February 9, 2015

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

At 7:00 PM Chairwoman Dey called the meeting to order.

Ms. Dey welcomed the visitors in attendance: Gradin Sukut, Bill Vanderweele with the Sidney Herald and Cara Lokken-Frandsen, SEA President. Ms. Dey 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 January 12, 2015, and the January 2015 claim warrants 222199 to 222244 in the amount of $304,550.21. Mr. Savage seconded the motion which passed 4 to 0.

Mrs. Sanders moved to approve the following Associated Student Body transfers:

* From ASB Athletics to ASB Wrestling $ 600.00 – Reimburse NFHS Sanctioning Fee for Sidney meet contingent on fees from tournament having been deposited in Athletics and not Wrestling
* From ASB Athletics to ASB Wrestling $ 150.00- Billings Entry Fee - Allowed because home division

The motion passed 4 to 0 after a second to the motion by Mr. Savage.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr provided the following updates:

**Correspondence:**

- Thank you notes received from staff for payment of salaried Impact Stipends

**Updated Enrollment Figures Grades K-12:** 1,396 as of today

**Legislative Updates:**

- SB 260 Oil and gas concentric circles possible compromise where 50% of these funds would go into an infrastructure account which could be accessed by any school. This is an attempt by oil and gas schools to retain at least a portion of the concentric circles funds;

- SB 252 would remove the mandatory budgeting of 25% oil and gas received from the general fund budget giving local control over the budgeting of these funds. This is being amended to allow any oil and gas budgeted in the general fund to be applied to either the base or overbase budget;

- HB 373 would permit bonding capacity to be 100% of taxable valuation rather than the current 50%; and

- HB 423 would raise the 130% of maximum budget cap currently placed on oil and gas receipts to 150%.

**Facility Updates:**

- CTA Architects has provided design fee estimates for Phase 1,2 and 3 of West Side School. As this information only arrived today, it requires a closer look. Trustees requested a total estimated project cost.

**Donation:**

Richard Roehm of Bozeman has donated $9,121.21 in books to the High School Library. Mr. Hart is just thrilled with the arrival of the nine crates of books.

**Calendar Events:**

- Hearings are scheduled on the above bills for Wednesday, February 11, 2015;

- The District Calendar Committee has met and come up with two possible calendars. One will have a later start in case construction inhibits the earlier start date;

- 2C Girls and Boys Basketball tournament will be held at the high school February 16-21;

- State Wrestling will be held in Billings February 13 and 14;

- Eastern A Band will be in Glendive February 16 and 17;

- Divisional Girls and Boys Basketball will be in Billings February 26-28. No school on the 26th and 27th; and

- MQEC was Monday, January 26, 2015 with emphasis on legislative issues.

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

January concerns included the addition of five minutes onto the end of the school day at the high school to facilitate a different lunch schedule. Staff were under the impression that it is a requirement they be at school for 20 minutes before and after the school day. Dr. Farr is researching past documentation looking for references or policies pertaining to staff presence prior to and after school.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

- To address the lunch issue presented by the underclassman, five minutes has been added to the lunch period allowing more time to eat. The original rotation was set up with Seniors/Sophomores first week and Juniors/Freshman the second week. Seniors complained about losing their “perk” so the rotation was adjusted as follows: Senior/Juniors; Seniors/Sophomores and Seniors/Freshmen;

- Prom is coming up. The theme was voted on today but has not been announced;

- Working on some “fun” activities for each month- things we can do to get people excited about school; and

- When asked about the cell phone policy, was assured it was going well with less referrals to the office.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

Mrs. Sanders outlined committee discussions:

- Steve Yockim, Technology Coordinator, reported on the replacement of School Master with Infinite Campus; updating staff computers; more and more District information is utilizing the cloud; the newly instituted Help Desk feature is effective; and the District is planning to have six 15 unit mobile labs available;

- Pam Radke, Food Services Supervisor, stated she is fully staffed and breakfast participation continues to increase. She is looking ahead at a possible expansion of the breakfast program to other schools;

- Thom Barnhart, Testing Coordinator and Curriculum Director, reported on the need for a significant writing program, math issues and the progress on articulation with Dawson Community College;

- Brian LeFors, Transportation Supervisor, informed Trustees all busses passed second semester inspection. He also talked about electrical shortcomings in the building and reported Bus 4 needs to be replaced; and

- Vacancies and Transfers were reviewed. New Hires including Fall Coaching/Advisor renewals and Resignations are on the Consent Agenda.

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE February 3, 2015***

Mr. Steinbeisser recapped agenda discussions:

- Bus inspections are complete;

- MCI delivery date is now set for June; and

- A LMC request to allow permanent staff members to send their children on the transfer bus between schools at no cost has been approved and is effective March 1st.

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

Mr. Savage imparted the following information:

- The Savage Law Firm has vacated the old administration office as of February 1st;

- Nothing further has been done on the court yard water lines. Appears to be a contractor issue but the desire is to continue working with Olson Plumbing as they installed the system originally;

- Two options exist for remodeling the Bus Barn to allow for lift installation- one would be utilizing what is currently there and the other would be to build new;

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

- Kelly and Dan met with CTE instructors regarding design and construction of a new high school awards area;

- A representative with Hussey Seating stopped this week to examine the concerns with bleacher handrails at the high school;

- CTA Architects have begun the process of choosing a contractor for the West Side project; and

- An entire bank of lockers near the kindergarten rooms fell out of their alcove and landed on three students with minimal injuries- mostly surprise as adults moved quickly to remedy the situation. B&B Builders was on site shortly after the incident securing the lockers and checking all others.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: February 2, 2015***

Mrs. Sanders highlighted the following committee discussions:

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

- Dr. Farr and Trustees will attend Caucus Day on the Hill in Helena on February 23, 2015;

- Legislative updates with emphasis on oil and gas bills affecting schools were provided;

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

- Interest Based Bargaining training is set for February 17 at 6:00 PM; and

- Preliminary budget figures based on cost of living adjustments to funding mechanisms were provided to the Trustees.

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

Mr. Savage summarized committee discussions:

- Curriculum work continues in the areas of Foreign Language, Math and English/Language Arts with Mr. Barnhart researching effective writing programs to include;

- The Trustees were provided oral updates on Graduation Matters and Professional Learning Committees;

- Kindergarten staff are researching changes to the kindergarten program. Preliminary discussions centered around enrolling students who will be 5 prior to June in full-day kindergarten and those with birthdays between June and September 10th in a half day program. Half-day kindergarteners would complete two years of kindergarten;

- Calendar will have a draft of the 2016-2016 calendar by March;

- Mr. Hall reviewed MHSA proposals that passed and what concerns are precipitated by these actions. He also reported the transgender policy was withdrawn;

- Safety Committee will meet during February to review building inspection reports and policy updates;

- The committee reviewed a request by Ted Fulgham, Ag Ed teacher, for a 15 day extended contract to work with students during the summer. Part of the cost to do this would be offset by the state. Conversation regarding this request will continue; and

- A field trip request for Grade 6 to travel out of country to Canada is on the Consent Agenda.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Resignations**

- Lacey Rolen – High School Attendance Clerk

- Josie Rolen – Middle School Special Education Aide

- Jennifer Lunderby – the .5 FTE Special Education Aide only

- Julie Jensen – Food Service Worker

- Jerald Vigness – Middle School Custodian

- Bill Clark – High School Art (End of the 2014-2015 school year)

**New Hires**

- Dennell Benson – Special Education Aide/Speech Aide

- Tasha Gordon – Special Education Aide

- Tameka Griffin – Special Education Aide

- Dakota Gilligan – High School Student Custodian

- Trenton Lambert – High School Student Custodian

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

**May 5, 2015 Regular School Trustee and Budget Authority Election Resolution**

- Elect two (2) elementary trustees (District 5) for a three-year term

- Elect one (1) outlying high school trustee (District 1) for a three-year term

- Request approval for additional levies to operate and maintain the General Fund of Districts 5 and 1 for the 2015-2016 school year with amounts to be determined at a later date;

- Sets the High School Gymnasium as the polling place with polls open from 12:00 Noon until 8:00 PM;

- Directs District Clerk to notify election judges of appointment; and

- Authorizes District Clerk to cancel any portion of the election that does not need to be held as per law.

**Approve Out-of-Country Field Trip to Regina, Canada, for Grade 6 on May 19, 2015**

**2015-2016 Certified Tenured Contract Renewals**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Jill Albertson | Dawn Anderson-Biebl | Marnee Averett | Nikki Berube | Tammara Beyer |
| Terry Bolen | Janet Brannan | Rhea Christensen | Linda Clark | Stacey Collins |
| Corrine Crowe | Jennifer DiFonzo | Virginia Dschaak | Lynette Farr | Brad Faulhaber |
| Erin Faulhaber | Jessie Fisher | Nicole Franklin | Yvonne Gebhardt | Dawn Greenwood |
| Mark Halvorson | Darci Haraldson | Carol Hearron | Robyn Heck | Megg Hermanson |
| Sandra Jepsen | Lori Keenan | Tracy Kessel | RaeAnn Klose | Staci Lange-Rice |
| Tanya Lauckner | Jeanne Lang | Tammy Linder | Tammy Leland | Cara Lokken-Frandsen |
| Jennifer Lovegren | Jessica Mathern-Netzer | David McDonald | Joy-Lyn McDonald | Guy Melby |
| Synneva Meldahl | Roger Merritt | Jodi Mueller | Jesse Nesper | Steve O’Toole |
| Lynn Obermeyer | Cindy Osland | Carrie Peters | Mary Pfau | Holly Redman |
| Kathi Roberts | Sara Romo | Sue Satra | Greg Schell | Marvin Schulz |
| Nicole Simonsen | Janet Spracklin | Elaine Stedman | Sandra Sullivan | Beth Thompson |
| Katrina Werner-Johnson | Patti Wheeling | Cathy Wieferich |  |  |

**2015-2016 Administrative Contract Renewals**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sue Anderson | High School Principal |
| Thom Barnhart | Curriculum, Federal Programs & Testing Coordinator |
| Kelly Johnson | Middle School Principal |
| Jon Skinner | West Side Principal |
| Brent Sukut | Central Principal |
| Loretta Thiel | High School Assistant Principal |

**2015-2016 Fall Co-Curricular Renewals**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **High School Football** | **Middle School Football** |
| Roger Merritt – Head Coach | Ty Graves – MS Coordinator |
| Guy Melby – Assistant Coach | Zac Clayton |
| Chad Quilling – Assistant Coach | Matt Whelchel |
| Carl Dynneson – Assistant Coach |  |
| Steve O’Toole – Assistant Coach |  |
| **High School Volleyball** | **Middle School Volleyball** |
| Jennifer DiFonzo – Head Coach | Jenna Kagen |
| Mary Pfau – Assistant Coach | Molly McLaughlin |
| Kaitlyn Bell – Assistant Coach | Marie Holler |
|  | Michelle Lair |
| **Golf** | Sue Satra – Grade 6 |
| Benji Berg – Assistant Coach |  |

The Consent Agenda was approved as presented 3 to 1 on a motion by Mr. Steinbeisser and a second by Mrs. Sanders. Ms. Dey cast the dissenting vote.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk