases could not have the asbestos removed due to lack of accessibility;

- The summer schedule for bathroom renovation, completion of the re-roofing and the drainage at West Side is a work in progress; and

- Dr. Farr presented more information on the proposed costs for preparing the softball fields at South Meadow for hosting of the state tournament in 2017. Mrs. Everett proposed considering the possibility of renting or borrowing perimeter fencing to control access to the games. This would save on costs and fencing is available that was used on a local project that would service the purpose.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: April 4, 2016***

Mrs. Everett highlighted the following information:

- March claims and February financial reports were reviewed;

- 2015-2016 current enrollment was reviewed as were the results of the K-8 mobility survey and current numbesr ofr 2016-2017 Kindergarten registration;;

- Montana Quality Education Coalition and the negotiated rules making process updates were provided by Dr. Farr.

- The 2015-2016 attendance agreements are on the Consent Agenda tonight;

- The District is still waiting for 2016-2017 health insurance rates from EBMS/Joint Powers Trust but MetLife did submit rates showing the first increase since 2011-12;

- On the Consent Agenda this evening for consideration are K-9 Detection Services agreement for 2016-2017; the 2015 Financial and Compliance Audit Report and reply and the Obsolete Property Resolution for this summer- all of which were reviewed by the committee; and

- Dr. Farr reminded the committee of Election Day on May 3, 2016 with one three-year elementary Trustee term open and Rick Engstrom and Ben Thogersen running for the position; no one filed for the outlying high school position so this election was cancelled by acclamation and an elementary mill levy will be requested in the amount of $500,000 which will put us at approximately $6000.00 over the 2015-16 general fund budget,

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: April 5, 2016***

Mr. Savage recapped the following agenda discussions:

- Mr. Barnhart reported on the SBAC testing;

- Labor Management is scheduled for April 7th at 5:30 PM;

- Rau School has made a transportation request which is on the agenda for consideration;

- Facility Use Requests were reviewed and are on the tonight’s agenda;

- Job descriptions under review include the secretaries and special education;

- The annual Board policy review continues with sections 6000-9000 as well policies 1310, 1400, 1420, 1130 and 2510 with additional discussion of the recently adopted Transportation and Facility Use policy guidelines; and

- Sports survey discussion continued.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Acknowledgement of 2015-2016 Parental Attendance Agreement Requests for Sidney students to attend out-of-district schools as noted below:**

- Jade Erickson Grade 10 Savage District Parent: Travis Jenson

- Santos Riggs Grade 6 Alexander, ND District Parent: Jason Riggs

**Approve 2016-2017 K-9 Detection Service Agreement for drug dog search services**

**Obsolete Property Resolution (Attached to the minutes)**

The District has determined that personal property of the Districts consisting of:

C*omputers, computer equipment and software, toys and games, copiers, office furniture and equipment, desks, tables, chairs, shelves, projectors and audio visual equipment, musical equipment and music, custodial and maintenance equipment and supplies, books, old curriculum materials, textbooks, miscellaneous wood and fencing supplies, special education equipment and supplies, vo-ag equipment, science equipment and supplies, industrial arts equipment, kitchen/cafeteria equipment and supplies, stove, and old classroom supplies*

which are or are about to become abandoned, obsolete, undesirable, or unsuitable for the school purposes of the Districts. This resolution allows disposing of said property effective after May 2, 2016.

**Approval of the 2014-2015 Financial and Compliance Audit Report as presented and completed by Strom and Associates, PC and the developed response to the one finding regarding GASB 45 and the District’s failure to report Other Post-Retirement Employment Benefits due to the unnecessary expense to the District.**

Mrs. Everett moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed on a 4 to 0 vote.

Chair Dey provided an opportunity for Community Comment on non-agenda items: NONE

Mrs. Everett moved to approve the following facility use fee waiver requests with a second provided by Mr. Lorenz. The motion passed 4 to 0.

- Boys and Girls Club- Parent/Student Dodge Ball Tournament: MS open gym facility on April 14, 2016 from 6 to 8 PM. Each team will pay a $5.00 entry fee to offset expenses; and

- Montana Shakespeare in the Park sponsored by the MonDak Heritage Center is set for July 7, 2016. Their request is for an alternate location in case of inclement weather. Either the high school multipurpose room or the West Side multiple purpose room can serve this purpose with no conflicts for either facility existing at this time.

Mr. Lorenz moved and Mrs. Everett seconded the motion to allow Rau Elementary to use two cruiser buses for their all school field trip to Medora and Dickinson, ND contingent upon Rau providing appropriate insurance coverage to cover the busses on this trip, properly endorsed drivers with experience on the MCI busses are retained and no expenses are incurred by Sidney Schools. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Mrs. Everett moved to approve the hiring of Jordan “Katie” Dasinger for Middle School Cheer Coach for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed 4 to 0 after discussion on the interviewing process with Mrs. Dasinger that resulted in the Trustees requesting all future coaching/advisor interviews be conducted by a team and not one individual. Clarification was requested as to why Brianna Wilcoxin was not recommended for retention of her assistant high school cheer/dance coach position. Dr. Farr replied that Ms. Wilcoxin is being afforded the opportunity to apply for the head position thus the delay in naming an assistant coach.

Mr. Savage moved to approve the following individuals as coaches in the wrestling program for the 2016-2017 school year: Guy Melby- Head Coach; Ty Graves – Assistant Coach; Nick Lonski- Assistant Coach; Shane Gorder- Middle School Coach and Josh Prevost Middle School Coach. The motion passed 3 to 1 with Ms. Dey voting against the motion.

Mrs. Everett moved to approve Ruben Moreno as head girls basketball coach for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion. When asked to clarify the absence of recommendations for the assistant coach, Middle School coach and elementary coach positions, Dr. Farr explained Mr. Moreno requested an opportunity to restructure staff as he came late to the position in 2015-2016 and the non-renewal of these coaches is not to be perceived as a reflection on their performance. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve the renewal of the following 2016-2017 boys basketball coaches: Danny Strasheim- Head Coach; Benji Berg- Assistant Coach; Craig Beiswanger- Assistant Coach; Chris Merica- Middle School Coach; Jordan Mayer- Middle School Coach; Matt Whelchel- Middle School Coach and Ryan Troxell- Elementary Coach. Mrs. Everett seconded the motion which passed 3 to 1 with Ms. Dey voting against the motion.

At 7:45 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 conducting the superintendent’s quarterly evaluation.

At 9:00 PM Chair Dey reconvened the meeting.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk