

NOVEMBER 7, 2022

A regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held at 5:30 PM Monday, November 7, 2022, at the Administration Office on posted notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Ben Thogersen, Randy Iversen, David Seitz, Jon Marker, Josh McGahan, Alex Villegas and outlying High School Trustee Lisa Gorder. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Brent Sukut; District Clerk- Nicki Beyer, Assistant Business Manager- Tracy Click, High School Principal- Carl Dynneson, Middle School Principal- Ashley Copple, West Side Principal- Sharri Vandall, Curriculum Director- Thom Barnhart, Special Ed Director- Michelle Monsen, and IT Director- Nathan Roth. Absent were: Trustee: Kelly Dey; High School Assistant Principal- Danny Coryell and Central School Principal- Sara Romo.

At 5:30 PM, Chairman Thogersen called the meeting to order and welcomed all community members attending in person or on conference call-in. Mr. Thogersen stated any community member wishing to comment during the meeting present a completed Audience Participation Form to the Clerk indicating the issue they wish to address. An opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items will be provided at the end of the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE**ADMINISTRATORS', SUPERINTENDENT'S, DEPARTMENT HEAD, FINANCIAL AND STUDENT REPORTS:****- DEPARTMENT HEAD: TECHNOLOGY: NATHAN ROTH**

- Chromebooks – requesting 200 for replacement and additional 150 and five new carts for classroom use
- Looking at G7 model which has a longer life: 8 years compared to 5 years
- Middle School camera project is underway with devices on order
- A replacement server has been ordered at an estimated cost of \$18,000 for the high school
- Considering a different vendor for phone service. Our contract with Vonage is for one year and we do own the equipment. Service and features have not been what the District desires
- Mr. Iversen asked if we could offer chromebooks for purchase by parents through our orders so that students could have the ability to utilize the same machine throughout their high school career. Currently sells the systems rotating out to seniors.

- TRANSFERS:

- Sierra Wesolowski from Middle School Special Ed Teacher to Middle School Title I Teacher

- RESIGNATIONS:

- Nicole Beyer, District Clerk, effective January 1, 2023
- Tara Skaar, West Side Title I Tutor, effective the end of the 2022-2023 school year

- WRITTEN ADMISTRATOR REPORTS FROM: Mrs. Vandall, Mrs. Romo, Mrs. Copple, Mr. Dynneson/ Coryell, Mr. Barnhart and Mrs. Monsen**- ENROLLMENT:**

- West Side – 327; Central – 249; Middle School – 284; High School – 393 = TOTAL 1253

- PROVIDED CALENDAR OF UPCOMING HOME EVENTS**- DISTRICT PROJECTS:**

- High School Gym is being re-surfaced November 6th through the 16th. No events scheduled
- Central School: Installation of new gym bleachers is complete
- West main gym doors at the High School are currently being replaced. One side has been completed
- Middle School cement removal and grass replacement is finished
- Camera replacement at the Middle School has begun
- Mr. Sukut will look into repairs to West Side playground asphalt

- WELLNESS COMMITTEE:

- New committee formed with the following members: Jayd Rice, John Sweet, Katrina Johnson, Brittany Johnson, Hailey Buxbaum, Pam Radke, Roxanne Bailey and Onalee Flynn
- First meeting will be November 18th to discuss District needs and member roles
- Board Policy 2510 requires creation of a Wellness Committee to address six specific school wellness areas
- The team will evaluate District alignment within each area and promote healthy choices for staff and students

- INSURANCE COMMITTEE:

- Staff surveyed regarding satisfaction with current insurance package and asked if they want to go to bid. Majority of staff is satisfied but wants to go to bid to see what is available

- SCHOOL SAFETY:

- Met with Police Chief Kraft on October 19th to discuss lockdown process and their role in case of a tragic event at one of our school locations
- The Sidney Police Department and Richland County Sheriff Department will tour buildings on Friday November 18th and December 9th. Following tours, joint lockdown drills will be planned at each school with law enforcement and staff

- CDL PROGRAM:

- Met with Miles Community College staff members on October 28th to discuss the steps going forward to make the CDL program available to students for second semester
- Martin Morales will make trips to MCC to observe how they are teaching coursework and splitting time between classroom and drive time
- At this time, the program needs to be perfected for our students before offering to the public. This will necessitate changes at the state level and OPI in the areas of ANB etc.

- SCHOOL VEHICLE REPLACEMENT:

- Previously e-mailed criteria to Trustees regarding qualifying a vehicle as a Class E school bus
- Collecting state transportation funds is only available when using the vehicle to transport students to and from school and is at a reduced rate
- Vehicle cannot be depreciated so they cannot be replaced by the Bus Depreciation fund
- Purchase of these vehicles through Transportation will be re-considered during the upcoming legislative session and may not be allowed going forward
- E-mail sent to Wayne Nentwig at Gem City requesting a fleet price for a 5 star crash rated vehicle and a regular SUV not meeting those requirements
- Seeking permission to advertise and send request for proposals to all local dealers due prior to the December meeting so that information will be available to present to the Trustees

- REVIEWED CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

- FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- September District Cash Balances, Revenue and Expenditure Reports
- County September Investment Report
- 2022-2023 Oil & Gas Revenues Update reflecting second quarter payment

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approve October 10th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

B. Cancel District Warrants and/or Associated Student Body Checks: None

C. Approval of October 2022 Claims Warrants # 233683 - 233716 in the amount of \$209,769.55

D. Associated Student Body Information:

- Approve the September 2022 Report
- Approve the following Transfers:
 - From Ath XCountry (304) to "A" Divisional (154) \$315.00 School Entry Fees for Divisional meet mis-deposited
 - From Ath Cheer (303) to Pink Night (180) \$160.00 for Pink-Night shirts for Cheer Team

E. Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policy 2335 – Health Enhancement:

- Required changes defining human sexuality and district requirements regarding notification
- Not adding the forms. Current forms developed by the District that are currently in use will be edited to cite BP 2335 and address minor changes as recommended by MTSBA

F. Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policy 5120P and 5120F – Federal Background Check, Fingerprint and Information Handling Procedure:

- These forms indicate who in the District has access to sensitive information regarding District applicants, new hires and volunteers. This change removes Christy Nelson, former Payroll and Personnel Clerk, and replaces her name with Kasey Deschaine the new Payroll and Personnel Clerk

G. Acknowledge receipt of a 2022-2023 Out of District Attendance Agreements for Two High School Students to attend Jefferson High School in Boulder, MT (Grades 9 & 10)

H. 2022-2023 Out-of-District Request to attend Sidney Public Schools

- Deny Parental Request for 8th Grade Student from Richey to attend Sidney Middle School per Board Policy 3141

I. Raise extra milk/kindergarten milk from \$.25 to \$.35 to cover the increase in cost per carton effective December 1, 2022

J. Adoption of the School Nurse Job Description

K. Adoption of CDL Teacher Job Description

L. Revision to 2022-2023 Classified Pay Scale to correct wage for Payroll/Personnel Clerk to equal Assistant District Clerk at +\$2.00 addition to column "Positions H"

M. Approval 2022-2023 TR-1 (Transportation Route Approval for filing with OPI)

N. Approval of Settlement of HRB Claim

- o Mediation held October 25, 2022 with High School Administration resulted in the need for the District to pay the insurance deductible of \$1,000 with the insurance company paying any remainder

O. New Hires:

- o Shelly Averett – Central School Part-time Special Education Aide
- o Tia Lewis – Middle School Student Council Advisor
- o Lauren King – Substitute Teacher
- o Stacey McNally – Assistant High School Girls Basketball Coach
- o Brent Sukut – Head High School Girls Basketball Coach

Approval of the recommended new hires for the 2022-2023 school year is pending reference and background checks

Mr. Marker moved and Mr. Villegas seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed 7 to 0.

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA:

*** EMPLOYEE REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Delayed at request of employee**

*** SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACT**

- o Cost per event in 21-22 with Yellowstone Painting, LLC was \$2,475 for the entire District. Yellowstone severed the three year contract previously in place with the District.
- o Wang Pipeline Services has agreed to do snow removal for the 22-23 winter at a proposed increase of \$3,000 per event for the entire District. Increases are partially due to rising diesel costs
- o Corland Construction is able to assist with snow removal as needed. Yellowstone will be contacted about providing assistance. Board discussion resulted in a consensus to have Wang Pipeline Services be responsible to contract with Corland for necessary assistance with snow removal to avoid duplicate services and charges
- o Superintendent Sukut recommends approval of the contract with Wang Pipeline Services for snow removal for the 2022-23 school year

Mr. Seitz moved to approve contracting with Wang Pipeline Services for District-wide snow removal for the 2022-2023 school year. Following a second by Mr. McGahan, the motion passed unanimously.

*** 2022-2023 LEGISLATIVE LOBBYIST:**

- o Participate with the Northeast Montana Association of School Superintendents in hiring Daniel Farr (DTF Educational Consulting) as lobbyist for the 2023 legislative session at a cost of \$10,000 to be split between all participating schools

Mr. Iversen moved to approve contracting with Daniel Farr of DTF Educational Consulting as lobbyist for the 2023 legislative session at a shared cost with other northeastern schools of the \$10,000 stipend. Mr. Seitz seconded the motion which passed 7 to 0.

*** MCKINISTRY CHANGE ORDER REQUEST FOR CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEM:**

- o While commissioning the new HVAC controls at Central, McKinistry discovered inadequate system valves on newer west wing HVAC system that is affecting other areas of the building with heating/cooling issues
- o Valves need to be replaced. McKinistry can do this by change order to the current project. Valves have been ordered and a proposal received from Frontier
- o Estimated cost of change order is \$20,960.61

Following discussion by Trustees, Board consensus was this issue needs to be resolved and Mr. Sukut was instructed to follow through with the change order required to complete the work.

*** MONTANA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (MTSBA) FISCAL YEAR 24 DUES REVENUE ESTIMATE VOTE:**

- o Copies of explanation for dues rate increases and the formula for figuring the dues was included

Mr. Seitz moved to vote in favor of the MTSBA 2024 dues revenue estimate increase of 1.13%. Mr. Iversen seconded the motion which passed 7 to 0.

OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

Additional Information:

Topics for next agenda include:

- 1) Appointment of District Clerk/Business Manager for the remainder of 2022-2023
- 2) MOU with Rural Health Behavior for a screening student survey for Grades 6 through 12 identifying anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts

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

Board Chair

Approved: _____

Attest:

District Clerk