

**MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, July 13, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Kendra Horn. Ridgley Elser, Kendra Horn, Bronwen Pfau, Cory Rowberry (Zoom), Therese Sutton (Zoom), Kaylie Theis, and William T. C. Wood were present. Superintendent Micheal Wetherbee was present. Principal Rodney Stout was absent.

Visitors: Laurie Bartoletti

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: William T. C. Wood led the Board and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time

Public Comment

REPORTS:

HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE STEPS:

MW-torn out today by RE Miller, will have Chief Croy come install new ramp. Will have heat installed by L & J plumbing.

BOARD GOALS AND TRAINING:

1. Sheridan School Board will promote an environment of cooperation while following Robert's Rules as guidelines to maintain a high level of meeting efficiency.
Discussion-orderly meetings help trustees do their job, lot of new members
2. Sheridan School Board will regularly review the established maintenance program and maintain a long-term capital improvement plan.
Discussion-review at Board retreat, will look at some items next month, for example, steps have been a discussion that the board has had in planning.
3. Consideration of Revised Board Goals: Bill motion to adopt revised goals, Kaylie second. Motion carried.

Hiring/Resignation

OLD BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION OF FY22 ACADIA CONTRACT-ALTACARE: Funding and company are in a little bit of flux, would like to table the approval of the contract until we have more info. Ridgley motion to table, Bronwen second, will tabling affect services in school year. motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

HIRING AND/OR RESIGNATION: Myra Deavel resignation, Bill moved, Therese seconded approval. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF FY22 HANDBOOKS:

CERTIFIED STAFF HANDBOOK: Bill motion to approve as presented, Cory seconded the motion. Revision included comparing with policy, making it more readable, nothing really changed the intention of the handbook, policies updated mean updating handbook, Ways to increase communication and community support, noted attendance at extra-curricular activities, don't see teachers there, communication-how is handbook enforced. Motion carried.

Minutes

CLASSIFIED STAFF HANDBOOK: Bronwen moved to approve as presented, Ridgley seconded. Same types of revision as Certified. Motion carried.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER HANDBOOK: Kaylie moved to approve as presented, Ridgley seconded. Still doing online training through Kaleva Law Office, will change K to pre-k. Motion carried.

Expenditures

STUDENT HANDBOOK: Admin changes to absences, and incentive days, but students would like to be involved with incentive discussion. Page 7-doctors are providing notes months after an absence, want change to simplify attendance, Page 18-add language to have good attendance/behavior ineligible for val/sal. Pg 19-incentives-want students to be involved, wants to not have them opt out of finals as an incentive, finals are a piece of education process, advanced students are skipping finals, need middle ground-need an incentive that is broader than 3.5 gpa and above students, all red language changes- Bill moved to accept student handbook with the changes on page 7, 18, 24, and removing language on page 19. Bronwen seconded the motion. Students don't want that change, teachers would like students to take their finals, doing students a disservice/not prepping them for college by allowing them to opt out of finals, can substitute another incentive, cell phone policy working? Pieces of it are working, doesn't work when staff is inconsistent, the staff feels they need to improve on their end, need to teach responsibility with their phones as a tool, they aren't going away, seems to be a problem with grades 7-10, older students maybe are more mature, maybe have it figured out, 80% of students don't have problems, driving policy-not consistently enforced, but wouldn't change it, chemical use policy-athletes are punished, but other students are not, seems inequitable, Ridgley moved to amend motion on the floor to change language on page 9 to no cell phones for all grades, Bronwen seconded the motion, discussion – unnecessary distraction, hard for parents who want their phones, getting rid of them isn't the solution, it is still a tool, accountability by having parents come to office Motion on amendment. Therese and Ridgley in favor, all others opposed, amendment failed. Will staff be more vigilant about current policy, when teachers aren't vigilant, they are reprimanded. Motion to approve handbook carried. MW will bring incentive language to board in September after discussion with students,

Principal's Report

POSSIBLE DECLARATION OF UNFORESEEN EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO 20-9-801 TO 20-9-806, MCA: Declaration of emergency expired on 6/30/21. Should re-declare to maintain flexibilities under emergency. Governor's declaration ended state emergency, local control, doesn't need to coincide with state level, 1900 policy series is still in effect until they are terminated, we will have to remove – 1908 policy-want to remove, can do it at next meeting. Not offering remote learning next year – will consider the whole series at next meeting, motion from Kris Goss email, how will declaration of emergency affect staff, union, etc., protect aggregate hours of instruction, school calendar in case it is needed, may help with spending ESSER money. Bill moved to declare emergency as written, Ridgley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Supt. Report

CONSIDERATION OF REQUIRED POLICY REVISIONS:

#2170, #3121, 3413, Ridgley moved to adopt as presented, Bill seconded. Motion carried. #3311-MW recommend option 3, allows problems to be solved at lowest level, will escalate if needed, Bronwen moved, Kaylie seconded the motion. Allows school to operate like it does under other policies, to follow policy in case of an incident, and then escalate to board level if that doesn't resolve it. Motion carried.

#2170P-MW –Digital academy is about 5 or 6 students per year, usually used to enhance curriculum, Some students are using it for credit recovery. If we are to charge a kid, would want it to be for credit recovery. Recommends not charging for any MDA classes, approx. \$130/semester. Therese motion to adopt as recommended, Bill seconded. Motion carried.

READING AND/OR APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S) MINUTES:

Kaylie Theis moved to approve minutes from the June 8, 2021 regular meeting as presented, and Ridgley Elser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REVIEW AND/OR APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLS AND EXPENDITURE PROPOSALS:

Bill Wood moved to approve the July warrant list as presented, including warrants #109567 through #109593 totaling \$111,203.13, and Bronwen Pfau seconded the motion. Jumpstart bathroom discussion, The motion carried.

Expenditure Proposals: None at this time

Clerk's fiscal year end – multi district agreement, operating transfers, general fund reserves, don't need to encumber money, can spend in alignment with originating fund purposes, better than spending money down at the end of the year.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: None at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:


Summer maintenance, almost time for school, no discipline referrals right now, Driver's ed, Mr. Johnson obtained certification, session started, program going, started with 17, have 16 doing it, one no-show, discussion- would they want to offer it is a spring semester class in the schedule, lost teacher who did it before and changed it, in-school option wouldn't be available to 8th graders, still offer summer class, have had a full class every summer, elective would compete with band, zero period,

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:22 p.m., Bill Wood moved to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes of this meeting were recorded and transcribed by Rebecca E. Larsen, District Clerk.


CLERK


CHAIRMAN

Adjourn

Board
Reorganization