

SIDNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

“We hold tomorrow in our hands.”

Board of Directors

Heidi Lowthorp – President
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Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Monday, July 18, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Board Room – 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** – regular June meeting and strategy session
5. **Consider bills to be paid**
6. **Financials**
7. **Reports**
Elementary Principal
Junior High-High School Principal
Superintendent
8. **Discussion**
 - a. Human resources
 - b. Student handbooks
 - c. Policy updates
 - d. Whole grade sharing
 - e. Voted physical plant and equipment levy
9. **Discussion/action**
 - a. Legislative priorities
 - b. Equipment breakdown insurance
 - c. Technology
 - d. Additional coach HS football
 - e. Special Education contract – experience credit
 - f. Adjustment/addendum to shared superintendent contract
 - g. Milk bid
10. **Action**
 - a. Resignation of personnel
 - b. Employment of personnel
 - c. Board Secretary appointment
 - d. Board Treasurer appointment
 - e. Board Attorney appointment
 - f. Bank depositories
 - g. Official publication outlet
11. **Board comment**
12. **Celebrations**
13. **Closed session** – superintendent evaluation
14. **Adjournment**

Financials

- **Enclosed** is updated expenditure and tax information that is shared on a periodic basis.
- The General Fund cash balance is lagging and a line of credit may need to be taken out to cash flow until state aid and property taxes start coming in September for the new fiscal year. This is similar to what happened in the Nutrition Fund last year. State aid comes in 10 payments. There are no payments in July or August.
- This is not surprising considering payroll was \$408,617.40 more in 2016 than 2015. Accounts payable were fairly normal and the second lowest in the last six years.
- Receipts that will be coming in August include \$320,000 of shared programs and open enrollment billing, special education billing (I don't have an exact number, but it was \$181,000 in 2015), and all of the Medicaid billing for 2016 was submitted in early July (estimate of \$30,000 – 40,000).

Elementary Lead Teacher – enclosed.

Junior High/High School Principal – enclosed.

Superintendent - enclosed

- The tuition agreement with Hamburg signed by the Board Presidents.
- Articles from the Hamburg Reporter and Valley News regarding the tuition agreement and transfer of Farragut assets and property to Shenandoah.
- A summary of 2016 legislative activity.
- Information on a collective bargaining initiative meeting September 8 at Avoca at 7 p.m. I plan to attend and encourage one or two board members to attend.
- New rules for posting Notice to Bidders. This is for significant construction projects.
- The press release for the training Theresa Bryant attended in June.
- Quotes that were shared with the Board on the sidewalk, ramp, and security for the portable classroom. Thorco installed the security systems in the JH/HS and Elementary buildings.
- Additional Special Education Teacher at the JH/HS – Mr. Huntington will share information.
- Raymond Moreland said there are 289 lights at the JH/HS that can be retro fitted with high efficiency lights. They are \$100 each and the cost will come out of State Penny/PPEL. An additional cost will be to dispose of the old bulbs and ballasts.

Discussion

Human Resources

- Time for discussion. A consideration is to turn over all job postings and the submitting of applications to Jennifer and the superintendent and principals supporting her in this role.

Student Handbooks

- **Copies were emailed to the Board. Please review electronically.**
- Mr. Huntington and Mrs. Maher may have more to share at the meeting.
- They will be on the August agenda for approval.

Policy updates

- **Enclosed** - time for review.
- They will be on the August agenda for approval.

Whole Grade Sharing

- A copy of the December 2015 handbook from the Iowa Department of Education is enclosed electronically.
- This is a more formal procedure that may evolve from the tuition agreement signed with Hamburg.
- Hard copies will be available at the meeting.

Voted Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (VPPEL)

- The debt on the JH/HS will be retired June 1, 2017.
- The debt service levy this year is \$1.52. A VPPEL maximum is \$1.34.
- For 2016-17 at the taxable valuation of 171,441,582, a VPPEL would have generated \$229,731.
- VPPEL's uses are technology, transportation, and facilities and grounds improvements.
- **Enclosed** is the section of Iowa Code that addresses VPPEL, and dates for special school elections during the 2016 – 17 year.
- Most districts that do major facilities and grounds projects draw upon a combination of the following: 1)regular and voted PPEL, 2)State Sales and Use Tax (State Penny), General Obligation (GO) Bonds which require a 60% approval from the public, and significant gifts and donations from benefactors and foundations.

Discussion/action

Legislative priorities

- **Enclosed** are the 2016 IASB adopted priorities, and 2016 resolutions for consideration in 2017.
- The Board needs to prioritize and adopt up to four priorities.

Equipment breakdown insurance

- **Enclosed** is information from the last meeting.
- Discussion and possible action.

Technology

- **Enclosed** are the quotes for the refurbished laptops, which have arrived, and the three Promethean Interactive Boards requested by the Elementary staff.
- Mrs. Clayton and Mr. Lang are impressed by the condition of the laptops.
- At the end of June \$330,000 combined balance in PPEL and State Penny. The \$45,000 payment for the alarm system will be reimbursed by insurance.
- The laptops will be paid off over two months.
- The district will take in \$50,000 - \$60,000 more in State Penny revenue this year.
- Resources are available to purchase the Promethean Boars.

Additional paid high school football coach

- Coach Sears presented numbers and rationale last month.
- Motion to approve if you so choose

Special education contract – experience credit

- Blaine Maher has been hired as a Special Education Teacher.

- At MA + 12, Step 5 his salary is \$46,925.
- If granted all experience by the Board, he would be placed at MA + 12, Career Increment which is \$57,489.50.
- Motion to approve if you so choose.

Adjustment/addendum to Shared Superintendent contract

- **Information enclosed** and was previously shared to board members via email.
- The South Page Board will act on the proposal Tuesday, July 19.
- I foresee this adjustment as lasting more than one year at South Page.
- Discussion and motion to approve if you so choose.

Milk bid

- **Enclosed** is the bid from Anderson - Erickson. Hiland Dairy was also asked to bid but did not submit a bid.
- Motion to approve the bid from Anderson-Erickson.

Action

Resignation of personnel – letters enclosed

- Jessica Herring – Preschool Teacher Associate. **Motion to approve**
- Kent Larsen – Asst. JH Girls Basketball Coach. **Motion to approve**

Employment of personnel – information enclosed

- Blaine Maher, JH/HS Special Education Teacher. **Motion to approve.**
- Diane Carlson, JH/HS Teacher Associate. **Motion to approve.**
- Ann Andrews, JH/HS Teacher Associate. **Motion to approve.**
- Julianne LaRock, Elementary Teacher Associate. **Motion to approve.**
- Steve Meyer, Cross Country Coach. **Motion to approve.**
- Rachel Marion, Quiz Bowl Coach. **Motion to approve.**
- Luke Buttry, Debate Coach. **Motion to approve.**

Annual appointments/designations – separate motions

- Board Secretary – Janet Lemrick
- Board Treasurer – Jennifer Maher
- Board Attorneys – Jon Johnson and Rick Franck
- Official Depository Designation – Arbor Bank, Great Western Bank, and PMA as official depositories with a \$4 million limit.
- Official Publication outlet designation – Sidney Argus-Herald

Board Comment

Celebrations

Closed session/superintendent evaluation

- Motion to enter into closed session per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i) to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge, is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and when the individual requests a closed session.
- Roll call vote to go into closed session – 2/3 majority needed to go into closed session.
- At the end of the closed session the Board will return to open session by consensus.

Adjournment