March 12, 2012

The regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 12, 2012 at 7:00 PM in Room 104 of Central School. Present were Trustees Todd Hermanson, Kelly Dey, Luann Cooley, Dennis Lorenz and Serina Everett. Also in attendance were Superintendent Farr, Clerk Beyer, High School Assistant Principal- Loretta Thiel, High School Principal- Dan Peters, and Student Representative Koby Edam. Absent were Trustee Dexter Thiel, Federal Programs/Testing Coordinator- Gary Arnold; Sidney Elementary Principal-Sue Andersen and Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson.

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Acting Chairman Dey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and welcomed the visitors in attendance- SEA Representative- Mark Halvorson, Leadership Class members Matt Weber and Adam Smith. Ms. Dey reminded those in attendance to sign in and stated that an opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items would be provided at the end of the meeting. Those wishing to address the board 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 February 13, 2012 meeting and the February 2012 claim warrants 220166 to 220241 in the amount of $1,841,513.59. Mrs. Everett seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

The February 2012 Associated Student Body report and transfers were approved on a motion by Mr. Hermanson with a second by Mrs. Everett. The motion passed unanimously.

*From BPA to FCCLA $ 476.50 Lattes for Regional BPA Workers*

*From Resources Unlimited to Talon $1169.11 Purchase Remaining Items for Sale*

*From Talon to BPA $ 10.00 Signs for 2C Tournament*

*From Athletics to Wrestling $ 59.50 Concessions for MS Wrestling Tournament*

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Trustees were provided with the following updates from Superintendent Farr:

- Addition to the Consent Agenda

**Resignations**: Tessa Miller- OT/PT Aide

- Under Board Policy 5120, Superintendent Farr will be posting the following positions to deal with District enrollment increases and grade re-configuration (moving Grade 5 to Central School) for 2012-2013;

High School Replacement (Replacing Retiree) ½ Elementary Library/ ½ Family & Consumer Sciences

Elementary Teaching Positions (1 possibly 2) Middle School Social Studies or Math

Full-time Custodian at Central

K-12 Art (K-8 Position but also increases HS by ½ FTE by adding this position)

- Superintendent Farr continues to work with Western States in resolving issues in connection with the Bus Barn fire- specifically interior ceiling and exterior doors painting/replacement;

- Upcoming meetings and events:

*Next Oil & Gas meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2012 at 1:00 PM in the High School Cafeteria*

*Annual state superintendent’s conference and MQEC in Helena March 15th and 16th*

*Eastern A Choir Festival – Glendive – March 12th and 13th*

*Third Quarter ends March 16th*

*First day for spring MHSA activities- track and softball – March 23rd*

*Prom is scheduled for March 24th and*

*Next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for April 9th. There is no school this day and it is the day after Easter. Trustees held discussion and it was the consensus of those in attendance to move the meeting to Tuesday, April 10th at 7:00 PM.*

Ms. Dey asked Mrs. Everett if she would be willing to take her spot on the Labor Management Committee. She stated this would be a good opportunity for her to get her feet wet. Mrs. Everett agreed to do this.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

- Koby Edam reported the Student Council had divided into three groups, each with a different emphasis:

1) Recommend a memorial for Sherry Arnold;

2) Work on the student handbook to provide feedback to the Trustees; and

3) Activity plans for the last day of school.

Board members reminded Koby that handbook suggestions from the students would be welcome and asked if the issue of dress code has come up. Koby replied the issue had come up more than once.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: March 6, 2012***

Mrs. Everett outlined committee discussions:

- Met with Transportation Supervisor, Rick Verhasselt, who expressed a real need for substitute and activity drivers; Technology Supervisor, Steve Yockim, who presented information on tablets and Athletic/Activities Director, Jeff Mead, who reviewed winter sports season issues.

- Vacancies and a list of proposed new staff positions for 2012-2013 as reported in the Superintendent’s report were reviewed; resignations and new hires are on the Consent Agenda;

- Contracting for the High School math position formerly held by Sherry Arnold was discussed;

- Certified and licensed staff 2012-2013 contract renewals are on the consent agenda;

- Administrative 2012-2013 contract renewals are planned for April;

- Discussion continues on the difficulty experienced by the District in recruiting and retaining classified staff. Possible payment scenarios will be explored;

- Due to the positive experience of custodial staff in all buildings that utilized assistance over the past month from individuals here to work at McDonalds through the United Work and Travel program, the District has put in an application for up to four individuals with this program. If we are awarded these individuals, they will be here in May to help the custodial staff. Housing has been offered by staff members; and

- Activity program evaluations and uniform rotation were discussed. The possibility of a full-time activity director was again discussed but was placed on hold as the priority is filling other District positions first.

