June 27, 2016

A special meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, June 27, 2016 at 5:30 PM in Room 103 of Central School on posted notice by the clerk for the purpose of 1) review and consideration of three student placements for the 2016-2017 school year and 2) end of the fiscal year special board meeting. Present were Trustees Luke Savage, Craig Steinbeisser, Ben Thogersen and Melissa Sanders. Dennis Lorenz was absent for the student placement hearings but arrived for the special meeting. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Daniel Farr and Clerk- Nicole Beyer. Absent was Trustee: Kelly Dey.

At 5:30 PM Chairman Savage called the meeting to order.

At 5:30 PM Chairman Savage 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 reviewing a 2016-2017 student placement. Present for Student 1’s hearing were the four Trustees noted above, Superintendent Farr, Clerk Beyer, Central Principal- Brent Sukut, Teachers and Gesell Test Administrators Tracey Kessel and Tammy Johnson, Special Ed Director and Gesell Trained Test Administrator- Michelle Monsen and Student 1’s mother.

At 6:07 PM Chairman Savage 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 reviewing a 2016-2017 student placement. Present for Student 2’s hearing were the four Trustees noted above, Superintendent Farr, Clerk Beyer, Central Principal- Brent Sukut, Teachers and Gesell Test Administrators Tracey Kessel and Tammy Johnson, Special Ed Director and Gesell Trained Test Administrator- Michelle Monsen and Student 2’s mother and father.

At 6:50 PM Chairman Savage 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 reviewing a 2016-2017 student placement. Present for Student 3’s hearing were the four Trustees noted above, Superintendent Farr, Clerk Beyer, High School Principal- Sue Andersen, Teacher London Gordon, Special Ed Director- Michelle Monsen, Kale Rasmussen, Student 3 and Student 3’s father.

At 7:55 PM Chairman Savage reconvened the meeting. Present for this meeting were the five Trustees noted above, Superintendent Farr, Clerk Beyer, High School Principal- Sue Andersen, Middle School Principal- Kelly Johnson, Cara Lokken-Frandsen- SEA President, Bill Vanderweele with the Sidney Herald, Kathi Roberts, Sally Hinkley, Cheryl Hansen, Jane Olson, Ruben Moreno, London Gordon, Nanette and Rob Bergerson and Jami Anderson.

Mr. Steinbeisser moved to accept the recommendation of the administration for placement of Student 1 for the 2016-2017 school year. Mrs. Sanders seconded the motion which passed 4 to 0 with Mr. Lorenz abstaining on this elementary issue. (Minutes of the executive session will be maintained in a sealed file.)

Mr. Steinbeisser moved to accept the recommendation of the administration for placement of Student 2 for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Thogersen provided the second. The motion passed 4 to 0 with Mr. Lorenz abstaining on this elementary issue. (Minutes of the executive session will be maintained in a sealed file.)

Mrs. Sanders moved to readmit Student 3 to Sidney Public Schools for the 2016-2017 school year under conditions discussed during executive session. The motion passed 4 to 0 following a second by Mr. Steinbeisser. Mr. Lorenz did not vote due to his absence during the executive session. (Minutes of the executive session will be maintained in a sealed file.)

Mrs. Sanders moved to approve the minutes of the regular meetings held May 9th and June 13th; the special meetings held April 19th, May 12th and May 18th; and the executive sessions minutes reviewed earlier in executive session for May 12th and June 27th. Mr. Thogersen seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve the following:

- Cancellation of ASB Warrants #22470 $496.80 4/26/16, OnTrack--Duplicate Payment

2 Checks to East Mont- Partial Duplicate Payments #22496 $324.57 5/10/16 & #22511 $641.37 5/17/16

- The destruction of Wells Fargo Payroll Checks 21632 – 23499 County closed account

- End of the year write off of lunch accounts with balances of $5.00 or less or credits of $5.00 or less to Angel

Fund for families who have left the area (see attached documentation);

Mr. Steinbeisser seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve the transfer of $1,500.00 from ASB Account #146- Class of 2016 to Account #101- Student Council to offset their share of the football tunnel purchase. The motion passed 5 to 0 on a second by Mr. Steinbeisser.

Superintendent Farr updated Trustees on the following:

- Current Staff Vacancies include: K-12 Activities Director, HS Math Teacher, 5th Grade Teacher and Support/Coaching Staff

- Building Updates:

\* Middle School- Progressing well. Abatement discovered during construction needing to be addressed

\* High School- Waiting for spongy sections in the oval to dry out in order to proceed. Conversations have begun on who is responsible for repair of the electrical line controlling the football lights that were severed.

\* West Side- 1) Roof progressing well. Authorized K style gutter which should result in a cost savings per the primary regional roofing firm due to less intensive labor resulting in decreased installation costs but according to the general contractor- there is no cost difference. Dr. Farr personally checked out the roof following the strong winds on Friday and Saturday and all shingles were still in place. 2) Phase III remodeling of the restrooms and the evaporation pond is also on track.

\* M-Space is still intending to remove the rental units at West Side.

- Enrollment:

\* Currently about 117 K1 and K2 so planning on five K2 classrooms and one K-1 teacher.

\* Dr. Farr’s office is attempting to track student summer departures

- Calendar Events:

\* June 28th. Intake Fish Bypass Meeting in Sidney. Glendive- June 29th and Billings June 30th

\* July 27th and 28th FASTbridge Assessment Training

\* No July Board or Committee Meetings. August Committee Meetings are August 1st & 2nd with the regular Board meeting August 8th and a final budget hearing to be scheduled prior to August 25th.

\* Dr. Farr provided a copy of the board meeting and committee meetings schedule for the coming year.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

***Eastern Montana Martial Arts Academy (EMMAA)***has submitted a facility use request for the 2016-17 school year for use of Central gym for their martial arts classes. They have paid for and used this facility in the past. Mr. Savage explained the concerns he has with renting facilities to a for profit business. Discussion followed with Nanette Bergerson with EMMAA on possible other facility options and pursuing legal means to become a not for profit business. Dr. Farr brought up the possibility of utilizing the West Side multi-purpose room which met with approval from Trustees. Mrs. Sanders moved to approve the request for using the West Side multi-purpose room for the upcoming year. Mr. Steinbeisser provided a second to the motion which passed 4 to 0 with Mr. Lorenz abstaining on this elementary issue.

***New Hires***

- Steve E. Hagel – Part-time Grounds Keeper

- Brooklyn Jensen – Assistant Drill/Cheer Dance Coach

Mr. Lorenz moved to approve the new hires pending results of background checks. The motion passed 5 to 0 following a second by Mr. Thogersen.

***Master Agreement Article VIII- Recruitment Incentives***

Dr. Farr explained the issues facing the District in regards to teacher recruitment in the choral music area and in the areas remaining. This section of the Master Agreement allows the Trustees to set a signing bonus at any amount up to $5,000.00 per newly hired teacher. These payments are paid three payments- first upon signing of the contract, second in January 2017 and third once the teacher has been renewed and signed a contract for the ensuing year. Dr. Farr is requesting the amount be set at $1500.00. Following the discussion, Mr. Steinbeisser moved to approve the use of the signing bonus for the 2016-2017 in the amount of $1500.00. Mr. Lorenz seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

***2016-2017 Administrative, Classified, Licensed and District Personnel not on a Salary Schedule***

Following a review of past increases in salary for these positions, Dr. Farr provided the following recommendations:

*Administrators – 2%*  Sue Andersen- High School Principal $85,559.64 (215 Days)

Thom Barnhart- Fed Programs/Testing Director $73,427.76 (215 Days)

Daniel Farr- Superintendent $112,363.20 (260 Days)

Kelly Johnson- Middle School Principal $84,574.32 (215 Days)

Jon Skinner- West Side Principal $73,738.86 (215 Days)

Brent Sukut- Central Principal $73,738.86 (215 Days)

Loretta Thiel- High School Assistant Principal $75.382.08 (207 Days)

*Licensed Staff – 2%* Sheridan Cottrell- Speech Therapist $74,000.00 (197 Days)

Michelle Monsen- Special Education Director $80,826.84 (207 Days)

*Classified Staff not on a Salary Schedule- 2%*

Shelly Averett $17.18/Hr Sandy Rehbein $17.18/Hr Delrae Steinbeisser $15.56/Hr

Tara Skaar $18.26/Hr Chuck Buxbaum $20.94/Hr Jon Getchell $17.91/Hr

Kenny Vannatta $20.32/Hr Carla Verhasselt $19.74/Hr Zach Yockim $62,097.60/Yr

Nicole Beyer $62,424.00/Hr Nancy Vaira $21.68/Hr Barbara Nelson $17.52/Hr

Pam Radke $39032.17/Yr Charles Cummings $17.24/Hr Tami Edinger $17.24/Hr

Brian LeFors $26.27/Hr Shelley Moran $21.83/Hr

No changes were recommended to the 2015-2016 classified schedule as most individuals on this scale would receive a minimum of 2% increase with the step movement.

Kathi Roberts, Elementary Special Education Teacher, spoke in favor of increasing paraprofessional wages citing how invaluable their services are in working with District students.

Sally Hinkley, High School Special Education aide, asked how the new original salary matrixes were developed- specifically why food service started higher than other positions. Dr. Farr explained this schedules were set up based on state averages for these positions as well as the danger of the food service area and the need to attract individuals willing to work 4 hours or less a day. Mrs. Hinkley also questioned the administrators increase as she had been told the administrators were receiving more than double what the teachers received. Mrs. Sanders explained the administrator increases were being addressed tonight and 2% was the proposed increase and teacher increases were 4% or more.

Following the discussion, Mr. Steinbeisser moved to approve the 2016-2017 salaries as presented with Mr. Thogersen providing a second. The motion passed unanimously.

***2016-2017 Student Attendance Agreements*** – The following attendance agreements were approved 5 to 0 on a motion by Mrs. Sanders and a second by Mr. Steinbeisser

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **STUDENT** | **GRADE** | **PARENTS** | **DIST OF RESIDENCE** | **REQUEST TYPE** |
| Aiden Anderson | 1 | Curtis & Erin Anderson | Brorson | Parental |
| Hannah Anderson | 6 | Curtis & Erin Anderson | Brorson | Parental |
| Garrett Larson | 4 | Kristen Larson | Brorson | Parental |
| Grady Larson | 6 | Kristen Larson | Brorson | Parental |
| Landry Larson | 2 | Kristen Larson | Brorson | Parental |
| Leddy Larson | K | Kristen Larson | Brorson | Parental |
| Tucker Nevins | 7 | Lacey Nevins | Brorson | District |
| Bode Deming | 8 | Jason Deming | Fairview | Parental |
| Michael Evans | 9 | Mary Ann Evans | Fairview | Parental |
| Nicolas Farrow | 3 | Sarah Farrow | Fairview | Parental |
| Andrea Farrow | K | Sarah Farrow | Fairview | Parental |
| Maysen Mindt | 8 | Stacie & Gary Mindt | Fairview | Parental |
| Parker Mindt | 6 | Stacie & Gary Mindt | Fairview | Parental |
| Burton Pollari | 6 | Anthony & Karen Pollari | Fairview | Parental |
| Joshua Pollari | 2 | Anthony & Karen Pollari | Fairview | Parental |
| Cara Henson | 4 | Cristin Henson | Fairview | Parental |
| Sawyer Henson | K | Cristin Henson | Fairview | Parental |
| Cole Bryan | K | Kayla Harris | Fairview | Parental |
| Hannah Luna | K | Tara Blew | Fairview | Parental |
| Breanna Lowrey | 3 | Steve & Donna Lowrey | Fairview | Parental |
| Jeremiah Lowrey | 7 | Steve & Donna Lowrey | Fairview | Parental |
| Logan Lowrey | 3 | Steve & Donna Lowrey | Fairview | Parental |
| Alyssa Lowrey | 11 | Steve & Donna Lowrey | Fairview | Parental |
| Jace Winter | 10 | John & Debra Winter | Horse Creek | District |
| Cedar Hovde | 4 | Tana Hovde | Rau | Parental |
| Wacey Hovde | 3 | Tana Hovde | Rau | Parental |
| Hayden Miller | 2 | Jackie Miller | Savage | Parental |

