

OCTOBER 10, 2022

A regular meeting of the Sidney Public Schools Board of Trustees was held at 5:30 PM Monday, October 10, 2022, at the Administration Office on posted notice by the clerk. Present were Trustees Ben Thogersen, Kelly Dey, David Seitz, Jon Marker, Josh McGahan and Alex Villegas. Also in attendance were Superintendent- Brent Sukut; District Clerk- Nicki Beyer, Assistant Business Manager- Tracy Click, Curriculum Director- Thom Barnhart, Special Ed Director- Michelle Monsen, IT Technician- Marcos Morales, and Central School Principal- Sara Romo. Absent were: Trustees: Randy Iversen and Lisa Gorder; High School Principal- Carl Dynneson, Middle School Principal- Ashley Copple, West Side Principal- Sharri Vandall and High School Assistant Principal- Danny Coryell.

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 an opportunity for community comment on non-agenda items would be provided at the end of the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**FINANCE COMMITTEE: Held 10/3/22 Ben Thogersen**

- Perused the August monthly financial reports, county investment report and September claims
- Reviewed enrollment as of 10/3/22
West Side – 334; Central – 251; Middle School – 286; High School – 392 = TOTAL 1263 up 7
- Looked over an update on COVID ESSER II and III fund expenditures, funds remaining and current budgets
- Reviewed 21-22 bid by Yellowstone Painting accepted for snow removal last winter. Yellowstone is discontinuing their snow removal business. Mr. Sukut is in the process of checking with other area businesses that do snow removal and will report on his findings
- Discussed request to bring Payroll/Personnel Clerk salary in line with Assistant District Clerk which results in an increase of \$2.00 per hour
- Discussed route bus replacement. Quotes are being solicited on an 83 passenger bus at an estimated cost of \$135,000 as well as consideration of special education bus replacement
- Discussed replacing a drivers education vehicle. Considering the transfer of a used district vehicle to drivers ed and replacement of the Dodge Caravan. Concern was expressed about the performance of the suburban on the trip west for state golf. The Yukon continues to have issues, has 140,000 miles and has been involved in two deer accidents. The Yukon may need to be the vehicle replaced

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE: Held 10/3/22 Ben Thogersen

- **Project Updates:**
 - West Side Elementary:*
 - Playground Asphalt Cracks – on hold pending cost estimate on removing asphalt and replacing with pea gravel. Cost to replace asphalt for asphalt is prohibitive
 - Playground camera has been installed
 - Library flooring has been asbestos abated and carpet installed
 - Central Elementary:*
 - Kitchen update by B&B has been completed
 - Johnson Controls HVAC upgrade and interface as well as training on the system has been completed
 - Bleacher installation in the new gym is currently in progress
 - Middle School:*
 - Replacement of west entrance stairs has been completed
 - Removal of the old sidewalk on the south side with the planting of grass in the area is currently underway with Jeremy Jensen
 - MARCO has been contracted to replace the camera system at the Middle School. Equipment has been ordered
 - High School:*
 - Gym heater replacement and weight room air conditioning are currently on hold
 - Boiler replacement has been completed
 - Electricland has completed the speaker replacements
 - Currently in the process of replacing the main west gym doors

All Schools:

- IT continues to work with Electricland on building intercom systems. Planning to replace three buildings in a three year time span
- Vonage phones have been installed. Working through some oddities
- Will be moving forward with a 2022-2023 chromebook bid request with the intent to award in January

Other:

- Administration HVAC is being assessed for repairs and updates as needed rather than full replacement due to the estimated cost of a new system
- The widening of the street by the football field has been complete for some time. Awaiting a report from the City on total cost to determine share of payment
- **Lead Fixture Replacement:**
 - West Side replaced classroom drinking fountains in Rooms 402, 403 and 405
 - Central had none to replace
 - Middle School replaced a classroom fixture
 - High School replaced the band room sink
 - Administration will be replacing sinks in the boys and girls bathrooms in the basement. Other lead concentration fixtures were floor sinks and boiler related

Monitoring of fixtures will continue with replacement occurring as needed.

○ **Safety Committee Meeting:**

- Met 9/15/22 and set the annual review of the policy for sections D-J and pages 1-15 of the General Safety section
- Reviewed the 2021-22 injury reports by school as well as current year to date for 2022-23

<i>West Side:</i>	63 EOY Reports	5 YTD Reports
<i>Central:</i>	26 EOY Reports	12 YTD Reports
<i>Middle School:</i>	10 EOY Reports	1 YTD Reports
<i>High School:</i>	17 EOY Reports	5 YTD Reports
- Reviewed Student Injury Totals: (22-23 YTD 23)

19-20 EOY 71	20-21 EOY 73	21-22 EOY 116
--------------	--------------	---------------
- Reviewed Employee Injury Totals: (22-23 YTD 5)

19-20 EOY 5	20-21 EOY 15	21-22 EOY 15 + 1 Visitor
-------------	--------------	--------------------------

CURRICULUM & POLICY COMMITTEE: Held 10/3/22 Kelly Dey

- No Labor Management Committee meeting
- Reviewed state test scores comparing to other Montana Class “A” schools
- First Reading of Board Policy 2335 will be on the agenda tonight
- Mr. Barnhart, Mr. Sukut and Mr. Dynneson provided an update on the programs currently in the works with Miles Community College. Still planning to proceed with the CDL licensing classes for students second semester. Board asked about the possibility of offering the program through adult ed also

PUBLIC RELATIONS & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Held 10/3/22 Kelly Dey

- Reviewed staff transfers, resignations and vacancies
- Reviewed new hires which are on the Consent Agenda this evening
- Updated the Board on the lack of girls basketball coaching candidates. Stated the Trustees may need to consider allowing District administrators to take the position for the current year

ADMINISTRATORS’, SUPERINTENDENT’S AND STUDENT REPORTS:

- **DEPARTMENT HEAD: TRANSPORTATION: MARTIN MORALES – not in attendance**

- **TRANSFERS:**

- Maria Neff- High School Office Manager to Superintendent’s Administrative Assistant

- **RESIGNATIONS:** None

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

- **ENROLLMENT:**

- West Side – 326; Central – 251; Middle School – 286; High School – 391 = TOTAL 1254

- **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING HOME EVENTS**

- **DISTRICT PROJECTS: Covered in the Buildings and Grounds Report**

- **NEMASS MEETING REPORT:**

- Discussed upcoming legislative session including obtaining a lobbyist. Dan Farr has reached out to the group about continuing in that role. Mr. Sukut will work with Dan Schmidt and Aaron Skogen in retaining a lobbyist to represent area school districts

- One presenter spoke specifically to the subject of oil and gas revenue. Due to the state surplus, they are not anticipating this funding source will change
- The subject of charter schools was discussed. Llew Jones, legislator who has been a public education advocate for years, is working on a set of criteria for starting up a charter school in an area that will limit their access if your public school meets all stated criteria (currently 12 which SPS currently at least partially meets all of them)

- REVIEWED CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approve September 12th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

B. Approval of September 2022 Claims Warrants # 233643 - 233682 in the amount of \$342,373.28

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

D. Associated Student Body Information:

- Approve the August 2022 Report
- Approve the following Transfer:
 - From MS Student Store (Acct 210) to WS General (Acct 401) \$1400.00 WS paid NE Arts twice for 2022-2023 but MS had not paid yet. Using duplicate payment to cover MS share

E. First Reading 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. First Reading 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. NEW HIRES:

- Andrena Christensen – Middle School Special Education Aide
- Melani Drane – Middle School Special Education Teacher
- Jamie Jensen – West Side Pre-School Aide
- Carissa LeFurgey – West Side Speech Aide
- J.D. Mulkey – Middle School Girls Basketball Coach

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

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

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA:

*** ROUTE BUS REPLACEMENT/PURCHASE:**

- Request approval for purchase of an 2023 83-passenger Blue Bird route bus at a cost of \$135,000 pre-trade to replace a 2009 Blue Bird with 75,889 miles on it. Transportation Supervisor, Martin Morales, is recommending the 2009 bus be sold by bid rather than traded
- Information regarding a proposed purchase of a 16 capacity 2023 Blue Bird Microbird with lift to replace the current Special Ed route bus at a cost of \$96,000 before trade

Ms. Dey moved to approve the purchase of a 2023 83-passenger Blue Bird route bus at a cost of \$135,000 with a second by Mr. McGahan. The motion passed unanimously.

- * **WEST SIDE/CENTRAL PARENT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:** Guest Keri Riordan presented information regarding her plans to start up a group of parent volunteers to assist at the elementary schools to help with group activities, teacher prep work, and individual reading practice etc. Mrs. Riordan is working with Mrs. Vandall at West Side to establish criteria and guidelines for the new group

OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COMMENT: NONE

Additional Information:

- Reschedule the November Board meeting for the first Monday, November 7, 2022
- Alex inquired about the progress on the West Side asphalt replacement

Topics for next agenda include:

- 1) Project Update
- 2) 2nd Reading/Adoption of Policy 2335 – Health Enhancement
- 3) 2nd Reading/Adoption of Policies 5120P & 5120F – Federal Background Check Fingerprint and Information Handling Procedures
- 4) Raise Extra Milk price
- 5) Payroll/Personnel Clerk Wage

*** SUPERINTENDENT GOALS AND QUARTERLY EVALUATION:**

At 6:25 PM, Chairman Thogersen 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 the Superintendent’s Goals and Quarterly Evaluation. Ms. Dey was not present for this portion of the meeting.

At 6:53 Chairman Thogersen reconvened the meeting. Mr. Marker made the motion to offer a 3-year contract extension to Superintendent Sukut. The motion passed unanimously following a second by Mr. Villegas.

With no further business to come before the Trustees, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Board Chair

Approved: _____

Attest:

District Clerk