

**APRIL 26, 2023**

A special meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held at 5:30 PM Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at the Administration Office on posted notice by the clerk for the purpose of conducting year end business. Present were Trustees Ben Thogersen, David Seitz, Jon Marker, Josh McGahan, Kelly Dey, Lisa Gorder and Alex Villegas. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Brent Sukut, District Clerk- Tracy Click, Middle School Principal- Ashley Copple. Absent were Trustees: Randy Iversen, Central Principal- Sara Romo, High School Principal- Carl Dynneson, Special Ed Director- Michelle Monsen, West Side Principal- Sharri Vandall, Activities Director- Chris Lee, High School Assistant Principal- Danny Coryell, Middle School Principal- Ashley Copple, Curriculum Director- Thom Barnhart.

At 5:30 PM, Chairman Thogersen called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors in physical attendance as well as all community members attending via conference call. Mr. Thogersen stated an opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items would be provided at the end of the meeting.

At 5:30 PM, Chairman Thogersen 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.

Mr. Thogersen reconvened the meeting at 5:45 PM.

Ms. Dey moved with a second by Mr. Villegas to approve 4/26/2023 Executive Session meeting minutes. Motion pass unanimously.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA ITEMS:**

**\* BOARD MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 11, 2023**

Tabled until May meeting.

**\* BUS RENTAL AGREEMENT**

Rau Elementary requests two (2) buses and drivers for trip to Theodore Roosevelt National Park. If approved, it would be contingent on no SPS events/activities happening that day that would require bus use.

Mr. Villegas moved and Ms. Dey seconded to approve Rau Elementary Bus Rental Request contingent on no SPS events/activities happening that day that would require bus use. The motion passed 7 to 0.

**\* DRUG DOG CONTRACT**

Interquest Detection Canines and K316 Detection LLC presented contracts for 2023-2024 school year. Discussion-David Seitz requests reaching out the K316 Detection for referrals.

Mr. Seitz moved to contract with K316 Detection LLC for the 2023-24 school year pending follow up questions and referrals. The motion passed unanimously following a second by Mr. Villegas.

**\*2023-2024 DISTRICT HEALTH INSURANCE**

Quotes from JPT/EBMS and Blue Cross Blue Shield.

JPT/EBMS presented a 5% increase in rates for the 2023-2024 School Year. Superintendent Sukut explained the process and the plans requested for quotes from vendors. The Insurance Committee compared the quotes presented from JPT/EBMS and Blue Cross Blue Shield. With the plans that were presented to the Insurance Committee, the Insurance Committee voted to stay with JPT/EBMS for the 2023-2024 School Year.

Mr. Marker moved and Mr. McGahan seconded to approve renewing with JPT/EBMS for 2023-2024 school year. Motion passed 6-0 with Mr. Seitz abstaining from vote.

**\*EMPLOYEE IRS SECTION 125 CAFETERIA PLAN DEDUCTION ADJUSTMENT**

Employees met with Union Gateway representatives regarding annual tax deferred dependent care deductions from payroll for the 2022-2023 school year in May of 2022. Special provisions regarding the total dependent care deductions per family were put in place during COVID and this employee and spouse took advantage of them in 2021-2022. When meeting on 2022-2023 dependent care deductions, they were informed the provisions were still in effect and, they again, took advantage of them. Following the filing of the employee’s 2022 taxes, the employee and spouse were told these provisions were no longer in effect and they were double-deducting in violation of IRS allowances. To avoid the situation for 2023, the employee is requesting the suspension of the remainder of the 2022-2023 dependent care deduction for the months of January through June 2023. Changes to Section 125 deductions must have Board approval.

Mr. Seitz moved to approve the suspension of the dependent care deductions for Sidney Public School employee effective 1/1/2023. Ms. Dey seconded the motion which passed 7 - 0.

**\*WINTER ASSISTANT COACH CONTRACT**

No action was taken at the April 11, 2023 board meeting for renewal of assistant coaches for the Winter season for coaches and Mr. Lee to have time to consider the rehire of all the current assistant coaches.

**Speech & Drama**  
Christy Pierce

**Wrestling**  
Ty Graves  
Nick Lonski  
Shane Gorder  
Ethan Graves  
Beau Melby(VOL)

**Girls Basketball**  
Stacey McNalley  
JD Mulkey  
Marie Holler  
Cody Vitt

**Boys Basketball**  
James Meissel  
Vince McGlothlin  
James Jurgens  
Andy Pollari  
Brett Norby

Ms. Dey moved to approve the rehire of all listed assistant HS, MS and Elementary winter activity assistant coaches for the 2023-2024 School Year. The motion passed unanimously following a second by Mr. Seitz, with Ms. Gorder abstaining from the vote.

**\*DANCE COACH RENEWAL**

Each year the Sidney Activity Director has two formal meetings (pre-season and post-season) with the varsity coach of each activity. The pre-season meetings are held to discuss goals and expectations for the upcoming season and the post-season meeting is held to discuss the goals from the first meeting and the offseason plan for each activity. These meetings lay out plans for improving the program and what potential changes will be implemented in order to move the program in a direction that will be positive for all students participating. A yearly evaluation of each varsity coach is conducted This evaluation tool has been significantly modified over the past year as the district has transitioned to the Rocky Mountain Evaluation tool.

Activities Director, Chris Lee, recommends Wesley Zoanni as Dance head coach for the 2023-2024 school year.

- DANCE: **Recommendation:** Based upon pre and post-season meetings and the evaluation process, Superintendent Sukut recommended the re-hire of **Wesley Zoanni as Head Coach** for the 2023-2024 **Dance** season.

Mr. Villegas moved and Mr. Seitz seconded the motion to re-hire Wesley Zoanni as Head Coach for the 2023-2024 Dance season. The motion passed 6-0.

**\*CHROMEBOOK PURCHASE FOR SENIORS**

Each year we have devices that need to be cycled out of our inventory due to licensing expirations. We have approximately 40 laptop computers that we are needed to dispose of. When we make the decision to become a 1:1 student to device district, we wanted to give our graduating seniors the first chance to purchase any devices

that are being cycled out. I would like to continue this for the graduating class of 2023 and give them the first opportunity to purchase these devices. These will be sold on a “first come” basis. We have updated these laptops, so I would suggest that we sell these for \$10 dollars.

Mr. Seitz moved and Ms. Dey seconded to allow the tech team to sell outdated laptops to graduating seniors for \$10 dollars. Motion passed 7 – 0.

**\*NEW HIRES/TRANSFERS/RESIGNATIONS**

New Hires

- Cadwalader, Alyssa – HS Cheerleading Coach
- Clark, Warren – HS Speech, Drama & Debate Assistant Coach
- Pennington, McKen-Z – MS Cheerleading Coach
- Thompson, Blair – HS English Teacher
- Nicki Beyer – Part-time Assistant Clerk
- \_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Dey moved Mrs. Gorder seconded to approve the employment of the recommended hire(s) for the 2023-2024 school year pending background checks. Motion passed 7 - 0

Transfers (Information only)

- Buxbaum, Hailey – MS Volleyball Coach to Assistant HS Volleyball Coach

Resignations (Information only)

- Cline, Jeanne – Special Education Teacher
- Darlington, Nicole – OT/PT Aide
- Kirn, Misty – Speech Aide

Superintendent Sukut was contact by Richland County Baseball about sharing the cost of field conditioner for updating the Moose Park baseball field. The cost is \$9000.00, SPS would pay \$4500.00. No action needed.

**Topics for next agenda include:**

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chair

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

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Clerk