**January 13, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held Monday, January 13th, 2020 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, Randy Iversen and incoming Trustee Jon Marker. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Monte Silk, Clerk- Nicole Beyer, Central Principal- Sara Romo, High School Principal- Brent Sukut, High School Vice-Principal- Carl Dynneson and West Side Principal- Sharri Vandall. Absent were: Curriculum/ Federal Programs Director- Thom Barnhart and Middle School Principal – Kelly Johnson.

At 7:00 PM Chairman Thogersen called the meeting to order welcoming the visitors in attendance: Amy Efta- Sidney Herald; SEA Calendar Committee members Jodi Mueller and Joy-Lyn McDonald; Activity Director- Chris Lee; Jillian Stanek, Chris Schoepp, Nick Kallem, Jerry Baxter and Serina Everett. 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 December 9th, 2019 and the December Claims Warrants 232078 through 232119 in the amount of $233,846.17. Mr. Iversen seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

Trustees reviewed the December Associated Student Body report and approved the following transfers:

1) $32.99 from HS Friends of Rachel (162) to HS RTI (199). Close HS F.O.R. account that is no longer used.

Ms. Dey moved to approved the transfer, Mr. Iversen seconded the motion which passed 6 to 0.

2) $158.00 from MS Art (166) to MS Publications (212). Memorial Bench fully funded. 50% of funds remaining will be used to help pay for the MS annual rush order to arrive before the bench dedication. The motion passed 6 to 0 on a motion by Mr. Iversen and a second by Mr. Seitz.

3) $1377.48 from Class C Divisional (157) to Athletics (123). Transfer cost of Class C referees paid through Arbiter from Class C proceeds to SPS ASB Athletics- the account set up with Arbiter to pay officials fees. Mr. Iversen moved to approve which passed 6 to 0 following a second by Mr. Steinbeisser.

4) $983.09 from HS Productions (127) to Speech and Drama (104). Correct P-card coding error. This transfer was approved unanimously on a motion by Mr. Seitz and a second by Ms. Dey.

5) $1680.66 from 2C Girls Basketball/Boys Basketball (158) to Athletics (123). Reimburse referee expenses paid through Arbiter from Athletics. The transfer was approved unanimously on a motion by Mr. Iversen with a second by Ms. Dey.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: Monte Silk**

**Transfers:**

Lee Vandall from Grade 4 to Middle School Tutor

**Vacancies:**

- Special Education Aides and Bus Drivers

**Resignations:**

- Tina VanHorn – Assistant Volleyball Coach

- Eric Rydbom – Middle School Football Coach

**Enrollment: 1359 including pre-school numbers**

**Other:**

- Scheduled track meets include: MS Invitational April 9th; HS Invitational April 18th and MS Conference Meet May 7th. If the weather interferes with track striping, the meets may be re-scheduled for a later date

- Richland County Health Department has confirmed a student case of pertussis (whooping cough). Testing and treatment of affected individuals has been addressed by the Health Department

- For students’ safety, the District has set a 1:00 PM deadline for notification of bus changes. New forms are being utilized to enhance communication between bus drivers and the building offices

- Clerk Beyer presented a copy of a community survey provided by MTSBA that may be used in conjunction with the search for the superintendent. Following discussion, the consensus was to proceed with the survey. No completed applications have been received by MTSBA at this date

- Mr. Silk reviewed upcoming home events for the month January

**Committee Meetings were not held in January 2020 due to the Christmas break. Therefore, there is no Consent Agenda and all items are open to discussion.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA:**

**\* Adoption of 2020-2021 School Calendar**

**-** 4-Day school week assumed

- Teachers have the same amount of time for the school year as currently scheduled

- The PIR schedule has been set with a professional development day re-scheduled for December 4, 2019, that will be addressed by the PIR committee

- Mr. Sukut addressed the curriculum pacing for a four day week and feels the District is ahead of the self-imposed March 1st deadline

Mr. Iversen moved to approve the 2020-2021 calendar as presented. Mr. Seitz seconded the motion which passed 4 to 2 with Mr. Thogersen and Mr. Steinbeisser voting against the motion.

**\* 2020-2021 Fall Coaches Co-curricular Rehires**

Mr. Seitz moved and Mr. Iversen seconded the motion to renew the following football coaches:Head- Roger Merritt; Assistants- Guy Melby, Chad Quilling, Dan Coryell, Ty Graves & Jerome Hoffman; Middle School- Ryan Waters and Ethan Graves. Following discussion of the football program by the Trustees, the motion failed on a 3 to 3 vote with Mr. Thogersen, Mr. Steinbeisser and Ms Dey voting against the motion and Mrs. Gorder, Mr. Seitz and Mr. Iversen voting for the motion.

Mr. Steinbeisser moved and Ms. Dey seconded the motion to renew the following cross country coaches: Head- Justin Collins; Assistant- Stacey Collins; Middle School- Nic Cass and Kilee Sundt. The motion passed 6 to 0.

Ms. Dey moved and Mr. Seitz seconded the motion to renew the following golf coaches: Head- Benji Berg and Assistant- Carla Berg. The motion passed 6 to 0.

Mr. Steinbeisser moved and Mr. Seitz seconded the motion to renew the following volleyball coaches: Head- Jillian Stanek; Assistant- Amber Gabel; Middle School- London Gordon, Lacey Nevins, Marie Holler and Georgia Beiswanger. Discussion followed with Athletic Director, Chris Lee, speaking in favor of the hires; Principal, Brent Sukut, speaking to the growth of a summer program and concern regarding student survey validity expressed by Serina Everett. The motion passed 4 to 2 with Mrs. Gorder and Ms. Dey voting against the motion.

**\* 2020-2021 Relocation of Kindergarten to West Side and Third Grade to Central**

**-** Discussed with custodians and a plan has been set to utilize gym/multi-purpose rooms in moving

- Discussed with the kindergarten teachers and third grade teachers

- Principals are in support of this move to facilitate inter-grade collaboration

Relocation of kindergarten to West Side and Grade three to Central beginning with the 2020-2021 school year will take place following a motion by Mr. Iversen and a second by Mr. Steinbeisser which passed 6 to 0.

**\* School/Community Suicide Prevention/Response Collaboration Information for Trustees**

**-** Informed Trustees that school leaders are active on community committees concerned with student mental health

- Grants available through the EAGLE Foundation and the Dayton Foundation at $2,500 each for a total of $5000

- Mr. Barnhart has been placed in charge of researching the following areas:

- Best practices for student training – students helping students

- Best practices for staff training

- Best practices for school/community cooperation in preventing and responding to suicide

**\* New Hire Recommendations**

- Quinn McGlothin – Grades 5 and 6 Boys Basketball Coach

- Sean Montgomery – Grades 5 and 6 Boys Basketball Coach

Mr. Iversen moved to approve the hires a presented pending results of background checks and fingerprint clearances. The motion passed unanimously following a second by Mr. Steinbeisser.

**\* Second Reading and Adoption 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 Mr. Seitz seconded the motion to approve the second reading and adoption of the above policies. The motion passed 6 to 0.

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

- Policy 1110- Taking Office: Deadline for filing certificate of election for Trustee to County Superintendent increased to 25 days

- Policy 1120- Annual Organizational Meeting: Reflects the filing of certificate of election to 25 day deadline

- Policy 1402- School Board Use of E-mail and Mobile Messaging: Added mobile messaging to technology listing of public record

- Policy 1420- School Board Meeting Procedure: Remove language about creation and destruction of verbatim transcripts inconsistent with Montana law

- Policy 1420F- Notice Regarding Public Comment: Form rewritten to meet new statutory requirements

- Policy 1441- Audience Participation: Refer to Policy 1420F and remove second paragraph

- Policy 1512- Conflict of Interest: Add #6 regarding an official act regarding competing firm and clarification on appointing or renewing employee contracts

- Policy 1700- Uniform Complaint Procedure: Clarifies complaints filed against a building administrator or superintendent

- Policy 2150- Suicide Awareness and Prevention: Added section on Prevention and Response

- Policy 2151F- Sidney School Athletics Informed Consent and Insurance Verification Form: New form for extra-curricular participation stating insurance availability for students

- Policy 3130- Students of Legal Age: Changes address parent/student role of students age 18

- Policy 3520- Student Fees and Fines: Addresses breakage and excessive class supplies, withholding documents for unpaid fines or fees

- Polciy 3600P & 3600F2- Maintenance of School Student Records: Addresses parent access to student records, release of directory information, release of student information by the Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction to other state agencies and video footage in student permanent records with a revised directory information notification form

- Policy 6420- Professional Growth and Development: Encourages in-service training and association membership for district administrators

Mr. Steinbeisser moved and Mr. Seitz seconded the motion to approve the second reading and adoption of the above policies. The motion passed 6 to 0.

**\* Appointment of Elementary District Trustee**

- Due to research by the Montana School Boards Association, which determined that Sidney Elementary District #5 meets the population requirement to increase board membership from five to seven, two openings have been declared open and remain unfilled following the 60 day time frame allowed by state law. By state law, the vacancies are open to appointment by the County Superintendent of Schools, Gail Staffanson.

- Mrs. Staffanson is appointing Jon Marker to fill one of the vacancies on the Board. Mr. Marker must run for the position in May if he wishes to remain.

Mr. Iversen moved to accept the recommendation of County Superintendent, Gail Staffanson. The motion passed 6 to 0 with Mr. Steinbeisser providing the second.

Clerk Beyer administered the oath of office to Jon Marker.

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 8:30 PM.

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Board Chair

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

Attest:

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District Clerk