June 11, 2012

The regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held on Monday, June 11, 2012 at 7:00 PM in Room 104 of Central School on published notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Luann Cooley, Dexter Thiel, Dennis Lorenz, Craig Steinbeisser and Serina Everett. Also in attendance were Superintendent Farr and Clerk Beyer. Absent were Trustee Kelly Dey, Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson, Sidney Elementary Principal-Sue Andersen, High School Assistant Principal- Loretta Thiel, High School Principal- Dan Peters and Federal Programs/Testing Coordinator- Gary Arnold.

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Vice-Chair Cooley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and welcomed the visitors in attendance- Bill Vanderweele with the Sidney Herald and a representative of the Neenan Company. Mrs. Cooley reminded those in attendance to sign in and stated that 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.

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 14th, the re-organization meeting on the 14th and the special meeting held May 24, 2012 and the May 2012 claim warrants 220346 to 220393 in the amount of $484,320.41. Mrs. Everett seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

The following warrants and ASB checks were cancelled on a motion by Mr. Lorenz and a second by Mrs. Everett:

ASB #18236 Don West $156.40 Needs to be paid by District not ASB

#18311 Sunrise Brass $300.00 Donating back to Speech and Drama

#18320 6/4/2012 Electricland $ 15.00 Paid by credit card and by ASB check

District #220377 5/17/2012 City of Sidney $180.00 Duplicate payment on part of bill

The May 2012 Associated Student Body report and transfers were approved on a motion by Mr. Lorenz with a second by Mrs. Everett. The motion passed unanimously.

From Class of 2013 to BPA $ 10.00 Balloons

From Student Council to BPA $ 50.00 Balloons

From Class of 2012 to Publications $ 115.00 Pictures of the Girls’ Social

From Athletics to BPA $ 210.00 Meals for MS Track Volunteers

From HS Participation Fee to BPA $ 458.43 Reimburse MFEA convention mileage

From Student Council to Science Club $ 500.00 SPF Grant

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Superintendent Farr reported the following to the Trustees:

- Correspondence: 1) thank you’s from Becki Kallevig for the golden pass and apple and from Craig Bolen for allowing him to teach in Sidney last year;

- 2012-2013 Transfers: Marnee Averett from Grade 3 to Middle School Social Studies, Nan Ruffatto from Library Aide to .5 FTE Middle School Office Secretary and Tara Skaar from Language Model to Title I Aide;

- Additional hires will be Aleah Rosaaen- Grade 3, Jane Nicolaus .5 FTE West Side Secretary and Amy Kollman Elementary Special Education Teacher;

- MSGIA Workers Compensation rates will see an increase for 2012-2013. A year with slips and falls comes into the equation causing the rate for high risk employees to increase by 29.78% from $5.44 to $7.06. The low risk workers saw an increase from $.55 to $.57. Due to the higher risk year, the decrease for experience ratio disappeared for 2012-2013;

- Montana School Property and Liability Insurance rates for 2012-2013 from Western States saw a slight decrease with increased coverage for defense coverage for employment contract disputes, employment discrimination, student expulsion/long-term suspension and special education claims;

- Fischer Construction sent information estimating the cost for repairs to the Multipurpose Room at $8,700.00. This would involve routing inside and backfilling with foam and caulk. Maintenance staff would be expected to do all clean-up. Discussion by Trustees included the possibility of letting it set for awhile- not rush into repairs. The possibility of rubber coving was brought up also;

- Upcoming meetings and events:

*Montana Quality Education Coalition meeting in Helena April 16th*

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**  No student representative present.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

***PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: June 5, 2012***

Mrs. Everett outlined committee discussions:

- Vacancies and transfers were reviewed; resignations and new hires are on the Consent Agenda; and

- Spring co-curricular coaching, activity advisors, Title IX liaison and truancy officer renewals for 2012-2013 were reviewed and are on the Consent Agenda this evening;

***TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: June 5, 2012***

Mrs. Everett summarized committee agenda items:

- Work continues with insurance company representatives on tying up the loose ends on the repairs from the bus barn fire; and

- Savage Schools has made an additional request regarding the Crane bus stop. Discussion was held and this item will be taken to the County Transportation Committee at the annual meeting in June.

***BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE: June 4, 2012***

Mr. Thiel recapped Building and Grounds topics:

- Sally with ABC Building Concepts, presented information on the high school kitchen drain. Possible solutions were presented as well as a report from the steam kettle manufacturer. A new funnel system is in the works that should increase the safety of the system;

- Brian Milne, Interstate Engineering, reported to the Trustees regarding the options to fix the Multipurpose room cement at the high school; the right-of-way easements for utilities at West Side including an abandoned street with City utility easement in existence; the need for an engineering stamp on the Central second floor joists once the asbestos abatement is completed; an update from the City Council where housing conditional use permits requested by businesses for employees were granted with the stipulation that rent would not be charged; reported that engineering reports on the land owned in the JD Subdivision will support a building and he updated the Board on the Middle School kitchen remodel – He had put together a packet which was delivered to B&B Builders and Kringen Construction and faxed to Fischer Construction. Interviews are scheduled for the 12th through the 20th;

- The committee also reviewed re-prioritized building project/maintenance itemized lists*;* and

- Mr. Farr updated the Trustees on meetings regarding the possible development of housing at West Side. The possible need to subdivide will add six to eight months to the process. He also presented floor plans from M-Space for two and three bedroom apartments.

***FINANCE COMMITTEE: June 4, 2012***

Mr. Lorenz highlighted committee discussions:

- The May claims, April financial and lunch reports were reviewed. The lunch program had a good year;

- Final enrollment figures indicate a total of 334 students entering/withdrawing from September through May. This was a net gain of 34 students and does not include the new students enrolled as of the first day of school in August;

- Mr. Farr updated Trustees on Montana Quality Education Coalition discussions;

- The classified staff impact adjustment stipend was discussed and is on the Consent Agenda for consideration;

- A request initiating from the Labor Management Committee for District financial support for Career and Technical Education activities was discussed. Consensus of the Trustees was no District budget for this purpose at this time;

- 2012-2013 Montana High School Association annual membership and participation in their liability catastrophe plan are on the Consent Agenda;

- The District’s application for grant monies from the Foundation for Community Care in the amount of $5,085.00 to help purchase equipment for the autism sensory classroom was approved;

- Agreements with MSGIA, the District’s workers compensation carrier and Altacare of Montana for 2012-2013 are on the Consent Agenda; and

- A special board meeting for end of the year items will be called for June 27th at 7:00 PM in the Superintendent’s Office.

***CURRICULUM AND POLICY COMMITTEE: June 6, 2012***

Mr. Lorenz briefed attendees on committee topics:

- Information was provided regarding the common core standards and the state Chapter 55 review of accreditation standards;

- Corrective action has been taken regarding accreditation deviations from 2011-2012;

- The Five Year School Improvement review has been completed and final reports submitted;

- Discussion and review of graduation standards continues;

- Curriculum discussions centered on the continued work by the Communication Arts department on a writing assessment and the Fitness and Wellness Curriculum, in particular, the weight training classes;

- A small Migrant Education grant serving approximately 10 students will be held in Fairview but Sidney will be the fiscal agent;

- First reading of the coach/advisor/parent handbook for extra-curricular activities is on the Consent Agenda;

- Second reading of the 2012-2013 student handbooks is on the Consent Agenda for tonight; and

- Also on the consent agenda are an early graduation request and an out-of-state field trip request; and

- The committee reviewed the annual report of the District Safety Committee.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**New Hires**

- Zdnek Vajsar – Middle School/High School Instrumental Music

- Elizabeth Dosland Kleinke – High School Business Education

- Lorraine Allen - .5 FTE Middle School Family and Consumer Education

- Tamara Ruffatto – Elementary Teacher

- Jane Nicolaus - .5 FTE West Side Elementary Secretary

- Aleah Rosaaen – Elementary Teacher

- Amy Kollman - Elementary Special Ed Teacher

**Resignations**

- Janice (Becky) Kallevig – Middle School Social Studies

- Jan Schaffer – Elementary Special Education Aide

- Brad Faulhaber – Freshman Football Coach

- Virginia Dschaak – Head Cheer/Dance Coach

- Judy Wood – Food Service

**2012-2013 Spring Sports and Co-curricular Advisor Responsibility Agreements**

Steve O’Toole - Head Track Virginia Dschaak – Assistant Track Roger Merritt – Assistant Track

Steve Yockim – Assistant Track Stacey Collins – Assistant Track Ruben Moreno – Middle School Track

Brad Faulhaber – Middle School Track Levi Weltikol – Assistant Track Jon Skinner – Middle School Track

Terry Roth – Head Softball Jennifer DiFonzo – Assistant Softball Jesse Nesper – Assistant Softball

Talon – Maria & Duane Peters Robyn Heck – HS & MS Choir Janet Spracklin – Elementary Music

Jessie Fischer – Play Advisor Carol Hearron – Newspaper David McDonald – Science Club

Ken Stennes – Auditorium Manager Yvonne Gebhardt – HS Academics Jon Skinner – MS Academics

Gary Schaff – FFA Advisor Jeanne Lang – FCCLA Advisor Roger Merritt – VICA/Skills Advisor

Elaine Stedman – BPA Advisor Steve O’Toole – Intramural Basketball Janet Brannan – Title IX

Sheri Williams – Truancy Officer Gail Staffanson – Head Speech & Drama Christy Pierce – Ass’t Speech & Drama

Peggy Strupp & Nicole Franklin – Foreign Exchange Co-Advisors

**2012-2013 Montana High School Association Membership** $3,750.00

**2012-2013 Montana High School Liability Catastrophe Plan**  $520.00

**2012-2013 Student Handbook Second Reading and Adoption**

Sidney Elementary Sidney Middle School Sidney High School

**Student-Parent-Coach/Advisor Handbook – First Reading**

**Montana Schools Group Insurance Authority (MSGIA)**

Request to consider amendment and interlocal agreement to the District’s workers compensation plan that will allow more flexibility in the use of premium credits.

**2012-2013 Altacare Agreement**

Annual agreement with the Comprehensive School and Community Treatment Services (CSCT) to provide mental health services to students. Payment for these services comes from Medicaid claims filed by CSCT staff.

**2012-2013 Impact Adjustment Stipend (IAS) for hourly, classified employees**

Trustees recognize the difficulty in staffing its classified positions but do not have enough budget authority to match oil wages. In 2011-12, Trustees gave a one-time $1500.00 Impact Adjustment Stipend. To assist the District with classified employee recruitment and retention, the Trustees set the IAS at $2.00 per hour for classified hourly employees to be paid based on hours actually worked on a quarterly basis contingent on available oil and gas revenues.

**Call for Special Board Meeting for the purpose of closing the 2011-2012 fiscal year**

Set for Wednesday, June 27, 2012 at 7:00 PM at Central School

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Everett seconded the motion. Mrs. Cooley asked if Altacare services will be restored at the High School and Middle School. Mr. Farr replied that interviews were under way to replace the therapist who left. Mr. Thiel asked for clarification on the classified employees who would be covered by the hourly IAS. This is classified employees who are paid hourly only. Classified employees who are salaried will receive the same $1500.00 IAS as the certified staff.

The motion passed 5 to 0.

**Communication from the public on non-agenda items:**

A representative of the Neenan Company out of Fort Collins, CO introduced himself. His company works on school district projects from design through the building process including bond elections.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk