OCTOBER 10, 2016

A special meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, October 10, 2016 at 6:00 PM in Room 103 of Central School on posted notice by the clerk for the purpose of a Sidney Education Association (SEA) grievance hearing. Present were Trustees Luke Savage, Ben Thogersen, Dennis Lorenz, Craig Steinbeisser, Kelly Dey and Melissa Sanders- who was present via conference call. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Daniel Farr, Clerk- Nicole Beyer, SEA members: Alison Troxel, Brad Faulhaber, Cara Lokken-Frandsen and Nicole Simonsen.

At 6:12 PM Chairman Savage called the meeting to order.

Superintendent Farr explained that second year teacher, Alison Troxel, did not understand when signing the form declining participation in the certified sick leave bank last fall that this decision was irrevocable. Mrs. Troxel did not feel she had enough sick leave accumulated initially to donate a day for this purpose but requested to donate one of the left over days in the fall of 2016-2017 and become a participant. During the investigation into this matter, it was discovered the form for voicing teacher participation in the sick leave bank had not been updated to the latest adopted language from the Master Agreement.

Discussion followed regarding how many teachers this may affect. Currently, not turning in a form automatically enrolls the teacher in the sick leave bank. Clerk Beyer reviewed this process over the summer and made the corrections necessary to enroll anyone who did not turn in a form in the certified sick leave bank. Concern was then expressed as to how many teachers this would affect. Mrs. Beyer stated at this time she could think of three other than Mrs. Troxel.

Following this discussion, Mr. Steinbeisser moved to allow Mrs. Troxel to participate in the certified sick leave bank upon a donation of one day effective immediately. Mr. Thogersen seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

Ms. Dey then moved to draft a Memorandum of Understanding between the SEA and the Board of Trustees to be in effect until the next negotiations session clarifying donation/participation in the certified sick leave bank and allowing any teacher new to the District in the last five years who had previously declined participation an opportunity to change that election and become enrolled in the certified sick leave bank with a deadline of two weeks to make that decision. Mr. Steinbeisser seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

The special meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

The regular meeting of the Trustees was called to order by Chairman Savage at 7:00 PM. All Trustees who were present at the special meeting were in attendance for the regular meeting with Mrs. Sanders present via conference call.

Mr. Savage welcomed the visitors in attendance: Cara Lokken-Frandsen and Nicole Simonsen representing the SEA, Central Principal- Brent Sukut; West Side Principal- Jon Skinner; High School Vice-Principal- Loretta Thiel; Superintendent Daniel Farr; District Clerk- Nicole Beyer; Megan Wiggins; Amanda Valnes; Johren Carpenter and Bill VanderWeele with the Sidney Herald.

Mr. Savage stated an opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items would be provided at the end of 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. Thogersen moved to approve the minutes of September 12th, 2016 as well as the September 2016 claim warrants 230399 to 230432 in the amount of $767,087.25. Mr. Steinbeisser seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr provided the following updates:

**2016-2017 Transfers:**

- Justin Collins from Middle School Track Coach to High School Track Coach

**Additions to 2016-2017 New Hires:**

- Sandy Sullivan – Middle School Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball Coach

- Elizabeth Kunda – Middle School Cheer Coach

- David Huskamp – Elementary Girls Basketball Coach

- Hunter Gordon – Debate Coach

NOTE: Jillian Stanek is currently a volunteer coach with the High School Volleyball team. Jillian has experience playing and coaching at the collegiate level and with the current personal situation affecting Head Coach McLaughlin, will continue as a volunteer. As such, she must complete all background checks required of paid employees.

**Addition to the 2016-2017 Attendance Agreement:**

- Kyton Andersen Kindergarten son of Casden Andersen from the Brorson District

**Resignations to report:**

- Sue Andersen – High School Principal

- Mary Lake – Food Service

- Brian Cunningham – High School Custodian

**Enrollment: 1332 Grades K1-12 compared to 1384 on May 9, 2016**

**Calendar Events:**

- October 15th – Cross Country Divisional at Glendive

- October 19th – Montana Quality Education Cooperative (MQEC) Meeting

- October 20-21 – MEA/Teacher Conferences – No School – Early Out on October 19th.

- October 25th – Band Concert

- October 13th – Funeral for Damon McLaughlin at Sidney High School at 2:00. This will be a district-wide early out at 1:30 with no early-out scheduled for PLC on Wednesday. .

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: October 4, 2016***

Mr. Lorenz highlighted the following agenda items:

- Ruben Moreno, Activities Director, met with the Trustees to update on how things are going with his new position. Brent Sukut, Sue Andersen and Loretta Thiel also met with the committee.

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

- The quarterly superintendent evaluation is scheduled for tonight.

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: October 3, 2016***

Mr. Steinbeisser recounted the following committee discussions:

- Jordan Mayer with Interstate Engineering updated the Trustees on the High School north parking lot/oval project;

- West Side restroom remodel is complete; Perfect 10 has completed the roof work and gym exterior painting is still waiting for contact with the contractor;

- Facility fee waiver requests were reviewed and are on the agenda tonight;

- Frontier Precision approached the District with a request to consider the high school for a GNSS/VRS hosting site. They are willing to pay $900.00 a year for use of the site;

- Work on the South Meadow Softball Complex is progressing;

- Mr. Mayer also provided an initial plan for the proposed Middle School parking lot

- CTA is continuing to work on the Middle School heating system issues; and

- Summer roofing projects and parking lot repairs were reviewed.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: October 3, 2016***

Mr. Thogersen recapped the following agenda items:

- September claims were reviewed. Mrs. Beyer stated August financial reports would be available tonight;

- October 3rd was the official fall count day for 2017-2018 budgets;

- Dr. Farr has been in contact with area schools and potential lobbyists. John Hagen has been selected as the school district lobbyist as a cost of $12,000.00 with approximately eight to nine schools splitting the cost;

- The bids received for the Dodge Stratus were opened and are on the agenda for consideration this evening;

- New buses are having cameras installed prior to use on the routes; and

- The 2016-2017 attendance agreements are on the Consent Agenda tonight.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: October 4, 2016***

Ms. Dey summarized the following agenda discussions:

- A request has been made by a Liberty Christian family asking if their middle school student can participate in co-curricular activities. More information is sought regarding MHSA requirements and insurance coverage before making a decision on this;

- A committee has been formed to discuss Academic Honors classes and increasing the weight of dual credit classes;

- Following discussion on drug testing of students in co-curricular activities will not take place at this time but it is an issue that will be monitored; and

- Dr. Farr had MTSBA review the current K1-K2 policy. Some revisions were suggested but the plan is to keep the program as intact as possible.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**New Hires**

- Samantha Lovegren – 1.5 Hours Secretarial

- Dusty Ivory – Food Service

- Cindy Alkire – High School Custodian

- Hunter Gordon – Debate Coach

- Sandy Sullivan – Middle School Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball Coach

- David Huskamp – Elementary Girls Basketball

- Elizabeth Kunda – Middle School Cheer Coach

**Approval of 2016-2017 Attendance Agreements:**

*Students to Attend Sidney Schools:*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Student*** | ***Grade*** | ***District*** | ***Parent*** | ***Request Type*** |
| Karina Orozco-Angel | 10 | Vida | Audemic & Amparo Orozco | Parental |
| Kyton Andersen | K | Brorson | Casden Anderson | Parental |

**Facility Fee Waiver Requests**

- Men’s Morning League Basketball – MS Gym from September through May from 6:00AM to 7:15 AM Tuesday and Saturday mornings. No fees are charged and it does not conflict with any school sponsored groups.

- Sheila Iszler- High School cafeteria to sponsor a fund raiser for a cancer patient scheduled for 10/22/2016. Coordination with Pam Radke, Food Service Supervisor will take place.

- Community Christmas Concert scheduled for December 4th with dress rehearsal on December 3rd. The venue requested is the Middle School Auditorium. No fees are charged- food bank donations are accepted.

Ms. Dey moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed on 6 to 0.

Two bids previously opened for the 2004 Dodge Stratus were reviewed. One was $2,300.00 for Keith Walla and one was $1,301.10 from Ernie Taylor. After consultation with a local dealership, estimated trade-in value is $2,000.00 with retail about $3,500.00. Mr. Steinbeisser moved to accept the bid of $2,300.00 received from Keith Walla. The motion passed unanimously 6 to 0.

An emergency resolution passed 6 to 0 on a motion by Ms. Dey and second by Mr. Steinbeisser to facilitate repairs to the roof over the Middle Schools gym due to unforeseen circumstances “…affecting the educational functions of the District and the activity opportunities provided to the students and the public;”. This roof has failed once and future problems could result in replacement of the wood gym floor under this roof. This resolution set Thiel Brothers Roofing of Sidney, Montana as contractor and Interstate Engineering as project engineer. Estimated cost for the project is $128,368.00 with a timeline of approximately two weeks.

Chairman Savage provided an opportunity for Community Comment on non-agenda items: NONE

At 7:30 PM Chairman Savage announced that the next matter to come before the Board was a personal matter and that he 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, he called for an executive session for the purpose of the superintendent’s quarterly evaluation.

Chairman Savage reconvened the meeting at 8:45 PM.

With no further business to become before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk