SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

A special meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, September 12, 2016 at 6:30 PM in Room 103 of Central School on posted notice by the clerk for the purpose of a student’s educational plan. Present were Trustees Luke Savage, Ben Thogersen, Melissa Sanders, Kelly Dey, Dennis Lorenz and Craig Steinbeisser. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Daniel Farr, Clerk- Nicole Beyer, High School Principal- Sue Andersen, High School Vice-Principal- Loretta Thiel, Special Education Director- Michelle Monsen, the student and the student’s mom.

At 6:30 PM Chairman Savage called the meeting to order.

At 6:31 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 a student’s educational plan.

The special meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

The regular meeting of the Trustees was called to order by Chairman Savage at 7:18 PM. All Trustees, Superintendent Farr, Clerk Beyer, High School Principal- Sue Andersen, High School Vice Principal- Loretta Thiel, Activities Director- Ruben Moreno and Curriculum Director- Thom Barnhart were in attendance for the regular meeting. Mr. Savage welcomed the visitors in attendance: Bill VanderWeele with the Sidney Herald, Madison Thiel, Logan Peterson, Maddi DiFonzo, Autumn Larson, MaKenzie Bjork, Lauren Beenken, Abby Reitz, Andrew Hansen, Tessa Hill, Shaelyn Bowlds, Kirsten Strickland, Katie Berglund, Ainhoa Idoate, Ben Brodhead, Lilli and Christian Seitz, Jared Steinbeisser, Madison Thiessen, Brooke Franklin, Mateya Coffman, Maddy Hammer, Paige Metz, Michael McGinnis, David and Jodi Seitz, Justin Candee, LeeAnn Strasheim, Laura Peterson, Garrison Hughes, Jordan Baxter, Ethan Petrik, Zachary Sommerfeld, Kasey Gorder, Lesley Thiessen, Jodi Mueller, Jolene Baxter, Christian Dean, Landan Jones, Nick Kallem and Johren Carpenter.

Mr. Steinbeisser moved to accept the recommendation of administration in regards to Student A. Mr. Thogersen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The minutes from tonight’s special meeting executive session were approved 6 to 0 on a motion by Mrs. Sanders and a second by Mr. Steinbeisser.

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. However, as the slips filled out by visitors to address the Board indicate all are here to comment on homecoming, he moved that topic to the front of the agenda. He also stated up front that this item is not an agenda item so no action could be taken by the Trustees until the next meeting in October unless a special meeting is called at the request of two board members.

Madison Thiessen addressed the Trustees requesting their assistance in changing the out of town volleyball game scheduled in Laurel on homecoming night as eight of the varsity team are seniors and it also affects a total of 31 players and parents. She expounded on a number of options they have been working on with Mrs. Andersen and Mr. Moreno.

Speaking in favor of moving the volleyball game and providing rationale for their stance were students Jared Steinbeisser, Cristian Seitz, Autumn Larson, Lauren Beenken and Jordan Baxter.

Mrs. Andersen explained how she and Mr. Hall arrived at the homecoming date- and the one chosen was the least intrusive to all student activities. She discussed how football games are scheduled and that they look for a week with a home volleyball game as well.

Mr. Moreno stated he had been working on this concern since the end of July when he was first made aware of it. He and the Laurel AD are both new to their positions and initial conversations with him indicate Laurel is reluctant to change the date of the contest. The last conversation between Mr. Moreno and the Laurel AD was that he needed to check with his principal and coaches.

Following additional discussion between the audience and the Trustees, the Trustees stated this was not their decision but the decision of Laurel- they backed the request and could school individuals could apply appropriate pressure in different venues if the Laurel AD came back with a refusal to change the date.

Ms. Dey moved to approve the minutes of the August 8 meeting continued to August 25, 2016 as well as the August 2016 claim warrants 230354 to 230398 in the amount of $1,937,674.16. Mr. Thogersen seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

Clerk Beyer presented District warrant #230398 written 9/1/16 to Richland County Transportation Services for $33.00 to be cancelled as a duplicate payment. Also presented was ASB warrant # 22610 for $100.00 to Dawson County High School for Cross Country entrance fee. No fee was charged for this meet so the warrant was returned. The request was approved unanimously on a motion by Ms. Dey and a second by Mr. Lorenz.

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve the ASB transfers:

- $ 18.67 from ASB 112 (BPA) to ASB 108 (Publications) Paid from wrong account

- $3000.00 from ASB 112 (BPA) to ASB 161 (College & Career Readiness) Check deposited into wrong account

- $ 165.00 from ASB 101 (HS Student Council) to ASB 112 (BPA) Reimbursement for Student Store coupons

The motion passed unanimously following a second by Ms.Dey.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr updated the Trustees on the following:

**Additional Hires to Add to the Consent Agenda:**

- Nick Kallem – Middle School Auditorium Manager

**Additional 2016-2017 Attendance Agreements to Add to the Consent Agenda:**

- Gwyna & Norene Brengman Grades 7/5 Rau District Kristin Kennedy Parent

**Building Updates:**

- Softball Field Complex- Thanks to the assistance of City Workers, the High School Construction Class and Oneok Dr. Farr has spearheaded the demolition of the existing fence. Fields have been aeriated and the forms for the new dugouts should be completed this week.

**Resignations to report:**

- Sue Satra – Kindergarten Teacher at the end of the 2016-2017 school year

- Danielle Topping – Central Custodian effective immediately

**Enrollment: 1347 Grades K1-12 compared to 1384 on May 9, 2016**

Central = 331 West Side = 317 Middle School = 322 High School = 377

**Calendar Events:**

- September 15: Labor Management Committee Meeting at 5:30 PM

- September 19: MQEC monthly meeting. Will attend via conference call

- September 22-23: Out of the Office

- September 30 & October 1: Garage Sale .

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Jordan Baxter, Ethan Petrik and Garrison Hughes reported the following to the Trustees:

- Jordan reported that Student Council has been working on homecoming activities and goal setting for the year;

- Ethan reported on the High School Facebook page and the information relayed to the public on the site;

- Ethan also reported on the use of the new blow-up tunnel for football games. They are in search of six to eight students to become the “tunnel crew”- setting it up and taking it down at home games; and

- Garrison reported student activity clubs have started up, Morning Grind is operational and athletic teams are off to a good start.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: September 6, 2016***

Mrs. Sanders highlighted the following committee discussions:

- Martin Morales, Transportation Supervisor, attended the meeting. He reported the office is outdated, for the most part things are going well, they are working on doing more inhouse maintenance and repair on District vehicles and have begun sanitizing the buses weekly;

- Jon Skinner, West Side Principal, reported on the Fastbridge testing implementation, the addition of pea gravel to the playground and an update on the traffic before and after school as students are picked up or dropped off;

- Kelly Johnson, Middle School Principal, stated they loved the new remodel, the air conditioning in the upper floors is not working and thanked the Trustees for bringing in the PIR presentation on writing;

- Vacancies and resignations were reviewed;

- New Hires are on the Consent Agenda;

- A handout of Mentor/Protégé assignments was provided; and

- Members and coaches of the Speech and Drama team presented numbers and research of other area teams with regards to obtaining a debate coach. The committee directed Superintendent Farr to advertise for the position..

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: September 6, 2016***

Mr. Lorenz imparted the following committee information:

- Updates on the High School north parking lot/oval project were provided by Dr. Farr;

- West Side bathroom remodel is complete except for punch list items. The roof project continues;

- We are waiting for contact from the painter approached to work on the gym wall at West Side;

- The second floor sewer line replacement at Central has been completed. The drain line work still needs to be done;

- Dr. Farr provided the updated report of the State Softball Tournament/Complex in his report;

- Middle School remodel project is on schedule;

- Work on the Middle School second and third floor water lines will remain on the agenda until complete;

- Discussion on prioritizing upcoming roof replacement projects continued. Upcoming District construction projects up for consideration include the High School locker rooms and the Middle School roof replacement..

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: September 6, 2016***

Mr. Steinbeisser provided updates on the following agenda items:

- August claims were reviewed;

- Current enrollment figures were reviewed;

- Nothing new to report on Montana Quality Education Coalition;

- 2016-2017 Attendance Agreements and a request for an ASB Account Name Change are on the Consent Agenda;

- Mrs. Beyer presented information on the 2016 Trustees Report and the 2016-2017 Budgets; and

- Discussion regarding the retention of the 2017 legislative lobbyist by area school districts began.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: September 6, 2016***

Mr. Thogersen reviewed the following agenda discussions:

- Curriculum Director, Thom Barnhart, reviewed the ACT writing results, reported on the number of minutes students missed school during 2015-16 for any reason and reviewed the number of students that are taking Advanced Placement classes and/or dual credit. The District needs to develop strategies to encourage students to avail themselves of this opportunity. Discussion then moved to the requirements in place for top 10 percent and valedictorian/salutatorian;

- The dual credit classes with Miles Community College for 2016-2017 are at no charge to students;

- Labor Management Committee will meet September 15. Mrs. Sanders and Mr. Steinbeisser are the Board representatives on this committee;

- Copies of updated District Handbooks were provided to Trustees;

- Mrs. Andersen and Mr. Moreno are working on the video taping of parent/student participation meetings so that they may be accessed by parents unable to attend the meetings; and

- Policy review has begun with continued discussion on co-curricular drug testing. The current Glendive policy was reviewed. More information is sought and this will continue as a discussion item. Discussion on the K1-K2 policy will be next month..

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**New Hires**

- Zoey Vannatta - Custodian

- Nicole Franklin – 6th Grade Volleyball

- Nick Kallen – Middle School Auditorium Manager

- List of the 2016-2017 substitute teachers to date

Approval pending receipt and review of background checks by Administration.

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

*Students to Attend Sidney Schools:*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Student*** | ***Grade*** | ***District*** | ***Parent*** | ***Request Type*** |
| Shamber Cohenour | 10 | Fairview | Janet Cohenour | Parental |
| Danica Denowh | 2 | Brorson | Jennifer Denowh | Parental |
| Shaylene Jenson | 7 | Fairview | Travis Jensen | Parental |
| Mathew Johnson | 5 | Rau | Jenny Johnson | Parental |
| Kylee Lynn Rodgers | 2 | Fairview | Tammy Rodgers | Parental |
| Skyler Rodgers | K | Fairview | Tammy Rodgers | Parental |
| Cameron Wheeler | 4 | Fairview | Michelle Wheeler | Parental |
| Gwyna Brengman | 7 | Rau | Kristin Kennedy | District |
| Nora Brengman | 5 | Rau | Kristin Kennedy | Parental |

*Sidney Students to Attend Out-of-District*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Student*** | ***Grade*** | ***Parents*** | ***District Attending*** |
| Parker Tofte | 10 | Rita & Casey Tofte | Savage |
| Clay Sheehan | 12 | Dawn Pederson | Savage |
| Faith Reed | 4 | Krista Reed | Savage |
| Bethany Wells | 8 | Erin Wells | Savage |
| Miley Pilgeram |  | Zane Pilgeram | Savage |
| Jaidyn Alvstad | 5 | Zane Pilgeram | Savage |
| Zane Pilgeram | 4 | Zane Pilgeram | Savage |
| Lexi Joslin | 12 | Chantel Joslin | Savage |

Approval of Out of District requests to attend Sidney Schools and acknowledge receipt of requests for students to attend Savage Public Schools.

**Rename Middle School Friends of Rachel ASB Account to MS- MBI**

Ms. Dey moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed 5 to 1 with Mr. Steinbeisser voting against the motion.

Chairman Savage provided an opportunity for Community Comment on non-agenda items:

- Ethan Petrik said that students had come to the Trustees last May in regards to having an MSHA sanctioned tennis team. The Board had a resounding no answer but since then have purchased new uniforms for football and other large athletic expenses. Mrs. Sanders stated it was not a resounding “no” but a request to put together an intramural team to show genuine interest before the Board would consider sanctioning tennis as a school sport. Ms. Dey added that requests had been made for both a Rodeo Club and Paint Ball Club in the past and those individuals were given the same directive. The student body needs to prove the interest is there and can be sustained before the Trustees will consider it as a possible school sponsored activity. Mrs. Beyer also requested a cost analysis for the Trustees to examine- what are the MHSA required costs, uniforms, supplies, coaches and the travel requirements needed to compete in Montana.

With no further business to become before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk