

SIDNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
“We hold tomorrow in our hands.”

Board of Directors

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Board of Directors Strategy Session

Monday, March 21 – 6:30 p.m.

Board Room – 2754 Knox Road

Negotiations with the Sidney Education Association will be discussed.

The meeting is exempt from Iowa Open Meeting Law.

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Monday, March 21 – 7 p.m.

Board Room – 2754 Knox Road

1. **Call meeting to order and determine a quorum**
2. **Recognition of guests and public comment** – the Board may allow up to 5 minutes for citizens to discuss school matters with the Board. More time may be granted at the discretion of the Board. Discussing personnel matters relating to performance and evaluation are prohibited by the Board. Such matters shall be appropriately considered by the administration and resolved according to Board Policy and Iowa Administrative Code.
3. **Approve agenda**
4. **Approve minutes** – February regular meeting and March 7 work session
5. **Consider bills to be paid**
6. **Financials**
7. **Audiences**
Jonna Loewe/Sidney Hometown Pride – fitness center/weight room funding
Aaron Lang – technology considerations
KPE Engineering – facility space repurposing
8. **Reports**
Elementary Principal/Curriculum Director
Junior High-High School Principal
Superintendent
9. **Discussion**
 - a. Sharing, partnerships, programs
 - b. Staffing
 - c. Calendar 2016-17
 - d. Externship program
 - e. Equipment repair insurance
 - f. Equity report and accessibility considerations
 - g. TLC Update
 - h. Budget 2016-17
10. **Discussion/action**
 - a. Driver education
 - b. Budget guarantee resolution
 - c. Bus considerations
 - d. Sharing programs with Fremont-Mills
 - e. Set date, time, and location for budget hearing and pre-budget work session
11. **Action**
 - a. Resignation of personnel
12. **Board comment**
13. **Celebrations**
14. **Adjournment**

Strategy session

- **Enclosed** is the scattergram with the Sidney Education Association proposal for a \$2,100 increase and the SEA's language proposal. **Also, enclosed** are scattergrams with different counter %'s.
- **Enclosed** – the survey on the extra duty stipend for Vocational Ag teachers. The Board needs to present a proposal to the SEA.
- The SEA team can meet March 23 between 2 – 3 p.m.

Audiences

- **Jonna Loewe/Hometown Pride – fitness center/weight room funding- information enclosed.**
- **Aaron Lang/Technology Considerations – information enclosed.**
- **KPE Engineering/Facility space repurposing** – Greg Wilde and Trevor Huffaker from KPE will share ideas on space repurposing. **Also, enclosed** is a flyer on pre-owned portable units.

Elementary Principal/Curriculum Director – enclosed.

Junior High/High School Principal – will be emailed and hard copies shared at the meeting

Superintendent

- **Legislative update – enclosed.**

Discussion

Sharing, partnerships, and programs

- **Auto – enclosed** is an email sent to Dr. Nelson estimating costs for the teacher and a proposed agreement. I have not heard back from her. A lot going on.
- **Equipment for Vocational Agriculture and Auto** – uncertain how it will be distributed.
- **Spanish** – Sidney, Essex, and South Page for 2016/17 at this time. Still looking for a fourth school.
- **Hamburg**
 1. Notes from February 26 meeting.
 2. Estimate of transportation costs from Dr. Wells.
 3. Thoughts shared with the Board in an email.
 4. Possible dates for another meeting of board reps and superintendents and/or a joint board meeting.
- **Fremont-Mills**
 1. Dr. Herrick said it will be mid to late April before their board can meet.
 2. Proposed programs to share in 2016/17
 - K – 12 Art
 - Industrial Arts/Computer Drafting
 - Family Consumer Science
 - Elementary Guidance
 - Nurse
 - Cross Country, Golf, Wrestling

Staffing

- Advertising for elementary teachers in 1st, 2nd, and 6th grade. Four completed applications so far.

- Advertising for assistant softball, assistant baseball, and co-cheerleading coach for basketball and football. Wrestling cheer coach will be added.
- Technology staffing and library. This has been shared before. Susy Clayton is interested in working next year. This year she is here one day a week. She also has the library endorsement. Aaron Lang this year is teaching two periods a day and tech coordinator the rest of the day. The demands on technology are going to increase next year to the increased number of students.
- Still very difficult to make determinations on staffing needs at the JH/HS for next year. Between the JH/HS and Elementary 2 to 3 extra periods of PE could be used. The administration has reached out to Hamburg and that was discussed at the February 26 meeting with Hamburg.

Calendar 2016/17

- **Enclosed** is a proposed calendar for next year.
- Conferences are September 21, 22 and February 15,16.
- Presented for approval at the April meeting

Externship program

- Mr. Huntington and Mr. Davis have been working on this concept and proposal.
- It seems worth serious consideration – potential for expanding quality opportunities for kids at Sidney.
- Mr. Huntington will elaborate.

Equipment repair insurance

- **Information enclosed.**
- Allows districts to pay for certain electrical repair costs and reimburse the General Fund for those costs.
- The premium is paid for out of Management Fund and that is all property tax.
- It's basically another strategy to divert costs from the General Fund to protect budget authority.

Equity report and accessibility considerations

- **Enclosed** is feedback on the compliance plan, the plan, and bids for accessibility at the JH/HS, modifying the ramp at the elementary gym, and doors for the restrooms at the elementary gym.
- **Suggest the accessibility issue at the JH/HS be addressed this summer. Estimated cost \$30,00 for the option Ray and I believe the best option.**
- I sent an email to the DE for guidance on what interim plans and plans for accommodations.

TLC update - enclosed

- Teachers and Principals are going to attend a launch event in Des Moines on April 12.
- Master Contract Language to protect employment rights for TLC teachers needs to be finished. I hope to have that completed for consideration in the next couple of weeks.

Budget 2016/17

- All of the information has been added to the budget file except for the property valuation.
- Without the property valuation the rate cannot be established.
- The budget needs to be certified by April 15. In discussion/action you will need to set a time, date, and location for the budget hearing. You will want to meet prior to it (same date or different date) to discuss the rate and other aspects related to the budget.
- **Enclosed** is an unspent budget report and a supplemental state aid worksheet with scenarios for new money (lines 1 and 2 of the unspent budget report) at 2% and 2.5%.

Discussion/action

Driver education

- **Enclosed** is information from Jennifer.
- Thirty- five (35) students are signed up – 18 will pay full tuition, 5 reduced tuition, and 12 the tuition will be waived. This is based on paid/reduced/free lunch status.
- South Page is employing Donnie Sears, paying him \$200 a student, and charging \$250 full tuition and \$150 reduced tuition. They have 4 paying full tuition, 2 reduced tuition, and 9 the tuition will be waived.
- If Donnie is paid \$200 a student that is **\$8,160.60 for salary fica/ipers.**
- A good estimate is each student will drive 180 miles over 6 hours of driving instruction. That is 180 miles X 35 students = \$6300 miles. The vehicle gets 25 miles to the gallon. Estimate 252 gallons X \$2.50 a gallon = **\$630 for fuel.**
- If Sidney charges \$250 for full tuition and \$150 for reduced tuition, **\$5,250 will be collected.**

Budget guarantee resolution

- Passed every year by almost every district to access budget authority granted on line 1 and 2 of the unspent budget report.
- It is all property tax and is only accessed in years of stagnant to declining enrollment.
- Since the District's certified enrollment is going up, the budget guarantee will not be accessed next year. It is still a good idea to pass it every year as a matter of practice and routine – that way a board doesn't forget to do it in a year the district needs it! It has happened in other districts.
- **Recommend the following motion passed** – RESOLVED that the Sidney Board of Directors of Sidney Community School District will levy property taxes for fiscal year 2016/17 for the regular program adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa.

Bus considerations

- **Information enclosed** regarding two buses Farragut has on lease.
- **Information enclosed** on the cost of new buses shared previously.
- **Information enclosed** from the most recent bus inspection.
- **Pat and I believe the two Farragut buses are a good value. Two buses with low miles that can be financed over four years at just over \$20,000 per year combined. The district will own the buses.**

Sharing programs with Fremont-Mills

- The FM Board approved at their March meeting. They are listed in discussion.
- **Motion to approve** if you so choose.

Set date, time and location for budget hearing and pre-budget hearing

- Hopeful that property valuations are known sometime this week.

Action

Resignation of personnel

- Luke Buttry, Cross Country Coach. Luke informed me Friday he is stepping down. **Motion to approve.**
- Melinda Spencer, Elementary Teacher Associate. **Motion to approve.**

Board Comment

Celebrations

Adjournment