

**Sidney Community School District**  
**Board of Directors Regular Meeting**  
**May 16, 2016 7:00 p.m. 2754 Knox Road**  
Call meeting to order and determine a quorum

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Heidi Lowthorp. Directors present were Heidi Lowthorp, Alisha Ettleman, Erika Graham and Mike Daly (by telephone). Director Larry Holt was absent.

Also present was Superintendent Gregg Cruickshank, Jr/Sr High Principal Bill Huntington, Business Manager Jennifer Maher and Board Secretary Janet Lemrick.

Recognition of guests and public comment

Four guests were present.

Approve agenda

Motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Director Ettlemen with second by Director Daly. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Approve minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 18 meeting was made by Director Graham with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Consider bills to be paid

Motion to approve the bills was made by Director Ettleman with second by Director Daly. Motion carried Ayes 4 Nays 0.

Financials

Motion to approve the financial report as presented was made by Director Graham with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Board Recognition

May is School Board Appreciation Month and the Board was recognized for their hard work and long hours with a framed certificate signed by the Iowa School Board Association president. In addition, each member had a library book dedicated in their names to the school library, received thank you notes from elementary students and will receive homemade baked pies in their favorite fillings.

Reports

Mrs. Wehling, Lead Teacher, presented the PK-6 Principal report.

Mr. Huntington presented the 7-12 Principal report.

Mr. Cruickshank presented the Superintendent report.

• Superintendent evaluations will be discussed at the June meeting. Evaluations need to be submitted by June 13 to the Board Secretary.

• The Aid and Levy report from the Department of Management was discussed. The Board agreed by consensus to decrease property taxes by \$100,000.

• The Board will participate in the graduation ceremony.

Discussion

Facilities – Lease versus purchase option for a portable classroom were discussed. The portable lift needed to comply with the equity report was approved by Department of Education. The bid from Mechanical Hayes to fix the HVAC at the elementary was discussed. Essex School District would like to hire Maintenance Director Ray Moreland for one day a month to supervise their operations. Future upgrades for the current football/track field and elementary gymnasium facilities were discussed.

Tuition/whole grade sharing with Hamburg – The rough draft of a contract outlining the tuition sharing of high school between Sidney and Hamburg was discussed.

Staffing – The need for a part time/full time K-12 Physical Education Instructor was discussed. Advertising for a Life Skills Instructor will continue. Interviews for the Interim Elementary Principal position will begin soon.

Teacher, Leadership and Compensation System (TLCS) – Instructional Coaches, Principals and Head Teachers met with Connie Richardson from Green Hills AEA to discuss plans for the 2016/17 school year.

Discussion/Action

Facilities

Motion to purchase a used portable classroom for \$65,000 without restroom facilities was made by Director Daly with second by Director Graham. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Mr. Cruickshank will get bids for financing through the local banks.

Staffing

Motion to advertise for a full time K-12 Physical Education and Health Instructor was made by Director Ettleman with second by Director Graham. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Classified Staff Salary and Benefits

Motion to approve a salary increase of 3.089% for the classified staff for the 2016/17 school year was made by Director Graham with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion to grant an additional three days vacation to the three twelve month classified staff supervisors was made by Director Graham with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Iowa Western Community College concurrent enrollment courses

Motion to approve the memorandum of understanding with Iowa Western Community College for courses taught at Sidney, Shenandoah High School, IWCC campus in Shenandoah and online was made by Director Daly with second by Director Graham. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Auditor Services

Motion to approve the three year auditor services contract with Nolte, Corman and Johnson was made by Director Ettleman with second by Director Graham. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Apex Center agreement

Motion to accept the agreement between Sidney Community Schools and the Glenwood School District for special education services at the Apex Center for the 2016/17 school year was made by Director Ettleman with second by Director Graham. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Action

Resignation of personnel

Motion to accept the amendment of the original resignation of Linda Spencer to be effective June 30, 2016 was made by Director Graham with second by Director Daly. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion to accept with regrets the resignation of Amber VanRenan, Elementary Associate, effective the end of the school year was made by Director Graham with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Employment of personnel

Motion to hire Donna Walker as Administrative Assistant at \$12.02 per hour up to 20 hours per week was made by Director Daly with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion to hire Juli Whitehead , Elementary Teacher, was made by Director Graham with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion to hire Sarah Crockett, Title 1 Elementary, was made by Director Ettleman with second by Director Graham. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion to hire Tammy Lee, Elementary Teacher, was made by Director Ettleman with second by Director Graham. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Motion to allow Tammy Lee credit for additional years of experience and place her at BA Step 14, Career Increment on the certified pay scale was made by Director Graham with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Graduating Class of 2016

Motion to approve the graduation of the Class of 2016 pending completion of all requirements and fulfilling all obligations to the school district was made by Director Graham with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Board Comment

No Board comments.

Celebration

Class of 2016

Preschool Class of 2016

Dyan Larsen was the recipient of the Charles E. Lakin Teacher of Year Runner-Up award.

Every member of the High School Girls Track team scored points in the 2016 District Championship.

Large Group Instrumental earned a "1" rating and Large Group Vocal earned a "2" rating at State Large Group Festival. The Vocal group missed a "1" by one point.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. was made by Director Daly with second by Director Ettleman. Motion carried. Ayes 4 Nays 0

Next regular scheduled meeting will be June 20, 2016

*This publication of minutes is the unofficial report of action taken. Official minutes are available for review at the Sidney Community School District after approval at the next regular board meeting.*