March 9, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, March 9, 2015 at 7:00 PM in Room 104 of Central School on posted notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Serina Everett, Dennis Lorenz, Luke Savage and Melissa Sanders. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Daniel Farr; Clerk- Nicole Beyer; High School Student Representative Danielle Steinley; Central Principal- Brent Sukut and High School Vice-Principal- Loretta Thiel. Absent were Trustees Craig Steinbeisser and Kelly Dey; High School Principal- Sue Andersen; Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson; West Side Principal- Jon Skinner and Curriculum/Federal Programs Director- Thom Barnhart.

At 7:00 PM Vice-Chair Everett called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Everett welcomed the visitors in attendance: Bill Vanderweele with the Sidney Herald and Janet Spracklin representing the SEA. Mrs. Everett 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. Sanders moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 9, 2015, and the February 2015 claim warrants 222245 to 222297 in the amount of $303,189.53. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed 4 to 0.

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve a $4,600.00 Associated Student Body transfer from ASB Volleyball to ASB Football- football’s share of Eagle card sales. Mr. Savage seconded the motion which passed 4 to 0.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr updated the Trustees as follows:

**Correspondence:**

- Thank you note from Nicole Simonsen on the decision to allow children of District staff to ride the transfer bus at no cost;

**Updated Enrollment Figures Grades K-12:** 1,398 as of today

**Legislative Updates:**

- Monitoring the status of SB 260 regarding oil and gas concentric circles and SB 252 which removes the mandatory budgeting of 25% oil and gas received the prior year in the general fund budget continues;

- HB 423 which allows schools to retain 150% of maximum budget oil and gas received rather than 130% is up for second reading today. The feeling expressed by legislative opponents of this bill is those schools receive enough money as it is and do not need an increase in funds retained; and

- Privatization/Charter School bills are at the forefront at this time. Introduced bills have provisions allowing for tax incentives for scholarships to this classification of schools as well as 5% of public school ANB funding helping fund private/charter schools. Dr. Farr will be following these bills closely.

**Facility Updates:**

- Dr. Farr provided copies of revised proposals from CTA Architects for the West Side School project that had arrived that afternoon. Trustees discussed concerns regarding the proposal to roof the courtyard. Following this discussion, Dr. Farr agreed to contact the designer for more concrete plans on the courtyard roof. Dr. Farr also reported Fischer Construction, Langlas Construction and B&B Builders would all be considered in the awarding of the general contractor position for the West Side School project;

**Additional Resignations to add to Consent Agenda:**

Dawn Anderson-Biebl – Middle School Teacher

**Calendar Events:**

- District Clerk Evaluation will conducted in April

- Superintendent’s Spring Meeting will be held March 16, 2015;

- March 19th and 20th will be the Richland County Community planning meetings;

- Prom is March 21st;

- March 25th at 6:00 PM IBB is scheduled;

- March 28th is the first track meet and softball game of the season; and

- Dr. Farr met with Lieutenant Governor McLain today regarding challenges in oil impacted districts, community demographics and support for the Governor’s Early Edge program. She did listen to our need to focus on K-12 education and the District’s operation which he classified as survival mode.

**Labor Management Committee (LMC) Update:**

No report.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Danielle Steinley reported the following:

- Track/softball have begun;

- Prom tickets have gone on sale;

- Student Council is working on “fun”projects to make school attendance more exciting; and

- When asked by the Trustees reported the new cell phone policy seems to be going well. Board members reported talk is that students are texting, playing games and posting a long text on facebook during homeroom.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: March 3, 2015***

Mr. Savage highlighted the following committee topics:

- Jon Skinner, West Side Principal, visited with Trustees regarding scheduling issues with the gym;

- Kelly Johnson, Middle School Principal, introduced new teachers Rich Feeley and Carl Dynneson;

- Sarah Beyer, kindergarten aide will be transferred to Title I as of April;

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

- Work continues with the Office of Public Instruction regarding the emergency authorization of the new business teacher at the high school. Sidney Schools intends to continue utilizing her in that position for another year. Possible fines could be as much as $6,000.00 if licensing is denied.

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE March 3, 2015***

Mrs. Sanders outlined agenda discussions:

- Route Bus replacement was discussed and is on the Consent Agenda;

- Transportation will look into replacing the micro bus. It has not been utilized as anticipated; and

- Class of 1955 has requested the use of a bus for a tour of the area.

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: March 2, 2015***

Mrs. Sanders summarized committee agenda items:

- Discussion continues with Stockman Bank for possible use of their building as an administration office once construction is complete on the new bank facility;

- No new information on the CTE Wing Expansion or the courtyard water line repairs at the high school;

- Bus Barn alterations continue to be discussed. Considerations include: demo? rebuild? Install pits? Build up or add on? Where will funding come from?;

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

- Nothing further on the design and construction of a new high school awards area;

- Hussey Seating will provide cost estimates and information on how seating would be affected by installing bleacher handrails in the high school balcony; and

- Updated information on the West Side Expansion/Remodel project was presented and discussed. Advertisement for General Contractors was published mid-February; general contractor selection timeframe was reviewed, phasing and dates were provided and the committee reviewed considerations on the roof system and fire suppression system..

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: March 2, 2015***

Mr. Lorenz imparted the following information:

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

- Dr. Farr provided current enrollment numbers and a Montana Quality Education Coalition update;

- The Committee reviewed legislative updates on current bills affecting schools;

- Trustee resolution calling for the regular school election in May is on the Consent Agenda;

- The next Interest Based Bargaining session is set for March 25th;

- Discussion continues on preliminary budgets for 2015-1; and

- Preliminary figures from MUST indicate a 13.5% increase but this should be mitigated by an increase in deductible to meet the high deductible definition under the Affordable Care Act.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: March 3, 2015***

Mr. Savage reported on the following committee discussions:

- Curriculum work continues in the areas of Foreign Language, Math and English/Language Arts concluding in May with curriculum recommendations to come before the board;

- Sidney was awarded a $10,000 2015-2016 Graduation Matters competitive grant. $4000 was set aside this current school year to help teachers reach the level of education required for dual credit classes;

- The Committee reviewed the differences between SchoolMaster and the proposed student software Infinite Campus. The District will be switched to Infinite Campus during the summer;

- Ted Fulgham, Ag Ed teacher, provided additional information on his request for a 15 day extended contract to work with students during the summer. This item is on the Consent Agenda;

- Two 2015-2016 calendars have been submitted for approval- one with an August 17 start date and one starting a week later if West Side construction experiences delays;

- Safety Committee policy updates are on the Consent Agenda for First Reading; and

- Board policy review continues with finalization of recommended policy changes to take place following the end of the legislative session. However, the first reading of the proposed Kindergarten Program policy incorporating a K-1 and K-2 program with half-days for young students not ready for the academic rigor of full-day kindergarten.is on the agenda for first reading tonight.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Resignations**

- Andrea Baue-Scott – Grade 4 Teacher (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

- Jaylee Berg – Middle School Special Education Aide

- Gina Mata – Title I Tutor

- Tameka Griffin – Middle School Special Education Aide

- Levi Weltikol – Middle School Track Coach

- Teri Clark – Title I Tutor

- Dawn Anderson-Biebl – Middle School Language Arts Teacher (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

**New Hires**

- Robert Aird – Middle School Custodian

- Mustafa Anil Kara – MS Physical Education (Temporary Contract for remainder of 2014-2015 school year)

- Autumn Jorstad – Middle School Special Education Aide

- Susan Spangler – HS Attendance Clerk

- Kaitlin Bell – Middle School Track Coach

- Mustafa Anil Kara – Middle School Track Coach

- Tara Derenburger – High School English (2015-2016 School Year)

- Alison Troxel – Middle School Teacher (2015-2016 School Year)

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

**Second Half of Certified and Salaried Staff Impact Stipend**

$1,500.00 less the cost of employer benefits as per the Memorandum of Understanding with the SEA

**2015-2016 School Calendar**

1. Teachers start 8/17/15 with students to begin 8/19/15 with the last day of school to be 5/27/16
2. Construction Calendar: Teachers start 8/21/15; students 8/24/15 and the last day 5/27/16

**First Reading Safety Policy Revisions:**

*- 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.

**1st Reading of Board Policy 3110 – Entrance, Placement and Transfer**

- 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.

**Extended Contract Ted Fulgham Ag Ed – 15 Days during the summer**

**Route Bus Replacement**

- Route 4 (2002 Bluebird with 137,588 Miles)

- Route 8 (2005 Bluebird with 90,005 Guestimated Miles)

Replacement will be either a 71 or 77 passenger blunt nose buses as they are mechanically easier to work on. Quoted costs are $98,000.00 for 71 passengers or $99,000.00 for 77 passenger bus. Approval by Trustees authorizes the purchase of a minimum capacity of 70 passengers each.

The Consent Agenda was approved as presented 4 to 0 on a motion by Mrs. Sanders and a second by Mr. Lorenz.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk