

FEBRUARY 14, 2022

A regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held at 5:30 PM Monday, February 14, 2022, at the Administration Office on posted notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Ben Thogersen, David Setiz, Kelly Dey, Josh McGahan, Jon Marker and Lisa Gorder. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Brent Sukut; District Clerk- Nicki Beyer, High School Assistant Principal- Danny Coryell and High School Principal- Carl Dynneson. Absent were: Trustees- Alex Villegas and Randy Iversen and West Side Principal- Sharri Vandall; Special Ed Director- Michelle Monsen; Middle School Principal- Ashley Copple; Central School Principal- Sara Romo and Curriculum Director- Thom Barnhart.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- FINANCE COMMITTEE 2/7/2022 David Seitz
 - * Reviewed December Financial Reports, Investment Report, ASB Report and January Claims
 - * Superintendent Sukut reviewed the enrollment as of 2/1/22
 - * Reviewed current COVID case information for Sidney Schools and information that the Richland County Health Department will no longer be tracking Richland County COVID cases as of next week. The District rolled out its plan going forward with regards to COVID on a facebook live last Wednesday
 - * Following review of the Annual School Election Resolution for May 3, 2022, Trustees decided on a poll election. Consideration of the Resolution is on the Consent Agenda tonight
 - * Discussed Intercom/Bell Rotation information from area schools. This item is on the Discussion/Action Agenda
 - * Mr. Sukut has signed a one-year contract with Vonage for phone service for 2022-23. Hardware will be provided at no cost with monthly costs estimated to be \$2900
 - * Discussed adding Baseball to offered activities for 2022-23. This is on the agenda for consideration tonight
 - * The addition of shot clocks as required by MHSAA for 2022-23 basketball season were discussed. It appears that local businesses have already expressed interest in donating to the purchase of this equipment
 - * 2022-2023 Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) dues is on the Consent Agenda
 - * Third Quarter of Oil & Gas Monies has been received and is an increase over the past two quarters
 - * The State of Montana conducts Transportation audits and have requested that TR-6 Transportation Reimbursement Claims submitted to the State be approved by the Board of Trustees
 - * Discussed cut back strategies to begin moving teacher salaries back to the General Fund budget. Requisitions are the first area of concentration

- BUILDINGS & GROUNDS 2/7/2022 Ben Thogersen
 - * Superintendent Sukut provided updates on the following building issues:
 - o Central: Johnson Controls HVAC system conversion; Still waiting for the replacement sink for Albertson/Monsen's room
 - o High School: Nothing new on the HS Gym Heater or HS Weight Room AC; Still working on 400 wing HVAC issues and the PA system update by Electricland is complete
 - o West Side: Playground camera is in but not yet installed
 - o Middle School: No update on west entrance stair replacement; a replacement boiler was ordered 1/21/22 and is seven weeks out and replacement cameras have been ordered
 - o All Schools: Work continues on specifications for the intercom system. Plans are to replace Middle School and West Side this year to start a rotation; the contract with Vonage for phone service beginning in 2022-23 has been signed; the District is still waiting for the arrival of the ordered Chromebooks; no news on District lead samples and the Safety Committee has completed the building reports
 - o Administration: McKinistry sent a contract for the design phase of the HVAC system
 - o City Projects: no additional information available

- CURRICULUM & POLICY 2/7/2022 Ben Thogersen
 - * Labor Management Committee discussed budgets. Concern was expressed regarding Microsoft products and office type products coming out of classroom budgets

- * Science curriculum is up for review. Elementary books are outdated. High School science is only looking at replacing those for certain classes. Teachers at that level are attending a national conference in April where companies promoting their text books will be in attendance
- * Mr. Silk made changes to the teacher evaluation process that are currently in practice but never updated in the Master Agreement. A proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the SEA will be provided at the meeting on Monday to address this oversight
- * Mrs. Romo provided an update on the gifted and talented pilot program underway in the area of math this semester at Central School
- * High School Administrators, High School Guidance Counselors, Mr. Barnhart and Mr. Sukut met with representatives of Sidney Health Center regarding the work to date on a healthcare pathway for students. The meeting was productive and plans are to move forward with this program
- * English Curriculum Update was provided by Mr. Dynneson. They are looking at semester long classes with every grade including a minimum of one semester of Language Arts- freshmen will have a year-long class
- * The proposed 2022-2023 School Calendar was reviewed. The calendar presented is four hours short of pupil instruction hours. The committee will have a corrected calendar for the Board meeting
- * The administrators met January 28th to review survey results and to move forward with the District Strategic Plan Actions. The administrators began with an emphasis on academics. It was suggested to include Ms. Dey going forward as a Board representative and continue to keep Trustees in the loop

- PUBLIC RELATIONS & PERSONNEL 2/7/2022 Jon Marker

- * Reviewed Vacancies, Transfer of Laura Clark from Speech Aide to High School Sped Aide and Resignation of Sandra Rehbein- West Side Pre-School Aide
- * New Hires are on the Consent Agenda tonight
- * Activities Director, Chris Lee, attended the meeting to provide the fall coaches report and recommendations for re-employment. This item is on the Discussion/Action agenda tonight
- * Reviewed recommendations for 2022-2023 Contract Renewals for: tenured teachers, extended day contracts for tenured teachers, administrators and licensed personnel. All of these are on the agenda for consideration

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT AND ADMINISTRATORS’ REPORTS:

- WRITTEN ADMISTRATOR REPORTS FROM: Mrs. Vandall, Mrs. Monsen, Mrs. Romo, Mrs. Copple, Mr. Dynneson and Mr. Barnhart
- FACEBOOK LIVE: Mr. Sukut held one on Wednesday February 9, 2022. He covered District plans for handling positive at-home COVID testing and procedures with Richland County no longer tracking cases as well as updates on scheduled school events
- REQUEST BY RADIO 95.1: Looking for information on a student issue. Consulting with MTSBA prior to releasing information
- FEBRUARY COUNT DAY REPORTS: Attached for Trustee Review
- ENROLLMENT:
 - o West Side – 335; Central – 266; Middle School – 299; High School – 385 = TOTAL 1285
- COVID UPDATE 1/14/22: Active Positive Cases = 0; Staff in Quarantine = 0; Students in Quarantine = 0
YTD: Student Positive Cased = 130; Staff Positive Cases 35; TOTAL 165

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

Sophomore Student Body Representative, Jacqueline Gonzalez, updated the Trustees on student sports, clubs and activities and reported the Student Council was updating the handbook and considering the hat policy.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve January 10th and 26th, 2022 Minutes**
- B. Approval of January 2022 Claims Warrants # 233310 - 233347 in the amount of \$227,777.61**
- C. Cancel District Warrants and/or Associated Student Body Checks: Dist #233274 written 12/3/2021 lost in the mail \$500.00 to Swenny’s Paint & Body Works, LLC**
- D. Associated Student Body Information:**
 - o Approve the December 2021 Report
 - o Transfers: None
- E. 2022 May 3rd Annual School Election Resolution (Attached)**
- F. Approve TR-6 First Semester 2021-22 Transportation Reimbursement Claims**
- G. Approve Administration Building HVAC Design Contract with McKinistry in the amount of \$55,505**

H. Approve 2022-23 Montana School Boards Association Dues to be paid July 2022 = \$8939.00

I. Approve 2022-23 Tenured Teacher Contract Renewals

Allen, Lorraine	Averett, Marnee	Barnhart, Jean	Baxter, Alexis
Bell, Kaitlin	Berube, Nikki	Beyer, Sarah	Beyer, Tammy
Brannan, Janet	Buchanan, Lina	Clark, Warren	Collins, Stacey
Coryell, Megan	Euston, Erika	Faulhaber, Brad	Faulhaber, Erin
Filler, Penny	Franklin, Nicole	Fulgham, Evonne	Gabel, Amber
Gordon, Hunter	Hart, Daniel	Holler, Marie	Huffman, Jordanne
Jensen, Shane	Johnson, Brittany	Klempel, Justine	Larson, Amy
Lauckner, Tanya	Linder, Tamara	Lokken-Frandsen, Cara	Lovegren, Jennifer
Mathern-Netzer, Jessica	McDonald, David	McDonald, Joy-Lyn	McGahan, Stephanie
McLaughlin, Jennifer	Melby, Guy	Merritt, Roger	Morales, Maribel
Mueller, Jodi	Nevins, Lacey	Noble, Jenna	Palm, Andrea
Peters, Carrie	Pfau, Mary	Pollari, Karen	Pust, Amber
Redman, Holly	Schell, Greg	Schulz, Marvin	Shiffer, Melissa
Slack, Staci	Strupp, Peggy Ann	Sullivan, Sandra	Sundt, Kilee
Sweet, Jessica	Sweet, John	Thompson, Rebecca	Topp, Shelby
Wagner, Lindsay	Weltikol, Crystal	Werner-Johnson, Katrina	

J. Approve 2022-23 Extended Day Tenured Teacher Contract Renewals:

Collins, Stacey	HS Counselor – Registration/Seniors	10 Days
Filler, Penny	HS Annual	5 Days
Merritt, Roger	HS IA/Ag Equipment Maintenance	6 Days
Pfau, Mary	HS Counselor – Registration	5 Days
Schell, Greg	MS Counselor – Registration	5 Days

K. New Hires:

- o Heidi Carver – Head Cook
- o Jenifer Godwin – West Side Part-time Custodian
- o McCade Hanson– West Side Part-time Custodian
- o Trace Jones – Middle School Track Coach
- o Misty Kim – Speech Aide
- o Bobbie Nelson – Food Service Worker

Approval of 2021-2022 New Hires as presented pending reference/background checks

Mr. Seitz moved and Mr. McGahan seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed 6 to 0.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

*** BELL AND INTERCOM UPDATE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL/WEST SIDE:**

Awaiting more information from IT who has requested information from other districts for writing specifications.

*** APPROVE THE ADDITION OF BASEBALL FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR:**

- Enough players for a team
- Price for travel will not be a detriment to the District
- Startup costs for equipment and practice supplies will be covered by fundraising

Mr. Seitz moved to approve the addition of baseball for Sidney High School for the 2022-23 School Year. The motion passed unanimously following a second by Ms. Dey.

*** CHANGE ORDER FOR CENTRAL HVAC SYSTEM 4 GRAPHIC INTERFACE:**

Mr. Sukut explained the difficulties experienced by custodial staff in working with the operation part of the current HVAC control system at Central. Trustees have already agreed to consolidate HVAC controls under one vendor: Johnson Controls. This change order will provide an upgraded front-end hardware and software system to assist custodians with managing operation of the systems. Estimated cost for this change order is \$26,084.21.

Ms. Dey moved and Mr. Thogersen seconded the motion to approve the change order for the Central HVAC system graphic interface. The motion passed 5 to 0 with Mrs. Gorder abstaining on this elementary issue.

*** APPROVE 2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR:**

Highlights of the proposed calendar: Teachers begin 8/15/2022 with students starting 8/17/2022. The first semester will end before Christmas break. The last day of school will be May 26, 2023 which is scheduled for a noon release.

The 2022-2023 School Calendar was approved unanimously on a motion by Mr.Seitz and a second by Mr. McGahan.

*** FALL COACHES 2022-2023 REEMPLOYMENT:**

FOOTBALL:

Jon Marker moved and Josh McGahan seconded the motion to re-employ Roger Merritt as head coach for the 2022-23 football season. The motion passed 4 to 1 with Mr. Thogersen voting against the motion and Ms. Dey abstaining.

Jon Marker moved and David Seitz seconded the motion to re-employ the following assistant coaches/Middle School coaches for the 2022-23 football season: High School Assistants: Jayd Rice, Danny Coryell, Chad Quilling, Ty Graves and Kevin Clausen Middle School Coaches: Robert Edwards (Head); Doug Filler and Ryan Waters. The motion passed 6 to 0.

CROSS COUNTRY:

Mr. Marker moved to re-hire Justin Collins as head cross country coach for the 2022-23 cross country season. The motion passed unanimously following a second by Mr. McGahan

Mr. Seitz moved and Mrs. Gorder seconded the motion to re-hire the following assistant coaches/Middle School coaches for the 2022-23 cross country season: Stacey Collins, Kilee Sundt and Maribel Morales. The motion passed 6 to 0.

GOLF:

Mr. Seitz moved and Mr. Marker seconded the motion to re-employ Ben Berg as head golf coach for the 2022-23 golf season. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Dey moved to re-employ Carla Berg as assistant golf coach for the 2022-23 golf season. The motion passed 6 to 0 following a second by Mr. Marker.

*** APPROVE 2022-2023 ADMINISTRATORS' CONTRACT RENEWALS:**

Ms. Dey moved to approve the 2022-2023 contracts listed below for District administrators with a 2.5% salary increase and offer a 2.5% salary increase to Superintendent Sukut (\$120,950) also. The motion passed unanimously following a second by Mr. Marker.

➤ Thom Barnhart	Curriculum Director/Testing Coordinator	200 Days	\$87,651.00
➤ Ashley Copple	Middle School Principal	200 Days	\$74,825.00
➤ Danny Coryell	High School Assistant Principal	200 Days	\$74,449.00
➤ Carl Dynneson	High School Principal	200 Days	\$84,478.00
➤ Sara Romo	Central Principal	200 Days	\$81,273.00
➤ Sharri Vandall	West Side Principal	200 Days	\$79,753.00

*** APPROVE 2022-2023 LICENSED PERSONNEL CONTRACT RENEWALS:**

Mr. Seitz moved and Ms. Dey seconded the motion to approve the 2022-2023 contracts for Psychologist, Jill Albertson, with a 4% increase to \$66,194 and Special Ed Director, Michelle Monsen with a 2.5% increase to \$96,483.00. The motion passed unanimously.

*** APPROVE EVALUATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE TRUSTEES AND THE SIDNEY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (SEA) (Attached). The SEA has already approved the document:**

Ms. Dey moved to approve the MOU between the Trustees and the SEA on Evaluations: Article XIV of the 2021-23 Master Agreement as signed by the SEA. The motion passed unanimously following a second by Mr. McGahan.

*** APPROVE 2022-2023 ACTIVITY CO-OP WITH LAMBERT PUBLIC SCHOOLS:**

Lambert Public Schools has requested forming a co-op with Sidney Public Schools for Softball, Wrestling and Speech Drama and Debate beginning with the 2022-2023 school year. Lambert is also seeking appealing to the Montana High School Association (MHSA) to allow them to participate in the softball for the 2021-22 season.

Mr. Seitz moved and Ms. Dey seconded the motion to approve the formation of a co-op with Lambert Public Schools for softball, wrestling and speech, drama and debate for the 2022-2023 season with approval of participation in softball for the 2021-22 season conditional on the approval of Lambert's appeal to MHSA. The motion passed unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COMMENT: None

Additional Information: None

Topics for next agenda include:

- 1) District Clerk Evaluation
- 2) Non-Tenure Teacher Contracts
- 5) First Reading of Board Policy 2600 and 2600P

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Board Chair

Approved: _____

Attest:

District Clerk