

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SD #4

The trustees met in regular session Monday, March 18, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Those present throughout the meeting were Chair Manny Zuniga, trustees Rhonda Hogstad, Mark Berg, Charlene Severson, Crystal Gust, Superintendent Brent Lipp, and Business Manager Suzie Zentz. There were twelve visitors (list attached).

The chair called the meeting to order and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

AGENDA ADJ

Charlene Severson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Rhonda Hogstad seconded the motion. Manny asked about checks to USI (laminating film) and OETC (software). He also asked about the 8th grade balance on the Extra-curricular list. Mrs. Zentz noted that it is the current balance as of the end of February. All voted in favor of the motion.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Zentz informed the board that she has received the following lane change notifications for 2013-14: Karen Meick, Trina Halama, Dani Wheeler, Kalli Murphy, Talia Super, Erin McGillvray, Jill Thelen, and Tierney Baffuto.

CORRESPONDENCE

PRESENTATIONS

Janet Weston provided a PowerPoint presentation on the ANTS (Audubon Naturalist in the Schools) Program at the Audubon Conservation Education Center. In addition, four of her students presented information on the various components of the ANTS program. The program includes 3 classroom visits and 3 field trips to the CEC. The trustees thanked the students and Mrs. Weston for the presentation.

JANET WESTON—ANTS PROGRAM

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Lipp reviewed his administrative report with the trustees:

ADMN RPT

- The MBI team is working on new incentives and awards for the students. They plan to have assemblies rewarding citizenship, good grades, athletics, etc. The first assembly will be at the end of this quarter. We are also pursuing MBI gold status. We would receive this award in June at the MBI institute.
- The Common Core professional development is going well. Some complexities have presented themselves because the staff is working at different speeds, so we will be utilizing Andrea Fisher from ACE as well as Jim Staab.
- The Finance Committee needs to meet to discuss the possibility of running a levy. We will hold a Special Board Meeting on March 26th at 5:30 p.m. to discuss it. The Finance Committee will meet at 4:00 p.m. on March 21st to review the details and formulate a recommendation for the board.

- Brent prepared two 2013-14 calendar options and asked the staff for their preference. They opted for option A which is aligned closely with the District 2 calendar.
- We have had some urgent septic system problems in the last few weeks which we needed to resolve quickly. The septic system maintenance company we contract with repaired problems with the lines and added risers to provide better access in the future. The system is now working well, although the cost may have exceeded the Superintendent's limit of \$5000.00.
- Brent, Mike Rice and Brenda Hess met with Virginia Mermell from MSU regarding the Healthy Schools Challenge program. This program promotes healthy lifestyles and healthy food choices. Ms. Mermell felt that we are doing a good job and are not far from meeting the standards for "Gold" certification. There is grant money available to enable development of the program. The "Fit Kids" helps us to meet the program's goals.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Rhonda Hogstad made a motion to hire Linda Timmons as a long term substitute on contract (BA + 5) from March 25-May 28, 2013 as recommended; Mark Berg seconded the motion. Brent noted that Ms. Timmons is covering for the teacher on family leave. Per State law, substitute teachers must be placed on a contract after 30 consecutive days of substitute teaching. *All voted in favor of the motion.*

Charlene Severson made a motion to approve 2013-14 Calendar A as recommended by the superintendent; Mark Berg seconded the motion. Brent noted that this calendar aligns closely with the District 2 calendar which is a convenience for parents with high school and elementary students. We worked to avoid as many conflicts as possible with school sports and special events. *All voted in favor of the motion.*

Rhonda Hogstad made a motion to offer a retirement incentive to qualifying teachers as recommended by the superintendent; Crystal Gust seconded the motion. Suzie explained that two current staff members are eligible to take the retirement incentive. The incentive is effective because additional cash is added to the teacher's final salary which increases their retirement benefit---benefitting the teacher. When the teacher is replaced, the district can hire a

NEW HIRES—LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE

2013-14 CALENDAR

RETIREMENT INCENTIVE

a new teacher at a lower rate of pay--benefiting the district. It has to work for both sides to be effective. *All voted in favor of the motion.*

Manny distributed the Business Manager/Clerk evaluation forms to the trustees and Mr. Lipp. He asked that they be returned by April 10th to the Board mailbox. He reminded the trustees that this is confidential material. Since it comes so early in the month, the trustees also agreed to move the regular April board meeting from April 15th to April 22nd.

BUSINESS MGR/CLERK EVALUATION FORMS

PUBLIC COMMENT

The chairman reminded those present to speak on an issue of the rules and protocol for making public comment as stated on the "Public Comment Form." A number of parents made public comment regarding a school bus driver as follows:

Randy Minkoff—Mr. Minkoff wanted to inform the board of his concern about a bus driver. Although the driver has been moved to a different route, he feels that it is a matter of time before she has trouble on the new route.

Paul Graff—He feels that this driver drives too fast and that there is a difference in her speed when Mr. Lipp is riding the bus. He is aware that his son has been late to the bus, but still is concerned about overall bus safety for other students in the school.

Brad Ohlin—His experience with big rigs makes him concerned about the speed of the bus and its ability to stop safely. He also feels the driver doesn't use the brakes properly.

Bridget Hanson—She noted that they love the school. Said that a neighbor tried to flag the bus down and the driver drove around that individual and did not stop. She was concerned that the driver didn't see the child.

Sara Minkoff—She and her husband tried to deal with this issue many times and did see some changes and progress. However, her kids didn't like to get on the bus..."it wasn't a pleasant ride to school."

The chairman thanked the visitors for their comments and the visitors left the meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Levy information
Staff appreciation
Business Manager evaluation
8th grade trip
School zone lights
Wellness policy

There being no further business, Manny Zuniga made a motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Zentz, Clerk

Manuel Zuniga, Chair