***Route Bus Replacement***

Following a discussion with Clerk Beyer regarding cash availability in the elementary and high school bus depreciation funds to replace the two route buses, Mr. Steinbeisser moved to authorize the purchase of two route buses (Replacing Route 2 & Route 11 currently experiencing ongoing mechanical issues) with two new 77 passenger 2016 Bluebird buses from Hartley’s Buses less trade in of the above route buses- 2011 and 2010 Bluebirds for a total cost of $143,600.00. The motion passed 5 to 0 on a second by Mr. Lorenz.

***District Vehicle Replacement***

Dr. Farr presented the quotes received from local dealers Gem City Motors and Action Auto for new vehicles to replace the Dodge Stratus. The Stratus will not be traded-in but will be put up for bid. Quotes received were as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Action Auto*** |  |
| $20,899.00 | 2014 Jeep Cherokee Latitude 4x4 Sport Miles =7950 No engine block htr- Battery htr blanket |
| $27,909.00 | 2015 Jeep Cherokee Laredo 4x4 Sport Miles = 18000 No CD Player |
| $23,049.00 | 2015 Dodge Journey SXT AWD Hatchback Miles = 18,600 No CD Player or Compact Spare Tire |
| ***Gem City*** |  |
| $29,975.00 | Preowned 2016 Chevy Traverse LT 7-8 Passenger; Miles not noted; No dual climate control |
| $29,565.00 | NEW 2016 Chevy Traverse LS 8 Passenger; Miles = NEW; No dual climate & standard spare |
| $23,625.00 | Preowned 2016 Dodge Journey; Miles Not noted; Possibly no dual climate control & standard spare |

Dr. Farr went to each dealership and inspected the vehicles quoted to check on size for use by the District. His recommendation was to purchase the new 2016 Chevy Traverse LS for $29,565.00 due to size, mileage and warranty considerations. Mrs. Sanders questioned spending an extra $6000.00 for the new vehicle. Discussion ensued. Mr. Steinbeisser moved to purchase the new 2016 Chevy Traverse LS from Gem City Motors at the cost of $29,565.00. Mr. Thogersen provided the second to the motions which passed 3 to 1 with Mr. Savage recusing himself on this vote and Mrs. Sanders voting against the purchase.

***Approval of the 2016-2017 Boys and Girls Club Contract Addendum***

Mr. Steinbeisser moved to direct the superintendent to work with the Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors to amend the current lease agreement for the 2016-2017 school year which will be effective beginning July 1, 2017 with the lease amount set at $1.00 for the year in exchange for agreed upon custodial and student tutorial services. Mr. Thogersen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**Opportunity for Community Comment:**

Jaime Anderson asked for clarification on the half day kindergarten program with advancement to full day kindergarten the following year. She had been told this was illegal. Dr. Farr explained the program and the criteria the Trustees had established for the program in order to decrease retention of students at the kindergarten level due to maturity issues. He also explained if students who were Gesell tested and placed in the ½ day program showed signs of needing to be advanced to the full-day program, this could still take place after school has started.

Cara Lokken-Frandsen, SEA President, presented a possible option to the Trustees rather than a signing bonus. Perhaps a pay advance could be offered to the new teachers that could be paid back over the remainder of their contracts to avoid complaints about fairness.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk