



Schuyler Community Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2015 6:30 PM
Schuyler Central High School Music Room
401 Adam Street
Schuyler, NE 68661-2400

I. Call Meeting to Order

Discussion: Meeting was called to order by President Brabec. Board members present - Misek, Hild, Semerad, Brabec, and Cerny; Vavricek was absent. Others present were Superintendent Hoelsing and Curriculum Director Gibbons.

I.A. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion: All those present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I.B. Declaration of Open Meeting

Discussion: President Brabec stated that the meeting was preceded by advance notice and was hereby declared to be in open session. He also read the District Mission Statement.

II. Approval of Consent Agenda

II.A. Agenda

II.B. Minutes

II.C. Acceptance of Claims

II.C.1. Bills of \$5,000 or more

II.D. Financial

II.E. Other Listed Reports

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

III.A. Recognition of visitors and guests

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

IV. Action Items

IV.A. Board Policy, Handbooks, and Support Programs

IV.A.1. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve 1st reading of the 2015-16 board policy additions and revisions.

Discussion: Policy additions do not require two readings but Dr. Hoelsing stated it was a prudent idea as it gives Board members a thirty-day opportunity to make any changes.

IV.A.2. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve an interlocal agreement with the Colfax County Attorney's Office for the Truancy Program.

Discussion: The district had access to the services of a truancy officer in 14-15 but

administrators did not see a lot of interaction. In 15-16, the officer will be housed in an office at SCHS for 35-hours per week, in order to have better communication with administration, staff, and students. This position is paid for by a grant.

IV.B. Building, Grounds, and Transportation

IV.B.1. Consider, discuss and take action to approve the Rec Center Building Plans and Bid Process.

Discussion: The Building Committee met previously to look over the specs for the new Recreation Center and to set parameters for the bidding process. They would like to see local trades people also involved in the construction. There will be a "value engineering" allowed with a span of one week between the opening and awarding of bids.

IV.C. Governance: Public Relations, Technology, and Planning

IV.C.1. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve contracts for office space at the Homestead Center for the Community Resource Center and the Extension Educator/Community Liaison Position.

Discussion: The Community Resource Center, previously housed in a modular classroom at SMS will be moved to an office at the newly constructed Homestead Center in the downtown area. The hope is to attract more district patrons to participate in the programs and services offered. Discussion has taken place with Central Community College and with Cargill Learning Center to avoid duplication of services and also to offer a program, if the need exists. In addition, the district also received a grant to fund a full-time extension coordinator. This is a twelve-month, non-tenured position. The major responsibility of this position is to provide regional leadership for University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension's Youth Development Action Team through a partnership with the Nebraska Children & Families Foundation. These services will be offered at the Homestead Center.

IV.C.2. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the updated Foundation Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation.

Discussion: The SCS Foundation needs to be separated from the SCS District due to financial reasons. By updating the by-laws of the Foundation this has been achieved. The separation also protects the District from any liability.

IV.C.3. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the resolution to adopt the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Discussion: A multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was prepared by Lower Platte North Natural Resources District, which includes the Schuyler Community Schools. The city and county have approved the plan thus the District must approve what the city and county have approved.

IV.C.4. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve 2015-16 membership with the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association (NRCSA)

IV.D. Budget, finance, negotiations, and personnel

IV.D.1. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve administrative recommendation on new hires for the 2015-16 school year.

Discussion: Guadalupe Marino will move to the Special Education Administrative Assistant position and Heather Bebout will be moving to the SES Technology teacher/Afterschool Director

position. Amanda Larsen has been recommended to teach 2nd grade. Also recommended is hiring Sidnee Pavel as a truancy officer through the County Attorney's office for 35-hours per week for nine months and Vanesa Munoz for the position of Early Childhood Specialist through an expanded Sixpence Grant.

IV.D.2. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve the contract with Pekny and Associates, CPA's, PC for the 2014-15 District Audit

Discussion: Past experience with Pekny and Associates has been very positive with the auditors always willing to meet with the Finance Committee in advance of the final audit.

IV.D.3. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve Cargill repayment plan for 2010 overpayment of taxes.

Discussion: SCS received notice that the Nebraska Supreme Court made their final decision on personal property taxes paid in 2010. The refund of tax or penalty to Cargill shall be satisfied as soon as practical and in no event later than five (5) years from the date of the order. SCS received the order on May 14, 2015. The School Board chose to repay 50% on January 1 of 2019 and the remaining 50% on January 1 of 2020. Repayment will be made through the Colfax County Treasurer's office before the monies reach the District's general fund.

V. Discussion Items and Reports

V.A. Directors Reports

Discussion: Attendance at the various summer schools has been about 70% of the students who registered in May. Parents were contacted the first week the summer schools were offered to an attempt to increase participation. To comply with State Attendance reports, a student must attend three-hours per day for twelve days. The grant that is used for summer school requires a 70% attendance rate.

V.B. Superintendent's Report

Discussion: The remodel of the SCS Preschool is on schedule for completion on August 1. The remaining modular classroom at the same location should be moved by the end of the week. The school census shows an increase of 50 students for 15-16 in the age bracket of 5 years to 18 years. New teachers to the district will meet on August 11. Crisis Team training will begin on Tuesday, August 11 and run through Friday, August 14 with various staff training at predetermined times.

V.C. Board Member/Committee Reports

Discussion: The Schuyler Community Schools Foundation approved new by-laws at the July 6 meeting. Plans continue to be made for a fundraiser golf tournament, a Labor Dance, and a basketball tournament. The \$100,000 fundraising goal is on track to meet or exceed the goal.

VI. Correspondence Items

Discussion: Thank you notes were received from Lois Cockson, Sheri Melick, Matt Turner, Peg Aldrich, and Trent Faltys.

VII. Adjournment