MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SD #4

The trustees met in regular session, Monday, July 20, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Those present throughout the meeting were Chair Rhonda Hogstad, Superintendent Brent Lipp, Trustee Billie Bergstrom, Business Manager Jeanne Carroll, and Trustee Joel Junso.

The chair called the meeting to order and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA ADJ

Joel Junso made a motion to approve the amended Consent Agenda with Extra-curricular May, 2015 and June 2015, added under Claims #2 b and c. Billie seconded. Rhonda asked about a couple of bills on the list.
All in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. Month in Review

Mr. Lipp reviewed his administrative report with the trustees:

ADMIN REPORT

- Dani Egan just returned from Denver from the PowerSchools training. She felt the training was exceptional. She felt she learned and gained a huge amount of knowledge to better the district.
- Brent said KENCO is almost done, they have all but 2 cameras installed.
- The new door has been ordered.
- The first week of August is when the Duck Creek signs will be in.
- We are still looking for custodial applicants. Michelle Herman is thinking about taking one position and still keep her kitchen position. Earl has been doing really great getting stuff done and Michelle’s been really helping.
- Brent wanted to thank the Board for all their work getting the negotiations done, with ratification tonight.
- The employee handbook is almost done. He would like to e-mail it out for the Board to preview. This will possibly get done in August.
- He would like to have a board committee meeting for personnel before the August meeting.
- School starts August 26th and we will be ready.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

7. Negotiations Committee Update

Billie said it is done. The teachers voted for the settlement agreement. It was agreed upon a 1% raise this year and 1% next year with health insurance at $540. There will be a increased payout on PTO days from 8 days to 13 and at a pay rate from $75/day sub pay to $100/day. Days were removed from the 8th grade trip and Mike will come to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Approve Fischer Construction Proposal

FISCHER CONSTRUCTION PROPOSAL

Billie made a motion to approve the Fischer Construction Proposal for Brent and Jeanne’s new windows. Joel seconded. Brent said Jeanne’s air conditioner blows straight in her face and hers and Brent’s windows are shot. They are the last two windows on that side needing to be fixed. All in favor. Brent said all windows in that wing are bad so hopefully we can keep working at them.
9. Approve Student Handbook

Joel moved to approve the student handbook as presented. Billie seconded. Billie reminded the board that one section needs to be re-worded on missing work and incompletes. Brent will make the changes. A lot of the negativity was taken out of it and the graphics were changed. He said p. 13 shows standards based concepts which is all new. He reviewed it with the board. It’s all on a performance scale. Grades k-5 will all be performance-based, not grades. Kim Dugan has worked really hard on this. Brent said parents will have to be educated on it. Each grade is slightly different and have the standards required for each grade. A performance report card tells the parent what the kids actually know and where they are at in the process. There will be trimester reports instead of semesters. These changes are across the globe, not just us. It is a K-5 implementation this year. Joel said it’s nice to see improvements from one trimester to the next. Brent said he feels it allows teachers a little more flexibility in their grading. The big thing for the staff is its not the percentages, it’s more of an assessment for the teachers. There will be a lot of professional development meetings. Brent said he’s pretty excited about it. At the beginning of the school year, Brent will be giving presentations to parents educating them on how this report can be reviewed and what it all means. In the handbook, it states that we have adopted the Common Core. The junior high system has not been changed yet. He said school activities are really important for kids to stay busy and out of trouble. Rhonda asked if there is anything in the student handbook. He said no, but a mailing will be sent out to all parents closer to school starting. Billie said she feels academics are very important and it’s a tough deal. Brent said if kids are doing their assignments and turning them in, then they are probably getting decent grades. He said probably there is the same kind of accountability. This year will be a trial period for us and we will still be working on it. It was discussed that all consequences have to be the same for everyone. Rhonda questioned the trimesters. Brent said this way it is a 12 week trimester instead of a nine week period. It helps with the workload as well. Parent teacher conferences fall just right this way. Interruptions with holidays are helped with trimesters instead of quarters. Brent will keep the Board updated. There are change in immunizations for junior high students, so that page has changed. All in favor with changes as presented.

10. Approve Lunch Fees for 2015-16

Joel moved to approve adjusting lunch fees. Billie seconded. K-3 had been charged one rate, 4-6 another rate, and 7-8 yet another. So we took an average for the cost. With the reduction in force, Brent said this just keys this in as kids come through. Our lunch program is sustainable and is doing really well, so this won’t make a lot of difference. Brent and Jeanne would like to set up electronic payments through the web page, so parents can pay at anytime of the day. There would be a slight convenience fee to do this. All in favor.

11. Standards Based Performance Report

Billie said communication is key. Brent said he plans to set up times to meet with parents, PTO meetings, and board meetings. There will be a district-wide newsletter coming out before school starts.

OLD BUSINESS

12. Ratify Master Agreement for 2015-16, 2016-17

Joel moved to ratify the Master Agreement. Billie seconded. Rhonda said we have already talked about the changes. The teachers approved it on last Thursday. All in favor.

Brent said he missed talking about this during his report. The Board self-assessment was talked about. He found a form from MTSBA that is a one page assessment that the trustees could take home, work on them and discuss them perhaps in August. Brent said the last two superintendents
information had exactly the same issues 10 years ago as he is facing now. He found that to be amusing and enlighting.

He would like to put on number 15, his personal goals and perhaps the board could do the same and we could talk about it.

No public comment.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING

There being no further business, Joel moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Billie seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jeanne Carroll, District Clerk                      Rhonda Hogstad, Chair