

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, May 10, 2021 7:00 PM
High School Media Center
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ROUTINE BUSINESS

-Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:06 with 2 visitors.

-Note Nebraska Open Meeting Laws

-Excused Absences: All present

-Roll Call:

Mike Bonacci: Present

Josh Christensen: Present

Mike Conrad: Present

Jon Genoways: Present

Amanda Schrum: Present

Kelli Shaner: Present

Approval of Agenda: Moved that the Agenda be approved as presented passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Kelli Shaner. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

PRESENTATION

Ashley Dougherty spoke about school based counseling services made available through Region 6 Behavioral Health Care who received a grant for students to receive direct therapeutic services in schools. Students were referred and parents contacted then met with the counselor and appointments were set. The program capacity was met and additional providers were not available, but we currently have services for 6 elementary and 7 Jr-Sr High/PLC students. There is no limit on sessions and no disorder needs be identified. Funding sources include paying insurance copays, Medicaid, or fully funded through the grant. It is a great program benefiting our kids. They meet weekly in the schools which saves time away from school and travel. School is often a safe place for students and this helps with sharing and learning new strategies. Summer sessions will be available at the high school for current students, and possibly additional therapists to expand the program. There will also be training/professional development for staff. There was discussion about the funding running out and that we still do contract with Arbor Family, but it is not free. Kids Connections in Omaha is pushing the continuation of the program and we are looking to see it expanded. All schools and agencies are pushing for continuing funding.

REGULAR AGENDA

-Public Participation: There was none.

-Approval of May Claims: Moved that the claims for May be approved in the amount of \$163,346.36 from the General Fund and \$121,397.38 from Savings and Depreciation passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Josh Christensen. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh

Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

Moved that the claim for Abe's Trash Service be approved in the amount of \$989.28 from the General Fund passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Jon Genoways.

Josh Christensen: Abstain (With Conflict), Mike Bonacci: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. There was a question about Edgenuity and that it is a 3-year contract.

-Consent Agenda: Moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented passed with a motion by Kelli Shaner and a second by Amanda Schrum. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

-Standing Committee Reports: Finance Committee: Met and discussed the sprinkler system bid; Mr. Mallette as Interim Elementary Principal and the need for and elementary teacher; salary increases for the superintendent, administrators and classified staff, the new bus proposal, and forming a Computer Science Club. They also discussed a better utilization of the Library Conference Room, the board retreat and the most recent COVID changes coming.

American Civics: Their discussions centered around the same topics with the same recommendations as Finance.

-Hiring of Staff

Interim Elementary Principal: Moved that Patrick Mallette be approved as Interim Elementary Principal for the 2021-22 school year passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Jon Genoways. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Jon Genoways asked why Mr. Mallette is taking the position. Mr. Mallette said it was for the opportunity and fun challenge it presented as he grows in the profession. Mike Conrad said the administration and committees researched and he was the most logical and best for the District. Mr. Mallette thanked the board for the opportunity.

Junior High Science Teacher: Moved that Breana Dobesh be offered a contract as Junior High Science teacher beginning with the 2021-22 school year passed with a motion by Kelli Shaner and a second by Mike Bonacci. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. She is currently a teacher in Grand Island and wants to be closer to the eastern part of the state. She came with great references and interviewed very well. Their board must release her from her contract there. Mike Bonacci asked if we have an "answer by" date, but Mr. Wemhoff said once their board meets we will hear.

Elementary Teacher: Moved that the Board of Education hire an elementary teacher to fill the newly-open position. Moved that the Board of Education hire an elementary teacher to fill the newly-open position for the 2021-22 school year passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Jon Genoways. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. This is a one-year position and that will be explained to the candidate and is necessary because Mike Mallette will be moving into the HAL/BI position leaving an opening in 6th Grade. An interview is scheduled with a candidate with great references. If a position would open after the one year, the person hired would have the option to apply.

-Superintendent Salary: Moved to increase the superintendent's salary by 4% passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Mike Bonacci. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh

Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. The superintendent's salary begins on July 1st each year.

- Administrative Salaries: Moved that the board of education set the administrators' salaries not to exceed 4% for their 2021-22 contract period passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Kelli Shaner. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

-Classified Staff Salaries: Moved by the board of education that classified staff salaries be increased not to exceed 4% passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Kelli Shaner. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea

-Bus Purchase: Moved that the bid from Cornhusker International for a 2022 IC Bus Series 71 passenger 8.8 Liter gasoline engine bus be accepted in the amount of \$92,095.00 which includes \$1,800.00 for air brakes and \$2,375.00 for a camera passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Kelli Shaner. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Mr. Green explained the amount was slightly higher because the camera was not included on the original paperwork, however it is still the low bid. We're waiting to hear about the trade-in value for the bus. It was said it makes no sense not to have cameras on the bus and they have helped with instances on the two newer buses that have them--"pictures don't lie". There was discussion if all the 71 passenger buses would fit in the bus barn and that is being worked on.

- Sprinkler System Bid: Moved that the bid for the sprinkler system from Alternate Rain be accepted in the amount of \$40,100.00 passed with a motion by Amanda Schrum and a second by Kelli Shaner. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. This bid is being recommended. It will add more coverage and will be installed in 2 phases, with the second being after the parking lot/playground are completed. This also includes the PLC. This company has been ours for the entire campus already and knows our spaces and needs.

-Computer Science Club: Moved that the board of education approve a Computer Science Club starting in the fall of 2021-22 with sponsor compensation to be placed on the "Club and Activities" portion of the extra curricular schedule of the negotiated agreement at the 5%-6% range passed with a motion by Kelli Shaner and a second by Josh Christensen. Mike Bonacci: Yea, Josh Christensen: Yea, Mike Conrad: Yea, Jon Genoways: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Kelli Shaner: Yea. Nichole Niebur will take sponsorship of this club and will spend one day at each building. We believe it will grow and attract a large number of members. It is the direction we want to have in our buildings and there are 77 schools in the state that already have a club like this including "e-sports" competitions with it. It was questioned if the NSAA would maybe pick up this for sanctioning in schools. We must institute this to "keep up".

- Board Retreat-Discussion: The board discussed the timeline of the retreat and decided it will be on June 14th, after noon with the start time depending on the final agenda being put together and when the speaker can come. The regular June board meeting will follow it with a meal in between. Once the agenda is complete, members will be given the final timeline. There was discussion about touring the building and grounds and if this were part of the Superintendent's contract. It was determined it was part of the evaluation process. A tour will be arranged if time permits. Kelli Shaner asked if Mr. Wagner would be at the retreat and he will be and will work with Mr. Mallette until he leaves in September.

-Board Member Reports: Jon Genoways asked if the Finance Committee had yet gotten a referral bid and there was nothing yet. Mike Bonacci said both our track meets were great, but the parking was a problem. He said people couldn't see the sign and didn't know about the west lot and he asked about a more prominent "Event Parking" sign. Kelli Shaner said graduation was awesome, well done and normal and happy to see them "walk". Amanda Schrum thanked everyone for graduation and for the whole school year. Everyone did an amazing job to keep the schools open. Mike Conrad mirrored that graduation went well and was proud to be a part of it. He asked the board members to take a more active role in the meetings as far as the motions.

-Administrator Reports: Mr. Wagner wanted to give a "shout out" to his staff for this school year saying they "worked their tails off". He reported on recent testing, report cards being sent, communications, wrapping up the school year and a construction update. Kindergarten, preschool and 6th grade celebrations and Field Day have been scheduled. He also reported on the 6th grade opening, upcoming professional development and the PFE movie night. There have been no recent updates for Nebraska Frameworks.

Mr. Wemhoff: Spoke of the great celebration for graduation with 55 seniors this year and spoke about tributes for the members of the class who died, offering the Junior High Science position, testing completed and went well, and a thank you to PFE for the treats and meals during staff appreciation week. With May 21 being the last day of school there is a lot to be done, but thanked the staff for all they've done to make this school year work-it was tremendous. Freshman Orientation will be on Monday 5/17.

Mr. Christensen: Looked at the parking that day on Google Earth and will work on it; the successes and records by the Junior High Track Team especially with the numbers of students and staff who work to help kids grow and develop; High school track being runners up at their meet; District Baseball and Golf; COVID 19 plans for summer activities by working within the ever-changing guidelines with the final coming from 3 Rivers Health and the NSAA; thanked Mr. Wemhoff for helping with the track meets as he is the expert with the timing system; and it will be great to get kids back in the gym this summer.

-Superintendent Report and Legislative Update:

Mr. Green reported on the Board Goals and that the elementary parking lot is scheduled to be done by the end of July.

The Legislature is winding down and LB454 which would have greatly impacted schools failed. LB132 on school funding advanced with an amendment to form a committee of lawmakers to oversee taxing for schools with no school officials/education people being on this committee. COVID-19 numbers remain low and new protocols will begin in the schools on May 24th. We will be following current health department isolation and quarantine protocols; gave an update on the work being done in the new preschool classrooms and graduation was a success with Mr. Wemhoff doing a great job and was fun to watch. There are only 9 days left and this year has taken its toll. After summer we're hoping things will return to normal with younger children now being able to be vaccinated.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the president declared the meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.