

October 19, 2020

Call to Order:

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Somers School District 29 was called to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Somers Middle School Library per Chairperson John Hollensteiner. Those in attendance stood for the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call:

Board members present were John Hollensteiner, Scott Simonson, Jesica Swanson, Annie Aiken, and Meredith Coopman. Mary Obermiller and Andy Wendle were present via Zoom Conference . Administration present were Superintendent Joe Price, Lakeside Principal Steffanie Broyles, Clerk Diane Fetterhoff and Deputy Clerk Breanne Wiest. Somers Middle School Principal Rose McIntyre present via Zoom Conference.

Visitors: Coleene Torgerson present. Erika Dardis, Caitlin Amy, Cindy Harvey, Mollie Freese, Ben Umbriaco, Bri McGrath, and Shannon Hayes present via Zoom Conference.

Minutes:

Scott Simonson moved to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2020 Regular Board Meeting. Jesica Swanson seconded the motion. For 7 Opposed 0. Motion carried.

Public Participation: None

Communications:

- a.) Fall Student Count for ANB – October 1, 2020
- b.) Thank You Letter – Sand Wedge, LLC
- c.) 2020-21 Out-of-District Attendance Requests to Somers School District (2)
- d.) 2020-21 Student Attendance Requests to Attend Another District (2)
- e.) 2020-21 Substitute List

Policy Considerations/Changes:

- a.) Board of Trustees Section 3000 Student Policy Revisions – 1st Reading
3141 – Discretionary Nonresident Student Attendance Policy;
3210 – Equal Education, Nondiscrimination, and Sex Equity;
3225 – Sexual Harassment of Students; **3225F** – Harassment Reporting Form for Students; **3226** – Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation/Hazing; **3310** – Student Discipline
- b.) Board of Trustees Section 5000 Personnel Policy Revisions – 1st Reading
5010 – Equal Employment Opportunity and Non Discrimination; **5012** – Sexual Harassment of Employees; **5012F** – Harassment Reporting Form for Staff; **5015** – Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation

Committees / Reports:

Superintendent Report: Written report included in board packet.

Additionally:

- a.) Revisited the outline for the Somers District #29 Safe Return to School Plan.
- b.) The Remote Learning Committee has met weekly to discuss the most effective instruction for our students. In our present situation, the lack of substitutes is the most pressing problem. If the need should arise and we can no longer staff both buildings, the priority would be to keep the elementary students attending in person as well as at-risk students. The middle school students could go to an A/B schedule with alternating days per grade level which would enable middle school teachers to be available to substitute at Lakeside on the days they don't have students.
- c.) According to the Flathead City/County Health Dept. the spread of the virus is not in the schools, but from outside contact.
- d.) Individual schools would make the decision for closing and pursuing remote learning only.

Principal Reports:

Steffanie Broyles: Written report included in board packet

Additionally:

- a.) Handwash stations have been installed
- b.) The Veteran's Day Assembly will be a virtual event this year
- c.) Harvest Lunch has been cancelled

Rose McIntyre: Written report included in board packet

Additionally:

- a.) If the need arises for full remote teaching, we would still facilitate the at-risk students to attend in person with a proctor available.

Staff Reports:

Cindy Harvey reported that the Bully Prevention Program will still continue at Lakeside Elementary. A video assembly will be held so that sponsors to the program will be able to virtually attend. Thank you letters will also be sent out to sponsors.

Mollie Freese sent out a survey to K-4 staff requesting input for their views on remaining in school. Response showed that most everyone would like to remain face to face as long as we can.

Buildings and Facilities Discussion: No Report

Financial and Federal Programs Committee: No Report

Disciplinary and Public Relations Committee: No Report

Buildings, Facilities and Grounds Committee: No Report.

Transportation and School Food Committee: No Report

Curriculum and Extracurricular/PIR-CP Committee: No Report

Policy Committee: Mary Obermiller reported that the committee met prior to the September 14, 2020 regular meeting. The policies recommended by the policy committee for 1st reading presented. Jessica Swanson requested clarification to policy 3141 – Discretionary Nonresident Student Attendance – Deletion of Exception of children in the immediate family of nonresident District employees. Superintendent Price noted that the district would be in noncompliance for discrimination if the exception was in place. Jessica Swanson also noted a change to policy 3210 with the non-capitalization of building principal in the third paragraph.

Negotiations Committee: No Report

Schedule Meetings:

- a.) Regular Monthly – November 16, 2020 – 6:00 p.m. – Lakeside Elementary School

Consent Agenda:

Jesica Swanson moved to:

- a.) Approve 2020-21 Out-of-District Attendance Requests to Somers School District (2)
- b.) Acknowledge 2020-21 Student Attendance Requests to Attend Another District (2)
- c.) Approve 2020-21 Substitute List
- d.) Offer Somers School District Nurse Position – Lisa Hoover
- e.) Offer Somers Middle School Aide Position – Maresa Brauer
- f.) Offer 2020-2021 Boys Basketball Coaching Contracts
 - 5th Grade – Aaric Bryan
 - 6th Grade – Matthew Thompson
 - 7th Grade – Shawn Onthank
 - 8th Grade – Louis Cielak

Scott Simonson seconded the motion. For 7 Opposed 0. Motions carried.

Singular Action Items:

- a.) Annie Aiken moved to appoint Superintendent Joe Price as administrator to the credit committee. Meredith Coopman seconded the motion. Discussion. For 7 Opposed 0. Motion carried.
- b.) Jesica Swanson moved to increase certified substitute pay to \$100.00 per day. Annie Aiken seconded the motion. Discussion. For 7 Opposed 0. Motion carried.
- c.) Meredith Coopman moved to increase non-certified substitute pay to \$90.00 per day. Scott Simonson seconded the motion. Discussion. For 7 Opposed 0. Motion carried.
- d.) Meredith Coopman moved to approve a substitute bonus of \$50.00 per day October 1, 2020 – December 18, 2020. Jesica Swanson seconded the motion. Discussion. For 7 Opposed 0. Motion carried.
- e.) Jesica Swanson moved to provide district paid fingerprint background checks with the Superintendent of Schools office through December 18, 2020. Annie Aiken seconded the motion. Discussion. For 7 Opposed 0. Motion carried.

Scott Simonson moved that expenditures presented for payment be approved. Jessica Swanson seconded the motion. Discussion. For 7 Opposed 0. Motion carried.

Scott Simonson moved that the meeting adjourn at 6:59 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

John Hollensteiner, Chairperson

Diane J Fetterhoff, Clerk

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