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: March 6, 2012***

Mr. Lorenz recapped committee agenda items:

- Transportation Supervisor, Rick Verhasselt, attended the meeting and presented information on vehicle mileage and concerns- bus and driver’s education vehicles. Discussion ended with the committee instructing Administration to proceed with the purchase of another route bus without trading any existing buses and the replacement of one of the driver’s education vans;

- Updates on the bus barn fire adjustments/replacements were provided. Awaiting bill submission from Restorx to the insurance carrier to determine what method of repair will be used on doors and ceiling;

- Bus cameras should be here soon;

- MCI safety recall has been difficult to take care of due to lack of area expertise to deal with the problem; and

- Discussions regarding possible route needs for the coming year were held.

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: March 5, 2012***

Mr. Lorenz reviewed Building and Grounds topics:

- Sally Thoele with ABC Building Concepts was available to provide updates on the check-off lists and answer questions from the Trustees on remaining projects;

-- Mr. Farr provided prioritized handouts of possible building projects by facility for committee review*;*

- Contact has been made with Fisher Construction, Interstate Engineering and Gary Levine regarding the issues of flaking of the cement block walls in the Multi-purpose Room at the high school. ;

- Asbestos and lead reports have been received on Central School. Cost estimates will be sought. Attention to this matter is necessary with the need to move students back into the building;

- Updates on bus barn repairs and correspondence with insurance company regarding coverage of desired repairs were presented by Mr. Farr;

- Discussion regarding capacity studies continues. If numbers projected come to fruition, the District must be prepared to educate these students. Discussion regarding possible building/remodeling scenarios with this possibility in mind will continue;

- Staff housing is still a real concern. Any and all options will be considered; and

- Rob Gilbert, Fire Marshall, has scheduled the annual building fire inspections for March 19-21.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: March 5, 2012***

Mr. Lorenz recapped committee discussions:

- The February claims, January financial and lunch reports were reviewed;

- Current enrollment figures were shared. Enrollment is in continuous change;

- Montana Quality Education Coalition continues to work through any means towards obtaining the inflationary increases for education as noted in state law;

- Additional attendance agreements for 2011-2012 are on the consent agenda;

- Mrs. Beyer reviewed the district 2011 audit which is on the consent agenda for acceptance tonight;

- 2012-2013 budgets remain a topic of discussion. Budget authority requests must be determined in April;

- Sidney will host a regional oil and gas meeting on March 28th at 1:00 PM in the High School Cafeteria;

- MUST insurance representatives have notified the District of a premium decrease for 2012-13 and have presented options for applying the decrease to premiums for consideration;

- Contact was made with Mr. Jim Smith, who initially reviewed company property insurance proposals last spring, to determine if coverage would have been different with the other company with regards to the bus barn fire. He assured us that without extra premium paid by the District to either company, bus rental and other items of concern would have been covered the same as Western States and

- The foundation has received approval to operate as the Eagle Foundation, Inc. .

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: March 6, 2012***

Mrs. Cooley briefed those in attendance on committee topics:

- The committee reviewed the spring testing timeline;

- Representatives of the Montana and North Dakota university systems continue to work with the community regarding providing post-secondary educational opportunities to the region based out of Sidney;

- Recommended changes resulting from annual safety policy review are on the Consent Agenda;

- BPA’s out-of-state fieldtrip request to attend the national convention in April is on the Consent Agenda;

- Review of English/Communication Arts curriculum is ongoing with updates forthcoming;

- Mr. Farr handed out the CTE Advisory Council lists. Career and Technical Education teachers have been instructed to meet with their committees during the month of April;

- 2012-2013 school calendar options were presented with rationale for choosing the revised “A” calendar. Discussion was lengthy on this topic; and

- First reading of Board Policy additions/changes is on the consent agenda tonight

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Resignations**

- Melissa Goulette – Elementary Special Education Aide

- Dara Allison Harvey – Elementary Custodian

- Tessa Miller – OT/PT Aide

**Vacate High School Math Position and Issue a Temporary Contract**

Due to the tragic loss of math teacher, Sherry Arnold, and the need to contract the position, approval of this item would officially vacate the position held by Mrs. Arnold based on the charging documents from law enforcement, allowing the District to pay her sick leave up through March 12th with any remaining accumulated sick leave to be paid out as termination pay per Master Agreement with the SEA.

In conjunction with this recommendation, Mr. Jessie Nesper, who has been working as a substitute in that position, will be issued a terminal contract for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school term effective March 8th. The position will be posted for the 2012-2013 school year.

**New Hires**

- Katrina Leland – Special Education Aide

- Tera Calvin – Special Education Aide

- Levi Weltikol – Middle School Track

**2012-2013 Certified and Licensed Contracts**

***TENURE STAFF RECOMMENDED FOR CONTRACT RENEWAL***

Anderson-Biebl, Dawn Averett, Marnee Barnhart, Thom Berube, Nikki

Beyer, Tammy Braden, Bernie Brannan, Janet Clark, Linda

Clark, William Collins, Stacey DiFonzo, Jen Donvan, Lynn

Dornfeld, Barbara Dschaak, Virginia Farr, Lynette Faulhaber, Brad

Fehilly, Caryn Fisher, Jesse Franklin, Nicole Gear, Mike

Gebhardt, Yvonne Greenwood, Dawn Halvorson, Mark Haraldson, Darci

Hearron, Carol Hermanson, Kim Hermanson, Megg Hermanson, Tammy

Jepsen, Sandra Kallevig, Becky Keenan, Lori Kessel, Tracy

Klose, RaeAnn Lang, Jeanne Lange-Rice, Staci Leibach, Mary

Leland, Tammy Linder, Tammy Lokken-Frandsen, Cara Lovegren, Jennifer

McDonald, David McDonald, JoyLyn McMorris, Sherry Melby, Guy

Meldahl, Synneva Merritt, Roger Moreno, Ruben Mueller, Jodi

Obermeyer, Lynn Osland, Cindy O’Toole, Steve Pfau, Mary

Prevost, Deb Redman, Holly Roberts, Kathleen Safty-MacDonald, Janet

Satra, Sue Schaff, Gary Schell, Greg Schulz, Marv

Simonsen, Nicole Skinner, Jon Spracklin, Janet Stedman, Elaine

Sullivan, Sandy Thompson, Beth Wagner, Cindy Werner-Johnson, Katrina Wheeling, Patti Wieferich, Cathy

***NON-TENURE STAFF RECOMMENDED FOR TENURE CONTRACT***

Albertson, Jill

***NON-TENURE STAFF RECOMMENDED FOR RENEWAL***

Bolen, Terry Bowen, Craig Cain, Malcolm Christensen, Rhea

Crowe, Cori Fontana, Erin Hearn, Melissa Heck, Robyn

Lauckner, Tanya Mathern-Netzer, Jessica Peters, Carrie Romo, Sara

***LICENSED STAFF RECOMMENDED FOR RENEWAL***

Allmaras-Willer, Geri Christensen, Lisa Monsen, Michelle Pust, Duane

**2012-2013 Certified Extended Day Contracts**

Barnhart, Thom- 10 Days Bolen, Terry- 5 Days Clark, Linda- 5 Days Collins, Stacey- 5 Days

Merritt, Roger- 6 Days Stedman, Elaine- 5 Days

**2011-2012 Individual Transportation Agreement**

Rietta Iversen- Grade 10 Parents: Cel & Craig Iversen Distance of 31 Miles

**Acceptance of the 2011 final audit report by Strom and Associates**

**Approve out-of-state fieldtrip request from BPA to attend the national competition in Chicago in April**

**Approve 2012-2013 School Calendar**

First day for teachers will be August 20, 2012; First day for students will be August 22, 2012

Last day for teachers and students will be May 31, 2013

**First Reading of 2012 Safety Loss and Control Program Policy Revisions**

Revisions will be made to Section K- Athletic/Physical Education Facilities; Section M- Auditorium Safety Rules/Inspection; Section N- Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act; Section O- Playground Safety Inspection Report and Section P Employee Accident Investigation Guidelines. Work will continue on Section L- Lab Safety/Inspection so no revisions are presented on this section at this time. Please find the documents outlining changes attached to the minutes.

**First Reading of 2012 Board Policy Revisions**

Proposed policy changes/additions are attached to these minutes. Policy numbers to be revised include: BP 1400 (Board Meeting); BP 2510 (School Wellness); BP 3120 (Compulsory Attendance); BP 3300P (Corrective Actions and Punishment); BP 3416 (Administering Medicine to Students); BP 3612P (Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks); District Form (Educational Authorization Affidavit); BP 5010 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Non-Descriminatioin); BP 5140 (Classified Employment and Assignment); BP 5210 (Assignments, Reassignments, Transfers); BP 5328 & 5328R (Family Medical Leave; BP 5450 (Employee Electronic Mail, Internet and On-Line Services Usage); and BP 5500 (Payment of Wages Upon Termination).

New policies are: BP 5015 (Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation) and BP 5460 (Electronic Resources and Social Networking)

Mrs. Cooley moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk