September 10, 2012

The regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held on Monday, September 10, 2012 at 7:00 PM in Room 104 of Central School on published notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Kelly Dey, Luann Cooley, Dexter Thiel, Dennis Lorenz and Serina Everett. Also in attendance were Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson, High School Assistant Principal- Loretta Thiel, High School Principal- Dan Peters and Clerk Beyer. Absent were Trustee Craig Steinbeisser, Superintendent Farr, Sidney Elementary Principal-Sue Andersen, and Federal Programs/Testing Coordinator- Gary Arnold.

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Chairwoman Dey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and welcomed the visitor in attendance- Mark Halvorson, SEA President. 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.

Mrs. Cooley moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held August 13th and continued on August 23rd and the special meeting held July 9th and August 2012 claim warrants 220347 to 220600 in the amount of $320525.50. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

The following ASB checks were cancelled unanimously on a motion by Mrs. Cooley and a second by Mrs. Everett:

ASB #16388 10/6/10 Jock Stop $ 37.50 Outstanding more than 1 year

#16616 12/7/10 East Mont $272.98 Outstanding more than 1 year

#17091 3/17/11 Lexi Brunsvold $ 20.00 Outstanding more than 1 year

#17136 3/29/11 Mary Pfau $ 12.00 Outstanding more than 1 year

#17185 4/14/11 Watford City HS $120.00 Outstanding more than 1 year

#17405 9/8/11 Sidney Cleaners $ 17.50 Outstanding more than 1 year

The August 2012 Associated Student Body report and transfers were approved on a motion by Mr. Lorenz with a second by Mrs. Cooley. The motion passed on a 5 to 0 vote

From FCCLA to Middle School FCS $ 495.00 Charged to wrong account

From Athletics to Softball $ 873.56 Refund on District Tourney Expenses

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Principal Johnson relayed the Superintendent’s Report to the Trustees:

- The additional hire of Melissa Mocko – MS Special Education Aide;

- The addition of Harley Jones Grade 11 to the student attendance agreements for 2012-2013;

- Reminder of the Back to School legal primer in Sidney tomorrow from 8:30 until 3:30 or 4:00;

- 2012-2013 handbooks for all schools were provided to the Trustees;

- Handouts of new construction plans for middle schools were distributed; and

- A Montana candidate forum is scheduled for September 20th at 7:00 at the Eastern-Ag research center. The majority of candidates running for Montana offices will be in attendance.

Clerk Beyer reported that following the newspaper article regarding the need for additional funds for the new scoreboard, a donation of $4000.00 was made.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Krista Steinbeisser and Skylar Petrik were in attendance and reported the following:

- The Council is reviewing the 2012 Freshman Orientation day to see what should be kept and what can be done to make the day more effective. Skylar stated that as a freshman he felt the day was beneficial for incoming students and was well run- kept students moving throughout the day;

- Student Council will have a booth at the Kids Carnival to be held Saturday from 10 -2;

- Homecoming preparations are under way with dress-up day themes already determined; and

When asked about Council goals for the year, Krista replied the Council intended to look further into the My Voice Survey results received last spring, continue working on the student handbook and work on increasing attendance at bi-weekly meetings.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: September 4, 2012***

Mrs. Everett highlighted committee discussions:

- Gary Arnold and Lynn Obermeyer reported the elementary math/reading summer school went very well;

- Vacancies were reviewed; resignations and new hires are on the Consent Agenda; and

- Superintendent Farr reported that 21 staff members are participating in the mentor/protégée program. The mentorship program was successful this past year and new mentors have signed up.

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: September 4, 2012***

Mr. Thiel outlined committee agenda items:

- Transportation Supervisor, Rick Verhasselt, provided information to the committee on vehicles and mileage. He also reported a desperate need for drivers and substitutes. Routes are constantly reviewed with new students coming and going in the District;

- 2012-2013 first semester bus inspections were conducted and all passed with noted breaks in two windshields which were okayed as long as they do not spread;

- Cameras are partially installed – still need training on their use; and

- Current route ridership was presented and continued attention will be paid to residential impacts in reference to bussing.

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: September 3, 2012***

Mr. Lorenz summarized Building and Grounds topics:

- High School project updates:

*- Moving ahead with the Greenhouse replacement at the High School;*

*- Research is continuing on track repairs – cost estimates and how much repair is needed; and*

*- The new football field scoreboard is in progress.*

- Middle School project updates:

*- The Middle School kitchen project is near completion; and*

*- The gymnasium scoreboard and safety padding have arrived and are awaiting installation.*

- West Side/Central Elementary project updates:

*- Office remodel at West Side is mostly complete;*

*- Asbestos abatement at Central is complete except for the crawl space;*

*- Discussion continues on possibilities for remodeling the second floor at Central; and*

*- Staff housing at West Side cleared the City of Sidney hurdle on September 4th at 6:30 PM. Work will continue with Interstate Engineering with site plans and getting bids on water, sewer and concrete.*

- Bus Barn project updates:

*- No new updates on the bus barn fire damage;*

*- Fire communication system installation is not complete yet at this location; and*

*- Continue to work on obtaining a contractor to construct the fire walls in the bus barn.*

- The District continues to work with Interstate Engineering on the District owned property in JD Subdivision; and

- Mr. Farr provided current updates on proposed residential and commercial developments.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: September 3, 2012***

Mrs. Cooley reported on committee discussions:

- The August claims were reviewed;

- Preliminary enrollment shows Kindergarten to Grade 5 with 577; Middle School with 286 and High School with 415. This is a 6.5% increase overall and a 13% increase in the high school district;

- An update on Montana Quality Education Coalition discussions was presented by Mr. Farr;

- $1500.00 Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) contributions for new teachers in 2011-12 who returned in 2012-2013 as per a memorandum of understanding with the SEA are on the consent agenda;

- 2012-2013 attendance agreements are also on the consent agenda; and

- There will be a meeting with legislators on September 5th at the Country Club regarding the upcoming legislative season. Board members are encouraged to attend.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: September 4, 2012***

Mrs. Cooley briefed those in attendance on committee topics:

- Career and Technical Education with emphasis on the FFA program were discussed;

- Reviewed the ACT testing report;

- Mr. Peters provided information regarding the high school accreditation review. He stated that he and Ms. Thiel would be travelling to Bozeman in regards to these changes in the hope of making a smooth transition;

- Mr. Peters also addressed the writing assessment. A grant has been received that will allow writing assessment to occur at the junior level at no cost to the student;

- Nothing new as pertaining to graduation standards;

- The Close-up program as requested a change in program to the Pac Basin Program. This is an international program which will allow the group to go to Hawaii; and

- MSU-Bozeman plans an on-site visit on September 24th during PIR days as part of the attempt by the District to enlist the Montana/North Dakota University System program in post-secondary education in Sidney.

***LABOR AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:***

Mrs. Cooley presented an overview of discussions by this committee including the need to continue to put pressure on the legislature to pass the Jones bill and that the mentoring program is seen as a success.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**New Hires**

- Josie Yerk – Middle School Special Education Aide

- Melissa Mocko – Middle School Education Aide

**Resignations**

- Jodi Berry – Middle School Cheer Coach

- Michelle Young – Special Education Aide

**2012-2013 Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) Contributions**

As set by a memorandum of understanding with the Sidney Education Association, the District will provide $1500.00 per new teacher in 2011-2012 who returned in 2012-2013 before the end of May 2013. Teachers set to receive this HRA:

**Elementary Teachers**

Terry Bolen Carrie Peters Tanya Lauckner Sara Romo Rhea Christensen

**High School Teachers**

Craig Bowen Jesse Nesper Melissa (Hearn) Debruycker

**Out of State Field Trips**

1. 6th Grade to Reginia, Canada to study government, natural history and science
2. 5th Grade to Zahl, North Dakota to observe farming and potato harvest
3. High School Close-up to attend the Pac-Basin program in Hawaii with regards to foreign policy

**2012-2013 Attendance Agreements**

Approval of Table 1 students to attend Sidney Schools from another District and acknowledgement of receipt of the attendance agreement from Savage Public Schools on Table 2 students with only the highlighted students allowed to be picked up at the Crane bus stop as previously agreed to between the Districts.

Table 1: Attending Sidney Schools

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Grade** | **Dist. Of Res.** | **Parent Name** | **Request type** |
| RADKE, SETH | 1 | Rau | Holly Radke | Parent |
| Bodie Deming | 4 | Fairview | Jason Deming | Parent |
| BROWN, JALISSA | 3 | Fairview | Katena Brown | Parent |
| BROWN, JANAYA | 2 | Fairview | Katena Brown | Parent |
| KRUEGER, DRAKE A. | 10 | Fairview | Brittany Brown | Parent |
| Logan Deming | 11 | Fairview | Jason Deming | Parent |
| Lyle, Georgia | 9 | Fairview | Shirley Lyle | Parent |
| Megan Deming | 9 | Fairview | Jason Deming | Parent |
| Mindt, Maysen | 5 | Fairview | Stacie Midnt | Parent |
| Mindt, Parker | 3 | Fairview | Stacie Midnt | Parent |
| OLSON, KEZIAH | 12 | Fairview | Hannah Wilson | Parent |
| Rebecca Deming | 5 | Fairview | Jason Deming | Parent |
| Wentz, Amber | 12 | Fairview | Jodi Wentz | Parent |
| SWENSON, ASHLYN H. | 1 | Lambert | Jessica Judd | Parent |
| LONSKI, OWEN | 2 | McKenzie Co. | Nicki Lonski | Parent |
| KOHNTOPP, TRISTAN | 7 | Rau (Middle School) | Tami Berger | Dist to Dist |

Table 2: Attending Out-Of-District – these students are attending Savage Public Schools

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Grade** | **Dist. Of Res.** | **Parent Name** | **Request type** |
| Clemmer, Cara D. | 9th | Sidney | Carla Linderman | Parent |
| CLIFTON, jUSTIN a. | 1ST | Sidney | Misty Clifton | Parent |
| Joslin, Lexi | 8th | Sidney | Chantel Joslin | Parent |
| Jensen, Austin M. | 11th | Sidney | Randy Jensen | Parent |
| Sheehan, Brook J. | 8th | Sidney | Dawn Pedersen | Parent |
| Sheehan, Clay R. | 8th | Sidney | Dawn Pedersen | Parent |
|  |  |  |  |  |

*Students highlighted in grey are eligible for pickup in the Sidney District at the Crane turnaround per the agreement grandfathered between Savage and the Sidney School District.*

Mrs. Cooley moved to accept the consent agenda as presented. Mrs. Everett seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

**Communication from the public on non-agenda items:**

Mrs. Cooley reported she had received a phone call from the Culbertson FFA alumni regarding a leadership class/conference tomorrow night at 5:30. They wanted her to extend an invitation to all Sidney trustees but would need to be notified about attendance by noon tomorrow.

Mr. Peters reported he attended the FFA pizza meeting at noon. The number of members is up- approximately 20 kids of which approximately half are freshman.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk