**December 9, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, December 9th, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Administration Office, 101 S Central Avenue on posted notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Ben Thogersen, David Seitz, Lisa Gorder, Kelly Dey, Craig Steinbeisser and Randy Iversen. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Monte Silk, Clerk- Nicole Beyer, Central Principal- Sara Romo, High School Principal- Brent Sukut and High School Vice-Principal- Carl Dynneson. Absent were: Curriculum/ Federal Programs Director- Thom Barnhart, , Middle School Principal – Kelly Johnson and West Side Principal- Sharri Vandall.

At 7:00 PM Chairman Thogersen called the meeting to order welcoming the visitors in attendance: Amy Efta with the Sidney Herald, Ximena Rosa and Mary Pfau. Mr. Thogersen 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 were asked to fill out the Audience Participation form and give it to the clerk to be recognized.

Ms. Dey moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 11th, 2019 and the November Claims Warrants 232018 through 232077 in the amount of $394,862.94. Mr. Iversen seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

ASB Warrants # 22507 to Blue Rock for $558.06 written 11/7/2019 and # 25523 to Signs of Sidney for $18.55 written 11/19/19 were cancelled 6 to 0 on a motion by Mr. Seitz and a second by Mr. Steinbeissser.

Mr. Iversen moved to transfer the balance ($10,306.90) in ASB Account 208- Middle School Gate to Account 123- Athletics at the request of AD, Chris Lee. This will close the MS Gate account and simplify the financial accounting for atheletic events. Mr. Steinbeisser seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Monte Silk**

**Vacancies:**

- Special Education Aides; Bus Drivers; Elementary Boys’ Basketball Coach

**Enrollment: 1352 including pre-school numbers**

**Other:**

- Friday is a Pupil Instruction Related day for staff consisting of classes in Novice and Advanced Google, Multi-tiered System Supports for Student Interventions and Active Shooter Defense

- A District cruiser was returning home with no passengers from Billings after delivering wrestlers from the Sidney Invitational when a truck slid into the lower left center of the bus

- Christmas break will begin December 23, 2019 and continue through January 3, 2020

- The Superintendent Opening was posted on the MTSBA website last week

- Copies of proposed MTSBA by-law changes have been included for Trustee review. The ballot for voting on these changes has been sent via mail. Please address and thoughts or comments to Kelly Dey as she is represented on the MTSBA board

- Upcoming December and January Activity/Athletic Events were listed for Trustee information

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: December 2, 2019 Ben Thogersen***

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

- Nathan Roth, Technology Supervisor, updated Trustees on the need for a new domain and recent technology equipment purchases

- MTSBA has listed the Superintendent opening in multiple sites

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: December 2, 2019 Ben Thogersen***

- Building Updates:

* New scoreboards for the two gyms at Central were donated by Stockman Bank and Blue Rock Products and have been installed
* The water damage resulting from a pipe leak this summer in Room 116 at Central School will be repaired by B&B Builders for an estimated cost of $13,150
* Trustees reviewed drawings of proposed fencing near the track shed at the High School
* RestorX has completed work resulting from a sprinkler leak in the High School art room
* The District has received an invoice from Interstate Engineering for grade design behind the north football bleachers at the High School
* West Side correction of the roof drainage basin will be completed the summer of 2020
* Major technology purchases include 50 monitors and 60 chromebooks. The District is limping along on its current domain with plans to contract with a vendor specializing in this area to set up a new domain
* Yellowstone Painting, LLC has been contracted to assist with District snow removal
* Track striping will be completed this spring. Contact has been made with the company

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: December 2, 2019 Lisa Gorder***

- Clerk Financial Reports for October were presented

- October Investment and ASB Reports

- November Claims Report was provided to the Trustees tonight

- Mr. Silk updated enrollment figures and presented historical information on District October count day trends

- No word on the results with regards to the Department of Commerce DLA Grant Application earmarked for replacement of pneumatic controls and addition of air conditioning at Central

- Perused estimated costs of replacing the outside basketball courts as Central

- Consideration of the installation of eight fobs at key High School locations will be discussed this evening

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: December 2, 2019 Ben Thogersen***

- Mr. Barnhart attended via phone

- Reviewed December 6 PIR day agenda

- Reviewed Consent Agenda Procedures as noted in Board Policy 1420

- Committee reviewed proposed 2020-2021 school year calendar as updated for a four day school week

**-** Board Policy review continued and are on the Agenda this evening

- Mary Pfau provided information regarding the use of therapy dogs in schools and a requested Trustees consider allowing therapy dogs in all of its buildings. This is a discussion topic for tonight

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**\* New Hires:**

- Debra Denowh – West Side Library-Media Specialist for the remainder of 2019-2020

- Emily Keegan – Elementary Girls Basketball Coach

- Tim Tharp – Activity Bus Driver

New Hires are approved as presented pending results of background checks and fingerprint clearances.

**\* Second Reading and Adoption of the following required Board Policies:**

- Policy 1005FE – Proficiency Based Learning: Defines proficiency

- Policy 1006FE – Transfers for School Safety: Restates Montana state law in Board Policy

- Policy 1007FE – Multidistrict Agreement: Restates Montana state law in Board Policy

- Policy 1007FE F1 – Multidistrict Agreement Form – Provides format for 1007FE

- Policy 1008FE – Increase in Over-Base Levy Authority Without a Vote: Restates Montana state law in Board Policy

- Policy 1009FE – Educator Recruitment and Retention: Updated per legislative action regarding licensing and educator student loan repayment

- Policy 1010FE – Early Enrollment Exceptional Circumstances: Allows for ANB count for 3 to 5 year olds receiving special education services from the District

- Policy 1011FE – Cooperative Purchasing: Restates Montana state law in Board Policy

- Policy 1012FE – Non-voted Levy for Excess IDEA Costs: Restates Montana state law in Board Policy. District currently permissively levies for excess costs for special education students who meet the expense criteria

- Policy 1013FE – Adult Eductation Levy: Restates Montana state law regarding permissive levies in this fund

- Policy 1014FE – Intent to Increase Non-Voted Levy: Restates Montana state law in Board Policy

- Policy 1014FE F1 - Notice of Intent to Impose an Increase in Levies Form: Provides notice form to accomplish 1014FE

- Policy 1015FE – Personalized Learning Opportunities: Brings District into compliance with the Advanced Opportunity Act and the Transformational Learning Grant legislation

- Policy 3420 – Head Lice: Puts into policy District practice requiring students infected with lice to be lice, egg and nit free before returning to school

Ms. Dey moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Steinbeisser seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA:**

**\* First Reading of Proposed Changes to the Following Board Policies**

- Policy 3110 – Entrance, Placement and Transfer – Adds a statement regarding final disposition of all placement decisions rests with the principal subject of review by the Superintendent and Board; defines “proof of identity” and refers to ensuring education services are in the best interest of the child

- Policy 2410P – High School Graduation Requirements – Adds “…in accordance with state law” under Waiver of Requirement and notes the classroom teacher and not the college professor is responsible for dual credit grades

- Policy 2161P – Special Education- Adds dyslexia to the conditions that must be screened in child find

- Policy 2160P – Title I – Equivalency Comparability – new policy regarding Title I employees and parent involvement

- Policy 8425 & 8425P – Service Animals and Service Animal Allowance Procedure – further clarification and deletion of Service Animals in District Facilities Form

Mr. Steinbeisser moved and Ms. Dey seconded the motion to approve the first reading of the above policies. The motion passed 6 to 0.

**\*2020-2021 Proposed Calendar from the Calendar Committee**

Superintendent Silk explained the request by the Calendar Committee to allow Friday, August 14, to count as a “flex” PIR day to address the need for six additional teacher hours. Staff could check in with the principals when working in their classrooms to complete the six hours. Following the discussion regarding the logistics of this request, Mr. Iversen moved to send the calendar back to the Calendar Committee to account for the six hours and prepare a new calendar for the Trustees. Mr. Seitz seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Mr. Sukut asked for guidance to take back to the committee on this issue. Mr. Thogersen stated six hours need to be assigned to a date- consider making the 14th a designated PIR day, add hours to Fridays or look at adjusting spring break.

**\* Installation of FOB Access Entry Readers at the High School**

The high school is requesting the purchase and installation of eight key fob readers in the following areas of the high school: IT Entry (North side of building into multi-purpose room and gym hallway (1)

Gym exterior door (1) Gym interior door (1) East & West Boys’ Locker Rooms (2)

Library exterior door (1) East & West Girls’ Locker Rooms (2)

Electricland has provided a quote of $18,062.00 to accomplish this request. Fob readers come in sets of four.

Ms. Dey made a motion to proceed with the purchase and installation of the fob readers as noted above. The motion passed 6 to 0 with Mr. Iversen providing the second.

**\* Therapy Dogs in Schools**

Following information provided by Mrs. Pfau, questions and concerns from Trustees and a desire for more information prior to making any decision on this topic, the Trustees tabled this issue pending additional research on guidelines and procedures.

Chairman Thogersen provided an opportunity for Community Comment on non-agenda items: None

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk