



Schuyler Community Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, August 15, 2011 6:30 PM
Schuyler Central High School Music Room
401 Adam Street
Schuyler, NE 68661-2400

I. Student Fees Hearing

Discussion: A hearing to discuss student fees was opened at 7:39 PM. Changes in the student fees policy affecting student breakfast and lunch prices for regular priced meals as well as reduced priced meals were open for discussion. The hearing was closed at 7:42 PM by President Jedlicka.

II. Call Meeting to Order

Discussion: Others present at the meeting were Superintendent Stevens, Principals Pavlik, Vrba, Grammer, Comley, Assistant Principals Cunningham and Cline, Activity Administrator Egr, Director of Facilities Mundil, and Curriculum Director Gibbons.

II.A. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion: All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II.B. Declaration of Open Meeting

Discussion: President Jedlicka declared the meeting was preceded by advance notice and declared to be an open session.

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

III.A. Agenda

III.B. Minutes

III.C. Acceptance of Claims

III.D. Financial

III.E. Other Listed Reports

IV. Public Forum - We ask that all presentation be limited in their length.

IV.A. Recognition of visitors and guests

IV.A.1. Worker's Comprehensive Presentation - Folda Insurance

Discussion: Steve Bailey from Folda and Company Insurance provided the members of the school board a chart showing information on claims filed by SCS compared to other Nebraska schools. A representative from EMC Insurance will meet with the school board and some SCS employees on September 15 regarding filing of future claims.

IV.B. Other topics (limited to 5 minutes - subject to guidelines of the Board Participation Policy)

IV.C. Student Representative's Report

V. Board Requests/Reports/Action Items

V.A. Americanism

V.B. Budget

V.B.1. Need to set meeting date for budget work

V.B.2. Expenditure decrease/Revenue increase document update

Discussion: An update on the “Expenditures Decrease/Revenue Increase” document has been placed on the SCS website. This document is an accumulation of ideas from the staff, board and administration.

V.B.2.1. Mileage claims

V.B.3. Discuss, consider and take action on the audit contract with Pekny and Associates for the year ending August 31, 2011.

V.B.4. Property tax update

Discussion: In December of 2011 the 1994 school bond (SMS addition) will come off the books and will reduce in-town taxes by about 6 cents. This will have no effect on rural property taxes. The state requires property tax levies to be no higher than \$1.05 general (special building) fund level. The state aid formula is based on a local effort of at least \$1.03 levy.

V.C. Building and Grounds

V.C.1. Update on SES addition

Discussion: Tilt-up concrete was poured for a 6"x15'7"x140' wall with the window openings being measured 7" too low. Options were suggested for putting the wall section to use in another area. The roofing project at SMS should be completed by September 1. At SCHS bids were received for ventilation and welding curtains in the welding area of the ag shop.

V.C.1.1. Executive session

Discussion: Motion to enter executive session at 7:56 PM.

V.C.1.2. Executive session

Discussion: Motion to exit executive session at 8:08 PM.

V.C.1.3. Executive session

Discussion: Executive session entered at 8:10 PM.

V.C.1.4. Executive session

Discussion: Executive session exited at 8:31 PM.

V.C.2. Update on SCHS Entryway/Special Education Classroom

Discussion: The special education classroom nears completion with cabinets, counter and sink remaining to install.

V.C.3. Update on SMS roof project

V.C.4. Welding Ventilation and Curtains

V.D. Curriculum

V.D.1. Curriculum Development Program Improvement request

Discussion: Deb Sterup, Spanish teacher at SCHS, has requested payment for forty hours spent developing the Spanish curriculum.

V.E. Negotiations

Discussion: A request from the SEA to renegotiate their contract to include the \$189,000 the district will save when the Educational Health Alliance gives SCS a one-month premium holiday in December 2011. Blue Cross-Blue Shield will not charge a premium on the district's health insurance resulting in a savings of \$189,000. It was suggested by a board member that in 2012-2013 every certified staff member be charged \$100 for health insurance to offset this request.

V.E.1. Need to sign agreement

V.F. Planning

V.F.1. Channel 99 and the city council tentative decision

V.F.2. Channel 99

V.G. Policy

V.G.1. Early Retirement Incentive Policy - September 1st, 2011 time to update

V.G.1.1. Discuss, consider and take action on the ERIP policy

V.G.2. Discuss, consider and take action on the k-3 parent/student handbook

V.G.3. Discuss, consider and take action on the support staff handbook for 2011-2012 school year

V.G.4. Discuss, consider and take action on the Student Fees policy.

Discussion: This item was tabled at the July 2011 meeting until a hearing could be held regarding the student fees policy.

V.G.5. Discuss, consider and take action on the certified staff handbook for the 2011-2012 school year.

V.H. Public Relations

V.I. Foundation

V.I.1. Review of July 28th meeting

Discussion: The Foundation met on July 28 and established the following goals: create a database, establish a funding base, create an alumni association, and increase the partnership with the Schuyler Chamber of Commerce.

VI. Action Items

VII. Administrative and Other Reports

VII.A. Operating Council Report(s)

VII.B. High School Principal Report

Discussion: As of August 10th our total 9-12 enrollment is 445. The grade breakdown is as follows: 9th grade - 107, 10th grade - 134, 11th grade - 105, and 12th grade - 99.

VII.C. Grades 9-12 Assistant Principal's Report

Discussion: We now have a local prefix number associated with our substitute management system as compared with an 800 prefix number from 2010-2011. This should help with filling jobs as substitute teachers are more inclined to answer their phone for a local number as compared with the 800 number. Assistant Principal Cline will be assisting with the substitute management system this year.

VII.D. Curriculum/Instruction/Assessment

Discussion: We served 183 students in summer school this year, not counting students receiving extended year services in Special Education. There was also a reading summer school for high school students. Nearly 90% of the students showed some improvement.

VII.E. Activities Administrator Report

Discussion: On January 11th, 2011 LB 260 – Concussion Awareness Act was introduced. The Governor approved it on April 14th 2011. The bill takes affect on July 1st 2012. In May, Schuyler Community Schools began working with Mike Sloup athletic trainer to implement LB 260 within our school. All 9-12 athletes (except those in girls/boys golf, cross country, and track and field runners) will go through impact testing.

VII.F. Director of Facilities/Transportation Report

VII.G. Grades k-3 Principal's Report

VII.H. Grades k-3 Principal's Report

Discussion: Preschool teachers have set their schedule and hours for the 2011-2012 year. Numbers are at 68 with 6 currently on the waiting list. Classes at SES are filling up with more and more kids coming in daily. Most sections are around 19 in each class. There are 140 kindergarten students enrolled.

VII.I. Grades 4-8 Principal's Report

Discussion: We had our first student meetings of the year on Tuesday, August 9th. 7th and 8th graders attended their orientation at 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. This was the best turnout we have had in four years with 90% of the middle school students showing up for orientation.

VII.J. Grade 4-8 Assistant Principal Report

VII.K. Superintendent's Report

VII.K.1. Travel plan update

Discussion: There have been several changes made to the transportation procedures for SCS including when a school vehicle may be used, payment for using a personal vehicle, and the number of field trips that may be taken per organization.

VII.K.2. 4-R modular update

VII.K.3. Back to school observations

VII.K.4. September 21s NASB membership meeting

VII.K.5. Option/Transfer update

VII.K.6. Census Report

Discussion: The 2011 School District Census report shows the district (Colfax County) contains 1,814 students between the ages of five and eighteen.

VII.K.7. Resignations

Discussion: We have received letters of resignation from: Joan Cech, a paraeducator at SCHS and from Bernadette Wachneck, a paraeducator at SES.

VII.K.8. 2 keys to the landfill follow-up

VII.K.9. AA/Alanon contract follow-up

VII.K.10. Reminder: Next meeting is the 2nd Monday in September which is the 12th at 6:30 p.m.

VIII. Correspondence Items

IX. Executive Session

X. Adjournment

Prepared by: Sally Jakub, Secretary to the Board