

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

The trustees met in regular session Monday, December 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Those present throughout the meeting were Chair Rhonda Hogstad, trustees Mark Berg, Manny Zuniga, Charlene Severson, Billie Bergstrom, Superintendent Brent Lipp, and Business Manager Suzie Zentz. There were three visitors (list attached).

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

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

AGENDA ADJ

Manny Zuniga made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Charlene Severson seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

CONSENT AGENDA

Charlene Severson made a motion to accept a letter of resignation from paraprofessional Jennette Rasch; Manny Zuniga seconded the motion. Brent thanked Mrs. Rasch for her time with us and noted that she is starting a new position at the Moss Mansion. All voted in favor of the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

ADMN REPORT

Mr. Lipp reviewed his administrative report with the trustees.

- Jim Staab is making good progress with our language arts and math assessments. He is now living in Billings and will continue to work with us for a while, but Andrea Fisher will eventually take over our curriculum work.
- Congratulations to Mrs. Murphy on a wonderful concert series. It has improved every year. We had a very large crowd on Thursday night and, although we made some adjustments to it, the sound system wasn't quite where we'd like it to be. We'll continue to work on it.
- We are preparing for the SBAC which we piloted last year. This year we are working with OPI on piloting an alternate test for students with special needs.
- Brent attended a Special Education workshop with Dick Trywell this month. It was a very informative update on procedures.
- Congrats to Kim and Tierney and the entire Student Council for their help for Tumbleweed. Former trustee Sherry Boelter, Tumbleweed Executive Director, gave an excellent presentation which inspired our kids.
- Brent noted that his evaluation is coming up in January. He asked the trustees to be honest with him. Rhonda will provide more information later in this meeting.
- Our boys did well this month at the YBGR tournament. Our B team worked very hard...and did not win, but got the best sportsmanship award. We plan to give the award to them in front of the student body at the end of the quarter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Charlene Severson reported that the Community Relations Committee met on December 5th to discuss ways to reach our community with communication from the school. They decided to work on putting out a newsletter to the entire district this spring and reviving the "Spaghetti Dinner" tradition from many years ago. The committee will meet again in January.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mark Berg reported that the Building/Grounds Committee met prior to tonight's board meeting. Earl Ross prepared a list of priorities for the facility from his perspective. The priorities are: (1) Lighting upgrade—for better efficiency and because some of the tubes/bulbs we use are becoming obsolete. (2) Plumbing—we have upgraded toilets in the gym lobby, now we need to consider upgrading our faucets and sinks in the primary wing. (3) Windows—the windows in the primary wing and junior high are 32 years old and deteriorating. They are no longer as efficient as they should be and it is increasingly difficult to repair them and to replace hardware.

BUILDING/GROUNDS

The committee recommends that the District not move forward with the KLJ proposal at this time. They feel that it is not cost effective for our district at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Berg made a motion to adopt the Budget Amendment Resolution presented at the meeting of November 18, 2013 as presented; Charlene Severson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

Board Chair Rhonda Hogstad distributed evaluation forms for Superintendent Brent Lipp's evaluation. She asked that they be returned to the Board mailbox by January 10, 2014.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION FORMS

Manny Zuniga made a motion to not move forward on the KLJ proposal; Charlene Severson seconded the motion. Mark stated that the Building/Grounds Committee felt that the cost outweighed the value for our district. They also felt that this was a very long term commitment which we might be able to address by working on our prioritized list of concerns. This seems like a more sensible and less risky way for us to approach these issues. Brent noted that KLJ was very impressed with our building as a whole. He also mentioned that KLJ was great to work with. All voted in favor of the motion.

KLJ PROPOSAL

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Meron--expressed concern regarding changing the length of the eighth grade trip from a 5 day to a 3 day trip. She mentioned that her children have looked forward to this for nine years and have worked hard for it. In the past, they have learned a lot and bonded as a class. She feels that traditions such as kindergarten graduation, evening eighth grade graduation, and the class trip have changed and she wants to keep these traditions the same. She asked if there were options or if we are at a dead end?

Pam Jurovich—reiterated Mary Meron’s concerns. She said that we need to have eighth grade celebrations to have a warm, fuzzy feeling about the school. She also said that she feels the community resents the changes which have taken place.

Mike Soucy—went to school here and remembers how much he enjoyed his eighth grade trip to Rapid City. His brothers went to school here too and they valued the 8th grade trip experience. He suggested that it should be a simple agreement between the board and the union to resolve the contract issue.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Community Relations committee report
Superintendent Evaluation

There being no further business, Rhonda Hogstad made a motion to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Zentz, Clerk



Rhonda Hogstad, Chair