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

The trustees met in regular session Monday, October 18, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Those present throughout the meeting were Chair Manny Zuniga, trustees Tom Bradford, Hal Olson and Sheri Boelter, Superintendent Brent Lipp and Business Manager Suzie Zentz. There was one visitor (list attached).

Manny called the meeting to order and led the group in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Hal Olson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Tom Bradford seconded the motion. Manny asked about the check for Jennifer Tolton’s trip expenses. Brent explained that we were able to use grant professional development funds to send her to a Science expo in Washington, D.C. Brent plans to have her give a presentation to the board regarding the trip. All voted in favor of the motion.

Mrs. Zentz presented a letter from the Yellowstone River Parks Association thanking the district for the gift of a bench in honor of Jean Smith.

Superintendent Brent Lipp recapped his administrative report:

- We are finishing up the parking lot project and hope to start on the gutters this week with Empire Heating.
- We have not heard from Fisher Construction regarding their estimate for the foundation finish work on the northeast classroom and the gym foundation. Hopefully any work will improve the R factor and the appearance.
- Earl planted hardy, drought tolerant grass in the leveled ground around the new parking lot. Hopefully it will have a good start in the spring.
- The staff has developed a strategies class for struggling and unmotivated junior high students. Students are given help with getting their work done and an opportunity to look at career options that might motivate them to apply themselves academically. It counts as an elective.
- Brent is very busy with Special Education work and getting the files ready for the audit process with Theresa and Loris.
- There was lots of talk about the legislative session at the South Central Administrators meeting. Topics of conversation include consolidation of K-8 schools and the funding dilemma created by supplanting ARRA money into the state budget.
- The audit is complete and will be presented when we receive the final draft.
- Brent met with Tony Thelen regarding a digital marquee sign for the district. Such a sign would provide great communication advantages, but the cost (approximately $26,000) is daunting. It may be something the PTO would like to work toward.
• The Annual Data Collection (ADC) is complete. We have a slight deviation in kindergarten, but have addressed the problem by putting a paraprofessional in the classroom.
• Ryan Taylor (SRO) is collecting traffic data on Duck Creek Road...checking the speed and number of vehicles which pass the school. Ryan is planning to write a grant to get solar panel flashing lights for CCS, Elysian and Elder Grove.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Tom Bradford made a motion to rescind the motion from the September 2, 2010 meeting to replace the gutters on the west side of the building for $6,950 as quoted by Vannoy Sheet Metal; Hal Olson seconded the motion. Manny asked that the trustees rescind this motion since Vannoy is not able to get the work done before December. All voted in favor of the motion.

Hal Olson made a motion to upgrade the gutters on the building per the September 30, 2010 proposal (parts A & B) from Empire Heating and Cooling; Tom Bradford seconded the motion. Tom asked what the beams support. Brent said that the sunshade is attached to them, but they are not structural to it. Tom said to make sure that they use screws rather than spikes on the gutters. He also felt that the open wood on the beams should be sealed with metal—24 gauge (Kynar 500). All voted in favor of the motion.

Knife River has fixed the cracks in the wall as we agreed and Marshall Phil proposed a financial adjustment because of the cracks in the wall. It looks better, but is still unsightly. Knife River suggested a $3/linear foot credit which would be about $630. Brent made a counter proposal of approximately $2000. We have not heard back from them.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Zentz reported that we have a marked increase in student numbers. The highest increase is in the junior high budget unit (7-8th grade). We will be able to apply for an “unusual enrollment” increase in the General Fund budget because our enrollment increase is over 6% in the junior high budget unit. It appears that we will have an ANB increase of approximately 14 for next year. Mrs. Zentz will have the Budget Amendment proclamation ready for the November meeting.

Only one parent picked up the trustee vacancy application and they have since decided that they are not interested at the present time. We’ll try to get some more candidates before the next meeting.
PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING

MCEL
Science conference
Reading conference
Strategic Plan—goals meeting—November 10, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Hal Olson made a motion to adjourn at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Susan Zentz, Clerk   Manuel Zuniga, Chair