

MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 12, 2016

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SPEARFISH SCHOOL DISTRICT 40-2, LAWRENCE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, WAS HELD AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE BUILDING ON THE 12TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2016. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: President Jeff Sleep, Vice President Amy Cermak, Nancy Hall and Mitch Hopewell. School administrators present were: Easton, Crosswait, Morford, Seyer, Lyon, Olson, Gottlob, and Schaffan. Also in attendance were: Teri Bauerly, Brandee DuPont, Karstin DuPont, Joy Arseneau, Gary Arseneau, Cole Arseneau, Susi Jones, Loudon Jones, Cadence Jones, Crylad Arseneau, Jackie Kary, Sarah O'Donnell, Kirby Crofutt, Karen Kissack, Christy J. Rogers, and Leesa Haugland.

All motions were passed by unanimous vote unless stated otherwise.

President Sleep called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

President Sleep led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by Cermak and carried to approve the agenda.

Christy Rogers addressed the Board concerning PBIS and IDEA and provided a handout to the Board.

Shelley Goodrich and DJ Adelman from Ketel Thorstenson presented the fiscal year 2016 financial audit.

Middle School Principal Don Lyon, Middle School Teachers Teri Bauerly and John Dagit and middle school students presented information on Project Lead the Way.

Board President Jeff Sleep informed the Board on his recent ASBSD delegate assembly meeting in Pierre.

Superintendent Kirk Easton, informed the Board of meetings with Toby Morris of Dougherty and Company. Mr. Morris will provide details of long range facility planning and a debt reduction strategy in an upcoming meeting with the finance committee members. Superintendent Easton also provided information on the district's Green Acres property and the intention to proceed with an appraisal.

The Board did not have any conflict of interest waivers for their consideration.

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by Cermak and carried to bring the PACE Strategic Development proposal off the table and make it available for discussion and consideration.

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by Cermak and carried to accepted option number one from PACE Strategic Development, LLC for district strategic planning.

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by Hopewell and carried to approve the second reading of the Voluntary Separation Incentive. Board Member Hall said significant changes in state aid to education funding require the phased-termination of the pension fund. The School Board is acting in a fiscally responsible manner by modifying the policy and ultimately terminating the program at the end of the 2017-18 school year.

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The proposed changes have been recommended by the policy committee of the Board. The committee followed its established procedure in fact finding, deliberating and gathering input from personnel who would be responsible for administering the proposal and those who would be affected by it.

In approving these modifications, the Board has demonstrated commitment to employees and integrity by increasing the amount of funds available for distribution beyond the remaining funds in the pension account. Included all employees affected by the policy out of a sense of fairness and in recognition for all employee's significant service to Spearfish students. The Board distinguished benefit amounts between employees that are fully eligible to receive their benefit before the end of the 2017-18 school year and those eligible after the 2017-18 school year in a sense of equity. The Board also allowed for the establishment of 403b plans for those employees who choose to continue employment in order to support the intent of the policy, which is to make separation from the district voluntary and also to provide for stability in staffing for Spearfish Schools.

Motion was made by Cermak, seconded by Hopewell and carried to approve the consent agenda.

- A. Personnel (*all hires contingent on successful completion of background check*)
 - 1. Approved Dolores Gehner, MS Asst. Track Coach, Level 4 \$2,169.05
 - 2. Approved Aaron Winchester, MS Custodian, 8hr./day, 12 mos., Level 1 \$10.79, effective 12/12/2016
- B. Approved request for 1 high school student to be released from open enrollment in the Spearfish School District, to return to resident district of Belle Fourche.

Superintendent Easton and the Board discussed the 2017-18 calendar draft with a proposed final calendar available for motion at the January meeting. There was also discussion on a makeup day for the recent snow day with April 17th the most likely. The date will be officially set closer to April and contingent on more snow days.

Superintendent Easton provided a student enrollment update along with the Black Hills On-line Learning enrollment update.

Motion was made by Cermak, seconded by Hopewell and carried to approve the regular meeting minutes of Monday, November 14, 2016 and the special meeting minutes of Thursday, December 1, 2016.

Motion was made by Hall, seconded by Cermak and carried to approve the bills and financial statements.

Motion was made by Hopewell, seconded by Cermak and carried to adjourn the meeting. 6:40 p.m.

Jeff Sleep, Board President

Craig Crosswait, Business Manager
