

April 16, 2018

Call to Order:

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Somers School District 29 was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Lakeside Elementary School Music Room per Chairperson John Hollensteiner. Those in attendance stood for the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call:

Board members present were John Hollensteiner, Jeremiah Jennings, Courtney Shaeffer, and Meredith Coopman. Logan Fox was connected via phone conference. Administration present were Superintendent Joe Price, Somers Middle School Principal Rose McIntyre, Lakeside Elementary Principal John Thies, and Clerk Diane Fetterhoff.

Visitors:

Nate Dorcheus, Julie Murray, Robbie Hapner, Colt Hapner, Braden Rogness, Lachlan Rogness, Lorrie Gomez, Brooke Nash, Jake Nash, Heather Smith, David Brown, Bev Brown, Della Brown, Jessica Swanson, Erin Joronen, Lynn Dragon, Christina Brevik, Carly Hall, Darren Hall, Misty Shallcross, Melissa Mower, Brandy Vickrey, Coleene Torgerson, Tina Lerum, Andrew Nelson, Cherokee Merklinger, James Fant, Nichole Fant, Janie Tikka, Daniel Tipton, and Jennifer Tipton.

Minutes:

Meredith Coopman moved to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2018 Regular Meeting. Logan Fox seconded the motion. For 5 Opposed 0. Motion carried.

Courtney Shaeffer moved to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2018 Policy Work Session. Meredith Coopman seconded the motion. For 5 Opposed 0. Motion carried.

Public Participation:

Beverley Brown, Lakeside Elementary 2nd Grade: Grateful for the teachers in this district with their teaching talents; spoke on behalf of administration including John Thies who always has the best interest for children, and Joe Price who has great rapport with students, and a welcome presence when students arrive at school, leave at the end of the day, as well at lunchtime, and during passing times. Mr. Price is quick to respond to staff questions or concerns.

Janie Tikka, Somers Middle School PE: Thanked board for the opportunity to become a member of the staff at Somers Middle School. Shared that she was in a state of burn out when she came to the Somers District but that she has done a complete turnaround and credits the support from Administration for the rejuvenation.

Jake Nash: Has lived in the Somers District for 16 years. Cannot believe the lack of administration to follow policies. Does not support the administration.

Colt Hapner: Has heard of all the problems in the district, sex offender in classroom, teacher with erection in classroom, girl with broken arm at school, busing elementary students to the middle school when the water main broke.

Beverley Brown: Addressed Mr. Hapner's allegations to the problems that he stated.

Jennifer Tipton: Feels administration has a problem following policy. How many more students have to suffer before a change is made.

Brandy Vickrey: Starts from top down. How can we support the present administration? Had to pull her daughter from school. Students suffer from the problems.

Carly Hall: Lived in the Somers/Lakeside District for 16 years. At the end of the last school year, she felt that the administration did not follow policy correctly so transferred her daughter to another district. Does not support rehiring Superintendent Price.

Darren Hall: Will be removing younger daughter from district. Superintendent Price should not be rehired. Got the run-around on filing a complaint last year. The violation came down to the students safety. Administration needs to take responsibility for errors made. Does not support the rehire of Superintendent Price.

Cherokee Merklinger: Has seen several Superintendents come and go. Does not support rehire of Superintendent Price.

Daniel Tipton: Does not support Superintendent Price's contract renewal.

Jessica Swanson: Questioned what the board of trustees are doing to support district policies. Would like to see what changes have been made.

Communications:

- a.) Flathead County Solid Waste District Amendment of Service Charges for Schools.
- b.) Office of Public Instruction 2017-2018 School Accreditation Status.

- c.) Memorandum of Understanding – Unpaid Leave for Personal Reasons
- d.) 2018-2019 Flathead Special Education Cooperative Severe Communications Disorders Interlocal Agreement.
- e.) Somers Education Association Negotiations Committee Letter to Open Contract Negotiations.
- f.) Electric Usage Worksheet

Policy Considerations/Changes:

- a.) Board Policy #5122 – Fingerprints and Criminal Background Investigations Revision – Final Reading Completed
- b.) Board Policy #5430 – Volunteers Revisions – Final Reading Completed
- c.) Board Policy #1113 – Vacancies Revisions – Final Reading Completed
- d.) Board Policy #1240 – Duties of Individual Trustees Revisions – Final Reading Completed
- e.) Board Policy #1400 – Board Meetings Revisions – Final Reading Completed

Committees / Reports:

Superintendent Report: Written report included in board packets.

Principal Reports: Written Reports included in board packets.

Rose McIntyre Additionally:

1. Received a \$2,000.00 donation from a community member for the Middle School Band Program

Staff Reports:

Coleene Torgerson, Lakeside Elementary Kindergarten Colts Teacher

1. Projecting 76 kindergarteners for the 18-19 school year.

Buildings and Facilities Discussion: Superintendent Price reported that representatives from Swank and LPW have been meeting with staff members at the middle school to gather input for wish lists for the building. Projecting the new wing will be ready in the Fall of 2019. It was noted that there will be no Gym at the Middle School from 6 months to a year. Next Design Overview Committee meeting will be April 26th at 3:30 p.m. A Community Form will be held on May 24th.

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: Final Readings to policies as a result of work session discussions.

Negotiations Committee: No Report

Personnel Committee: No Report.

Schedule Meetings:

- a.) Policy Work Session – April 23, 2018 – 5:00 p.m. – Somers Middle School
- b.) Board Negotiations Committee – April 25, 2018 – 4:00 p.m. – Glacier Perks
- c.) Regular Monthly Meeting – May 21, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. – Somers Middle School

Consent Agenda:

Courtney Shaeffer moved to:

- a.) Approve 2018-2019 Flathead Special Education Cooperative Severe Communications Disorders Interlocal Agreement
- b.) Approve 2017-18 Student Attendance Agreements (4) to Somers School District w/Attachments

Meredith Coopman seconded the motion. For 5 Opposed 0. Motions carried.

Singular Action Items:

- a.) Meredith Coopman moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding Request for Unpaid Leave for Personal Reasons on a one time only basis for Sara Wilson. Courtney Shaeffer seconded the motion. Discussion. For 5 Opposed 0. Motion carried.
- b.) Meredith Coopman moved to offer the Somers Middle School Librarian position to Lindsey Lee. Logan Fox seconded the motion. Discussion. For 5 Opposed 0. Motion carried.

Courtney Shaeffer moved that expenditures presented for payment be approved. Meredith Coopman seconded the motion. Discussion. For 5 Opposed 0. Motion Carried.

Courtney Shaeffer moved that the meeting adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Meeting Adjourned.

John Hollensteiner, Chairperson

Diane J. Fetterhoff, Clerk

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