October 12, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, October 12, 2015 at 7:00 PM in Room 103 of Central School on posted notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Kelly Dey, Craig Steinbeisser, Dennis Lorenz, Luke Savage and Serina Everett. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Daniel Farr, Clerk- Nicole Beyer, West Side Principal- Jon Skinner, High School Principal- Sue Andersen, High School Vice-Principal- Loretta Thiel and Student Representatives- Ethan Petrik and Garrison Hughes. Absent were: Trustee- Melissa Sanders; Curriculum/ Federal Programs Director- Thom Barnhart; Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson and Central Principal- Brent Sukut.

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

Ms. Dey welcomed the visitors in attendance: Bill Vanderweele with the Sidney Herald, Angie Nelson, Cara Lokken-Frandsen, SEA President, Conner Fink and Shay Witt.

Ms. Dey stated an opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items would be provided later in 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. Everett moved to approve the minutes of the special and regular Board of Trustee meetings held August 25th, September 7th and September 14th, 2015, and the September 2015 claim warrants 222618 to 222678 in the amount of $965,886.95. Mr. Steinbeisser seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

Mrs. Everett moved to cancel Warrant 222631 in the amount of $100.00 written 9/11/2015, to the Minnkota Windows to pay for a transferable warranty. This is not owed until the building is sold so the warrant was returned. Mrs. Beyer also presented ASB Check 21679 written to Brianna Wilcoxin in the amount of $55.00 to reimburse her for required CPR training. The trainer issued a refund to Brianna and billed the District invalidating this check. The warrants were cancelled on a 5 to 0 vote following a second by Mr. Steinbeisser.

As there were no Associated Student Body transfers submitted, the Trustees requested the minutes reflect the report was reviewed.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr updated Trustees on the following:

**Staff Transfer:**

- Tammie Wheatley from Kindergarten Special Education Aide to Speech Aide

**Resignations:**

- Jessie Fisher – Middle School Auditorium Manager

- Molly McLaughlin – Middle School Student Council Advisor

**Updated current enrollment for K-12 for 2015-2016- Count Day showed 1,385. Currently 1392**

**West Side Traffic Update**

Mr. Skinner reported on attempts to alleviate the traffic situation at West Side School. Current plans include utilizing different locations for bus loading and alternate student street crossings. Communications with parents will continue until this situation is safer for all.

**Calendar Events:**

- MCEL is in Billings October 15 - 18. Noon release is scheduled for October 14th and no lunch will be served;

- Varsity volleyball is at home October 15, 17 and 20;

- October 16th is the last home football game and is Senior Night;

- October 17th is Divisional Cross Country in Laurel;

- The fall band/choir concert is scheduled for 7:00 PM on October 22, 2015; and

- No school on Friday, October 30th due to parent/teacher conferences held earlier in the week.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Sophomore ASB representatives Ethan Petrik and Garrison Hughes shared the following:

- Fall sports are heating up as seasons come to completion in October. Football’s record is 4 and 3; Volleyball is hosting their annual Kill for the Cure, a fundraiser for local cancer funds; and Cross Country is having a very successful year as they head to Laurel for divisional;

- Trading Cards will meet with 4th grade students tomorrow to introduce themselves and the program;

- Students have delivered a petition to Ross Hall requesting the creation of a tennis team;

- A leadership conference was attended by high school representatives at Fairmont Hot Springs;

- Students involved in club meetings at lunch are being dismissed five minutes early to get lunch; and

- Homecoming was successful and new student welcome packets are still in process but making headway.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: October 6, 2015***

Mrs. Everett highlighted agenda discussion items:

- Kelly Johnson, Middle School Principal, reported student vaccinations are up-to-date; class scheduling with the new student information system- Infinite Campus had been difficult this year and students are doing video announcements which are been well received;

- Brent Sukut, Central Principal, discussed the benefits the K-2 (full-time) students are seeing with the inception of the new K-1 program, reviewed the writing program underway in grades 4 and 5 and reviewed the RTI program at Central;

- Loretta Thiel, High School Assistant Principal, discussed High School office discipline referrals and the MBI process at the high school;

- Sue Andersen, High School Principal, reported on the new boomerang program, Graduation Matters and PLC at the high school level. She also reported Cori Crowe, Alternative Ed instructor was teaching two periods of basic math; Sarah Turek is a national merit finalist and the Class of 1960 donated $2000 to provide lighting for the outdoor flag;

- The District is looking into an OPI sponsored program which will allow special education aides on-line training to become highly qualified; and

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

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE October 6, 2015***

Mrs. Everett provided the committee update:

- A bus accident occurred with an activity bus in Dickinson at volleyball with minimal damage to the bus; and

- West Side student pick-up/drop off is improving and will continue to be evaluated.

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: October 5, 2015***

Mr. Steinbeisser recounted committee discussions:

- Survey/Cost estimates on the high school north parking lot were provided for both cement and paving. Further information will be forthcoming;

- Exploration on school district water rights with regards to the irrigation canal as well as the cost and district needs for installing wells for watering the football field and practice field and avoid high city water costs continues;

- The updates to the old Administration Building are complete and music is utilizing the space;

- Work on the remaining minor punch list items on the Central first floor remodel are nearing completion;

- Requests for facility use fee waivers were reviewed and are on the agenda tonight;

- Roger Byer, B&B Builders provided an update and timeline on the West Side project; and

- Initial discussion on possible 2016 summer projects included consideration of completion of the restrooms, roof and drainage at West Side; remodel the first floor at Sidney Middle School and the High School north parking lot.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: October 5, 2015***

Mr. Lorenz outlined committee discussions:

- September claims were reviewed. Catch-up of accounting in the new year continues so no reports were available this month;

- Dr. Farr provided updates on current enrollment and MQEC discussions. He invited trustees to meet with Dianne Burke, executive director of MQEC when she is in Sidney on October 13th at 9:30 AM;

- Dr. Farr also reviewed progress made at the first Negotiated Rules Making Committee meeting set up to work with future oil and gas funds in Glasgow;

- Contact with M-Space regarding housing currently leased by the District resulted in them asking if a decreased offer and/or a re-negotiated lease amount would be considered;

- 2015-2016 Student Attendance Agreements are on the Consent Agenda;

- The committee conducted the quarterly review of possible classified stipends with oil and gas funds and elected to revisit the subject after the second quarter payment is received;

- The 2014-15 Trustees Annual Report is done and has been submitted to the Office of Public Instruction; and

- Mr. Sukut has requested the creation of the Central MBI Incentive Account which is on the Consent Agenda.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: October 6, 2015***

Mr. Savage reported on the following committee discussions:

- Guidance, Fine Arts and Library curriculums are currently under review;

- Dr. Farr and Mr. Barnhart provided information on math and a significant writing program;

- PLC updates were provided;

- There was no Labor Management Committee meeting this month;

- Field Trip requests are on the Consent Agenda;

- A local physician requested the District revisit its head lice policies/practices due to changes in recommendations from the medical community. Discussion resulted in no changes to current practices;

- The Business Professionals of America and high school band field trip requests are on the agenda; and

- The Family Medical Leave Act and the provisions in District policy were reviewed.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**New Hires**

- Nicole Monsen – Special Education Aide

- Lacey Nevins – Middle School Student Council Advisor

- Michael Waddell – Middle School Auditorium Advisor

- Jeff Waddell – High School Maintenance Supervisor

- Kayla Green – Special Education Aide

- Jessica Burns – Special Education Aide

- Maika Vang – Part-time Student High School Custodian

- Brian Cunningham – Part-time High School Custodian

- Sandra Conway – Part-time Custodian

**2015-2016 Student Attendance Agreements**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Student*** | ***Grade*** | ***Parents*** | ***Resident District*** | ***Request Type*** |
| Crowe, Sierra | 12 | N/A | Fairview | Self |

**Creation of new Associated Student Body Account: Central MBI Incentive Account**

**Approve Maria Neff as Deputy Fund Custodian for ASB and as a signator on the District Petty Cash**

Mr. Lorenz moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Everett seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

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

**CONSIDERATION OF FACILITY FEE WAIVER REQUESTS**

- Mrs. Everett moved to approve the fee waiver request from the Montana Afterschool Alliance for use of the high school concessions area to conduct focus groups with afterschool providers and families on October 13th. Mr. Steinbeisser seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

- Mr. Lorenz moved to accept the recommendation from Administration on the Sidney Gymnastics Club use of the gym April 16 and 17, 2016, for its annual program which is a non-commercial event for profit and charge them the applicable rental fee as per Board policy as well as any amount exceeding the rental fee for clean-up incurred by the District. Mr. Savage seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

- Mr. Steinbeisser moved to approve the use of the high school gym on October 23rd and 24th by STAND (a not for profit entity) to sponsor a drug and alcohol free event in conjunction with Red Ribbon Week. STAND has indicated they will clean up after the event. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

**OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP**

Business Professionals of America (BPA) are requesting permission to attend the national convention in Boston, Massachusetts May 4th through 9th, 2016. Students must meet previously established criteria to qualify for the trip including a one-time use of torch points for attendance during their high school career. Mr. Steinbeisser moved to approve the BPA field trip within the guidelines of previously established criteria. Mr. Lorenz provided the second to the motion which passed 5 to 0.

Mr. Steinbeisser moved to approve the field trip request submitted by the high school band to Minneapolis, Minnesota beginning May 26, 2016. Mr. Savage seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

At 7:28 PM Chairwoman Dey announced that the next matter to come before the Board was a personal matter and that she 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 District Clerk’s annual evaluation and the Superintendent’s quarterly evaluation.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Board Chair

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

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

District Clerk