October 14, 2013

The regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, October 14, 2013 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, Craig Steinbeisser and Serina Everett. Also in attendance were Superintendent Dan Farr, West Side Principal-Jon Skinner, Federal Programs and Curriculum Director- Thom Barnhart, Central Principal- Brent Sukut and Clerk Beyer. Absent were High School Assistant Principal- Loretta Thiel, High School Principal- Sue Andersen and Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson.

Chair Dey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and extended a welcome to the visitors in attendance: Bill Vanderweele with the Sidney Herald, Ken Redman, Samantha Van Horn and Barb Dornfeld with the Sidney Education Association (SEA). Ms. Dey reminded the audience 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 on agenda items 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 September 9th regular meeting and the September 2013 claim warrants 221303 to 221346 in the amount of $363,937.57. The motion passed 6 to 0 on a second by Mrs. Everett.

The Associated Student Body transfer was approved 6 to 0 on a motion by Mr. Lorenz and a second by Mrs. Cooley:

Cheer/Drill Team to Volleyball $180.00 Purchase of Pack the Place in Pink t-shirts

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr provided the following updates:

- The addition of Marie Holler, Jordan Mayer and Matt Whelchel to the New Hires on the Consent Agenda;

- Daphne Everett, proposed new hire for special education aide has withdrawn her name from consideration;

**-** Facility updates included: 1) A small leak in the remodeled wing on the second floor at Central. Repair is scheduled for Thursday; 2) Work on the obtaining an easement for the sewer line at West Side is progressing; 3) CTE instructors, Interstate Engineering and administrators met with Trustees to provide feedback on the proposed CTE addition; 4) Prairie Engineering was on site regarding the ballast/lighting issues at the High School. It has been determined the District received a bad batch of ballasts. Sixty-nine replacement ballasts will be sent and replaced by District staff; and 5) Repairs to the kitchen garage are scheduled to begin this week following approval from the insurance company on the estimate; and

- A request from Fairview Schools to coop for softball has been received. The request will be reviewed in November.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Due to the choir concert scheduled for this evening, no student representative was in attendance.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: October 8, 2013***

Mr. Thiel highlighted committee discussions:

- Supervisors Ross Hall and Loretta Thiel met with the committee. Mrs. Andersen submitted a written report as she was occupied with Homecoming events;

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

- Discussion has begun on whether there is a need for additional technology support staff.

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - No Meeting***

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: October 7, 2013***

Mrs. Everett outlined committee agenda items:

- Track line painting is in progress;

- Discussed High School 100 wing lighting/ballast issues;

- Reviewed $20,000 plus estimate on kitchen garage entry damage;

- Two water softener units to the Middle School kitchen and boilers will be replaced;

- District housing fencing still not complete and no further discussion held on the West Side roof issues;

- Contractors continue to address punch list items on the second floor remodel at Central;

- Reviewed award process for Montana Department of Commerce Schools Planning Grant;

- Discussed desired process for awarding the Career and Technical Education wing expansion with Lowell Cutshaw from Interstate Engineering. A meeting was held with affected CTE staff today for input;

- Mr. Cutshaw also reviewed the process for replacing the failing West Side lift station with a gravity feed line. He was instructed to prepare the plans to submit to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality and to begin the process of obtaining the easement necessary to install the line. The estimated cost for this line is in the neighborhood of $186,000 to $187,000; and

- Discussion on starting work on the first floor of the 1949 wing of Central school.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: October 7, 2013***

Mr. Lorenz briefed meeting attendees on the following agenda item discussions:

- September claims, the county investment report and August financial reports were reviewed;

- 2013-2014 enrollment stands at 1319- a slight decrease since the beginning of school;

- The buy-sell agreement and first payment have been made on the JD land purchase. Don Franz has contacted the District about buying a small portion of this land to square up a lot he owns adjacent to the JD land;

- Montana Conference of Educational Leadership (MCEL) and the next MQEC meeting are in Billings this week;

- 2013-2014 Attendance Agreements are on the Consent Agenda;

- Annual obsolete property sale resolution is on the Consent Agenda;

- With only three bedroom apartments available for rent and these being too expensive for employees to rent, Mr. Farr has worked with the SEA to come up with a rent per bedroom. The District will end up picking up the cost of the third bedroom but feels that is better than losing the employee and their portion of the rent; and

- The committee met with Senator Matt Rosendale to have a conversation about the legislative session and planning ahead to work together for eastern Montana school districts in the next election.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: October 6 , 2013***

Mrs. Cooley imparted the following information on committee discussions:

- The first curriculum release day on September 23rd went well;

- The state extended the due date on the School Effectiveness Report. Administrators are wrapping this up;

- PIR/Pro Grow Committee is getting into the swing of things and has reviewed replacement requests for the October state mandated PIR days;

- An overview of the accreditation standards under common core for the Communication Arts department were reviewed;

- The District has to show its principal/teacher evaluation process is aligned with state requirements;

- School safety plans required by Board Policy and Senate Bill 348 are in place;

- Mr. Hall and Mr. Farr provided more information in the area of concussion management;

- Legislative updates in the area of student testing were reviewed. The District will attempt to minimize testing and to get rid of duplicate testing where possible;

- Requested information on the Eagle card program was provided. Further discussion is scheduled for November committee meeting;

- The activity survey has been revamped with the intent of providing more and better information;

- Progress continues in the areas of dual credit;

- District Safety Committee has begun review of Sections D, E, F, G, H, I and J;

- Out of state field trip requests are on the Consent Agenda;

- Montana High School Association (MHSA) wrestling co-op request with Bainville is also on the Consent Agenda;

- Request by a doctoral research candidate to survey staff is on the Consent Agenda; and

- PLC information was updated.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Resignations**

- Tanya Schoepp – Middle School Cheer Advisor

- Jennifer Johnson – Elementary Special Education Aide

**New Hires**

- Matt Buske – Route Bus Driver

- Cindy Wagner – Middle School Student Council Advisor (STUCCO)

- Kimberlee Johnson – Special Education Aide

- Lorraine Allen - .5 FTE Middle School Secretary

- Damon McLaughlin – Head Softball Coach

- Rhetta Wilson - .5 Middle School/.5 High School Special Education Teacher to start 10/28/2013

- Kate Dasinger – Middle School Cheerleading Advisor

- Matt Whelchel – Middle School Girls Basketball Coach

- Jordan Mayer – Middle School Girls Basketball Coach

- Marie Holler – Middle School Girls Basketball Coach

- Rick Adsit – Middle School Girls Basketball Coach

**2013-2104 Student Attendance Agreements**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student** | **Grade** | **School District** | **Parent** | **Request Type** |
| Long, Aron | 12 | Fairview | Self | Self |
| Dwyer, Tessa M. | 12 | Earl | Tori Dwyer | Parent |

Approve parental/self requests with no tuition charged.

**2013-2014 Attendance Agreements for Sidney Students to attend out-of-district by Parent Choice**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student** | **Grade** | **School District** | **Parent** | **Request Type** |
| Cayer, Garrett | 7 | Lambert | Pamela J. Cayer | Parent |
| Cayer, Wyatt | 9 | Lambert | Pamela J. Cayer | Parent |
| Cayer, Casey | 7 | Lambert | Pamela J. Cayer | Parent |
| Johnston, Kenneth | 11 | Lambert | Dustin Nelson | Parent |
| Kostelecky, Keaten | 2 | Savage | Chad & Jessica Kostelecky | Parent |
| Shope, Grace | 7 | Savage | Rita M. Shope | Parent |
| Shope, Robert | 11 | Savage | Rita M. Shope | Parent |

Acknowledge receipt of Attendance Agreement with the understanding that no tuition or transportation cost will be incurred by the Sidney Public School Districts.

**2013-2014 Individual Transportation Agreement for Rietta Iversen – Grade 12**

**2013-2014 Obsolete Property Resolution – Effective Date November 10, 2013**

*Computers and computer equipment including but not limited to monitors, keyboards, printers, mice, cpu’s and software, toys and games, reference books including encyclopedias, copiers, office furniture, office equipment, desks, tables, chairs, shelves, projectors and audio visual equipment, musical equipment and music, custodial equipment and supplies, maintenance equipment, lockers, books, old curriculum materials, textbooks, miscellaneous wood and fencing supplies, special education equipment and supplies, vo-ag equipment, science equipment and supplies, industrial arts equipment, kitchen/cafeteria equipment and supplies, refrigerators, and old classroom supplies.*

**Emergency Resolution for replacement of West Side sewer lift station with gravity feed line**

As one of two lift station pumps has failed and the other, due to age, could go at anytime and, with the advent of winter and the fact that custodial staff are manual pumping the system at this time to keep up with the sewer output- this emergency resolution is necessary due to an unforeseen emergency that affects the health and safety of the trustees, students, or district employees or the educational functions of the district, the trustees in accordance with MCA 20-9-204. This resolution approves contracting with Interstate Engineering to design and engineer a gravity system bypass for approval by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality and to work with the Distct to secure all appropriate easements, licenses, permits and contractor(s) for completion of the gravity sewer bypass project at West Side.

**Approve Doctoral Research Study Request from Chris Olszewski in conjunction with the University of Montana**

**Wrestling Cooperative Sponsorship with Bainville Schools**

**-** Approved contingent on the acceptance of the sports agreement by the Bainville Public Schools Board of Trustees

**Out of State Field Trips**

Yearbook Staff (8 Students and advisor Elaine Stedman) training in Boston, MA November 13-17, 2013

Robotics Club – attend Blue Hawk BEST Robotics contest in Dickinson, ND October 25-26, 2013

FFA (3 students) National FFA Convention in Louisville, KY October 26 through November 3, 2013

Mrs. Cooley moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Everett seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

**Communication from the public on non-agenda items:** None

Chair Dey then appointed the Trustees to the following schools for the 2013-2014 school year:

Kelly Dey – All Schools Dennis Lorenz- High School

Serina Everett- High School Craig Steinbeisser – Middle School

Dexter Thiel – West Side Elementary Luann Cooley – Central Elementary

At 7:27 PM Chair Dey 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, she called for an executive session for the purpose of the superintendent’s quarterly evaluation.

With no further business to come 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