

SIDNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

“We hold tomorrow in our hands.”

Board of Directors

Heidi Lowthorp – President
Alisha Ettleman – Vice-President
Erika Graham
Michael Daly
Matthew McLaren
Janet Lemrick – Board Secretary
Jennifer Maher – Board Treasurer

Gregg Cruickshank
Superintendent
2754 Knox Road; Box 609
Sidney, IA 51652
712-374-2141
712-374-2013 FAX
gcruckshank@sidney.k12.ia.us

Carolyn Maher
Pk-6 Principal
1002 Illinois; Box 609
Sidney, IA 51652
712-374-2647
712-374-2648 FAX
cmaher@sidney.k12.ia.us

Bill Huntington
7-12 Principal
2754 Knox Road; Box 609
Sidney, IA 51652
712-374-2141
712-374-2013 FAX
bhuntington@sidney.k12.ia.us

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda Monday, September 19, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Boardroom – 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** – August regular meeting and September 7 special meeting
5. **Consider bills to be paid**
6. **Financials**
7. **Adjourn retiring Board**

Reorganization of the Board

1. **Call the organizational meeting of the new Board to order and determine a quorum by the Board Secretary**
2. **Administer Oath of Office to the newly elected Board member**
3. **Election of President**
5. **Election of Vice-President**
6. **Administer Oath of Office to the new officers**
7. **Determine day, time and place for regular meetings**
8. **Reports**
 - Elementary Principal
 - Junior High-High School Principal
 - Superintendent
9. **Discussion**
 - a. School and community weight room/fitness center update and considerations
 - b. Voted PPEL
 - c. Equipment breakdown insurance
10. **Discussion/action**
 - a. Board priorities
 - b. Corner Conference athletic participation 2017/18
11. **Action**
 - a. Employment of personnel
 - b. Resignation of personnel
12. **Board comment**
13. **Celebrations**
14. **Adjournment**

Annotated agenda

Reorganization of the Board

- Board Secretary Janet Lemrick will call the meeting to order and roll call to determine a quorum.
- Janet will administer the oath of office to Director Matthew McLaren.
- Election of the Board President. Each nomination must have a second. There must be a motion and second that nominations cease. If more than one nomination, there will be a secret ballot. If there is only one nomination, then that person can assume office by Board acclamation.
- Election of the Board Vice-President will follow the same process as for President.
- Janet will administer the oath of office to the President and Vice-President.
- Determine a day, time and place(s) for regular monthly meetings. South Page meets on the second Monday.

Elementary Principal/Curriculum Director – will be emailed and hard copies shared at the meeting.

Junior High/High School Principal – enclosed.

Superintendent

- Rural School Advocates of Iowa (RSAI) annual meeting is Wednesday, October 12 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Ankeny. I will be attending and the Board is invited to attend.
- October 13, Paul Croghan, Essex/East Mills Superintendent, Chris Herrick, Fremont-Mills/Stanton Superintendent, Denise Green, South Page Pk – 12 Principal, and I will be presenting at the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) Human Relations Conference on program and staff sharing in the Corner Conference. The group presented at the School Administrators of Iowa Convention in August. The presentation will be shared with the Sidney and South Page Boards at the October meetings. The Board is invited to attend the conference.
- IASB annual convention is November 16 and 17 with a Board President workshop on the 18th. Board members may attend one day or multiple days. **Information enclosed.**
- **Enclosed** – the information that is updated once or twice a year and shared with the Board on funds, their appropriate uses, tax history, unexpended fund balance history, and unspent budget authority history. An updated unspent budget authority spreadsheet will be shared at the October meeting.
- **Enclosed** – information on General Fund expenditures and the percentage expensed for salary and benefits for fiscal years 2006 – 2016.
- **Enclosed** – projections for State Penny revenue for 2016 - 17.
- Whole grade sharing/tuition discussions with Hamburg – **enclosed** is an article from KMA. Heidi attended the September meeting.

Discussion

School/Community weight room/fitness center update and considerations

- **Enclosed** is an update from Mr. Huntington.
- Mr. Huntington, Mr. Moreland, and I visited with Hometown Pride about installing air conditioning, improve lighting, and restroom access. This may be a consideration for the district to allocate resources for these projects as a match for the \$14,000 in new equipment donated by Hometown Pride.

Voted PPEL

- **Enclosed** is information shared last month. Other considerations.
- Debt on the JH/HS will be paid off June 1, 2017. Information shared in the superintendent report provides an 11 year history of property tax rates for debt and the other school funds.
- A **maximum** Voted PPEL rate is 1.34. The last bond payment will be 1.52. If a VPPEL is approved by the public, each year the Board sets the rate (0.00 – 1.34).
- Based on this year's valuation of 171,441,582, a 1.34 rate would have generated \$229,731.20.
- **Fiscal year 2015 – 16 the district received \$357,292.85 in State Penny and PPEL revenue.**
- **Of that \$372,875.20, \$228,795.89 was committed to technology (61.4%).** The percentage committed from 2011 – 2015 was 59%.
- **The estimated 2016 – 17 State Penny and PPEL revenue is \$429,450.92, an increase of \$72,158.07.**
- The district borrowed against future PPEL and SAVE revenues to pay for the portable classroom (\$65,000) and the two buses purchased from Farragut (\$100,000). The loan is through Great Western Bank, has a four year term, and the rate is 2.25%.
- In summary, a voter approved PPEL would be very helpful in addressing future facility and transportation maintenance and upgrades (roof replacement, transportation fleet, and heating and air conditioning, among other needs).

Equipment breakdown insurance

- **Enclosed** is the tech allowable use policy for students and the equipment breakdown proposal that was discussed at previous meetings.
- On page 3 of the tech policy are the costs incurred by students and families for repair of damaged laptops.
- Director Daly asked if those costs could be covered by the insurance. The answer is yes.
- This month the bill for laptop repairs was \$1,976.50 (AEA 267).

Discussion/action

Board Priorities – listed here and posted in the Board room

- Advocate success for all students.
- Build relationships with neighboring districts to strengthen student opportunities for learning.
- Promote school/family partnerships.
- Collaborate with public and private entities to promote educational opportunities and economic growth in Fremont County.
- Foster a climate of cooperation collaboration, and excellence throughout the school community.
- Time for discussion, possible adoption, or table for further consideration.

Corner Conference Athletic Participation 2017/18

- The conference requires each school to declare team sport participation which requires extensive scheduling (volleyball, girls basketball, boys basketball, softball, and baseball). Football is district scheduling. No intent of participation is required for cross country, wrestling, track, and golf.
- **Motion needed** to approve participation in volleyball, girls basketball, boys basketball, softball, and baseball for 2017 – 18.

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Action

Employment of personnel

- Diane Carlson, JH/HS Special Education Teacher. **Motion to approve**
- Gloria Kemper, JH/HS Special Education Associate. **Motion to approve.**
- Christine Blank, Preschool Associate. **Motion to approve.**
- Bridgette Kennel, Elementary Special Education Associate. **Motion to approve.**
- Paige O’Neal, Head JH Girls Basketball Coach. **Motion to approve.**
- Dustin Sheldon, Assistant JH Girls Basketball Coach. **Motion to approve.**
- Kent Larsen, Assistant JH Boys Basketball Coach. **Motion to approve.**

Resignation of personnel

- Blaine Maher, JH/HS Special Education Teacher. **Motion to approve.**

Board Comment

Celebrations

Adjournment