

SIDNEY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
“We hold tomorrow in our hands.”

Board of Directors

Heidi Lowthorp – President
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Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 7 p.m.
Boardroom – 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** – November regular meeting
5. **Consider bills to be paid**
6. **Financials**
7. **Reports**
Elementary Principal
Junior High-High School Principal
Superintendent
8. **Discussion**
 - a. Staffing
 - b. Facilities
9. **Discussion/action**
 - a. Modified supplemental amount - at risk and dropout prevention
 - b. Elementary gym security
 - c. Policy review
10. **Action**
 - a. Employment of personnel
11. **Board comment**
January meeting date
12. **Celebrations**
13. **Adjournment**

Annotated agenda

Elementary Principal – enclosed.

Junior High/High School Principal – will be emailed and hard copies shared at the meeting.

Superintendent - enclosed

- The email sent to the Board from Mrs. Maher on the change to elementary dismissal time.
- Notification about funds mistakenly deposited in a school account by the State of Iowa. The district was aware of the issue over a year ago, but was just recently resolved by the State of Iowa. Jennifer can share more information.
- A summary of an interim study on Teacher, Leadership, and Compensation.
- A summary of Smarter Balanced Assessment from the December Green Hills AEA newsletter.
- Information on a Board learning opportunity at Clarinda on Thursday, January 12.
- The email sent to the Board on the state budget forecast.

Discussion

Staffing – update from the November meeting

- The open 20 hour position in the kitchen has not been filled. Mrs. Carolyn Maher and Nutrition Director Theresa Bryant are interviewing candidates December 19 and 20.
- The district is advertising for an additional JH/HS Special Education teacher for 2017 – 18.
- Two associates have been hired – one at the elementary and one at the JH/HS.
- Discussion on elementary class sizes. No additional information to add to what was discussed at the November meeting.
- Technology/Library – Mrs. Clayton has returned to work. She may have an interest in working in 2017 – 18 and extending her license past the expiration date of November 30, 2017.
- There is still an opening for a HS Speech Coach. Mr. Huntington will have more to share at the meeting.
- **Elementary Principal – information enclosed from the JH/HS search two years ago**
 - *The advertisement is running on Teach Iowa and Iowa REAP.
 - *Applications are being taken until December 23. Jennifer will share how many completed applications have been received as of December 19.
 - *If the board wishes to review applicants to select finalists, each board member will need to review the hard copies in the board room to protect the confidentiality of the applicants. This was the procedure used for the JH/HS Principal selection process two years ago.
 - *There were four interview groups – Board/Administration, Parents/Community, Staff, and Students. Each group had 8 – 10 participants.
 - *Discussion on timelines and procedures.
- Other staffing items for discussion?

Facilities - enclosed

- A starter conversation list for annual facility upgrades that can be accomplished with revenues from the State Penny and Board approved PPEL, and considerations on a larger scale that will likely require a bond issue or Voter approved PPEL to accomplish. They are listed in no particular order of priority.
- Information about timelines and process for a Voter approved PPEL referendum and a General Obligation (GO) Bond referendum.

- Information from Troy Graen, owner of Riser Inc., on the JH/HS bleachers. He removed the first row of bleachers in the student section, which was damaged. He was asked to supply different estimates for different types of projects for the Board's information and consideration.
- Discussion about gathering community input on priorities/considerations and funding sources.

Discussion/action

Modified supplemental amount – at risk and dropout prevention

- **Enclosed** is the proposed budget for at risk and dropout prevention for 2017/18.
- It funds individual student interventions provided by school counselors or a school based interventionist, and the Alternative School program.
- It is funded entirely with property taxes.
- **Recommend a motion** to ask the School Budget Review Committee for a modified supplemental amount (funding and budget authority) of \$62,744 for at risk and dropout prevention programs for 2017 – 18.

Elementary gym security – information enclosed

- James Nennemann is planning to attend the meeting.
- Discussion and **possible action** to approve the proposal.

Policy review – policies and sent email enclosed

- Policies 102, 104, 201, and 203 are not enclosed because they have been updated within the last year.
- **Motion needed to review policies** 100, 101, 103, 200,202, 204, 205, and 206.

Action

Employment of personnel

- Randy Beck, Elementary Teacher Associate-Para. **Motion to approve.**
- Casey Cruickshank, JH/HS Teacher Associate-Para. **Motion to approve.**

Board Comment – sent email enclosed

January meeting date

Celebrations

Adjournment