

LaCrosse School District #126
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 26, 2019 5 pm
School Library

Members Present: Terry Miller, Tami Schwartz, Mike Stubbs, Cat Wigen, Harmon Smith

Members Absent:

Administration Present: Doug Curtis, Jeffery Pietila

Administration Absent: Kara Harder

Flag Salute

Approval of Minutes:

The Minutes of the January 22, 2019 and January 30, 2019 Meetings were unanimously approved. (Smith/Miller).

Consent Agenda:

- A. **Board Reorganization:** The board chose not to reorganize as their practice is to hold their positions for a period of two years. This was a unanimous vote. (Schwartz & Smith).
 - a. **Position terms:** Superintendent Curtis informed the Directors Stubbs and Miller's terms end in December of 2019, and that Director Wigen's term ends in 2021.
- B. **Board Policies-1st Reading** – approved unanimously as presented. (Smith & Schwartz)
 1. 3143-District Notification of Juvenile Offenders
 2. 3144-Release of Information concerning students
Sexual and Kidnapping Offenders
 3. 3144P-Procedure-Release of Information concerning
Students Sexual and Kidnapping Offenders
 4. 3241-Classroom Management, Discipline and
Corrective Action
 5. 3241P-Procedure Classroom Management, Discipline
And Corrective Action
- C. **Personnel** – Athletic contracts: Larry Martin has withdrawn his name as a track coach. Jeff Gates stated that he would be speaking with Kenny about the number of track practices to be held at St. John. There is concern about the number of practices the new coach wants to hold in St. John. Our concern in LaCrosse is that we may lose as many as half of our athletes if they are required to travel to St. John for the first three weeks of practice. Director Stubbs spoke about how driven the new coach is to get the most out of all of the athletes, and that this has included a winter training program. The desire to have the athletes come to SJE is to give him the opportunity to see what he has. Some discussion was held on the number of athletes necessary to hire an additional coach. The board unanimously voted to issue contracts to Tim Stamper as the LaCrosse High School track coach, and Don Kemper as the LaCrosse Junior High track Coach. (Schwartz & Smith).
- D. **Highly Capable Plan** - Principal Pietila gave the board copies of the school's Highly Capable plan, and gave them an oral summary of the plan. The plan for the 2018-19 school year was unanimously approved. (Smith & Miller)
- E. **Snow Days Waiver:** Superintendent Curtis shared that he and board president Stubbs had signed a

request for a waiver for three of the snow days we have taken this winter and that the waiver was sent on to the OSPI for approval. Curtis indicated that we may be able to apply for one additional day. He also shared that we are still in compliance with the state requirements regarding compulsory attendance hours.

- F. **SY 2019-20 Calendar Draft:** Superintendent Curtis shared a draft for next years calendar that is based on the Perpetual Calendar. He said that by next month we will be in a better place to know what days we will need for professional development and if the county schools will be continuing with the PLC program.

Communications to the Board:

- Capital: Superintendent Curtis indicated that on one of the snow days there were a group of engineers here to look at the HVAC needs of the elementary and the gym. He provided the board with a proposed timeline from Design West for the work to be done this year. He also shared that Ned said that if the board chose to do all of the work, including the HS at the same time that there would be a potential savings of approximately 10% over the total scope of the work. The board has chosen not to look at this option citing concerns about there being enough time to complete the projects before school starts and not having enough funds currently in hand to cover the costs. Curtis stated that he is currently has a bid from Divco, and is waiting for the Ackerman's and Nolan's bids. Curtis also indicated that following a discussion with Darren Barry that it appears that we can do the vast majority of the sidewalks we have left to complete and stay under the \$75,000.00 mark.
- A. Safety – There was a bit of a miscommunication with our contractor who is installing the additional cameras. The problems are on their end, and they are now scurrying to find a date to get out here to provide the install service.
- B. Technology- Mr. Gates said that he and Mr. Curtis have done some work applying for E-rate grants that will assist with our technology.
- C. SJEL Sports – Meeting Rescheduling: The Quarterly meeting will need to be rescheduled. The administrations from the districts will look for a date for this to happen.

AD Report: Mr. Gates reported that Alynn Harder has been named to the All-League Girls Basketball Team for the second consecutive year. He also indicated that we should be having interviews for the open junior high baseball coaching position next week. Mr. Gates spoke about the Co-op costs and how he's concerned that we are even deeper in the red than when we were a member of the LWK Co-op. He said that he will do an analysis of the costs and report to the board with better detail and a future meeting. One area that concerns him is transportation and in particular summer transportation. Director Smith said that he doesn't believe we can allow our athletes to drive themselves to St. John for practices, even in the summer as it opens the district up to substantial liability issues.

Tri-Op agreement: Superintendent Curtis walked the board through the draft agreement that will need to be finalized prior to the end of the school year. Curtis pointed out that Items 4-A, D, E, and F will all require votes as we work to renew the contract with St. John and Endicott. The board agreed to vote on these issues as follows:

- 4-A All members vote
- 4-D All parties present
- 4-E All members present
- 4-F Full Board

The board also asked Mr. Curtis to work on item 7-E. The belief is that the way it is written in a matter that goes against joint board responsibilities.

- D. [there was no 7.E. on the agenda]

E. Legislative/Policy update – The legislature is in the 7th week of the session Director Smith and Superintendent Curtis spoke about bills that coming out of committee that would support the LaCrosse budget. They also indicated that it is looking possible that we will be able to regain some of our levy support back as part of the fix to the McLeary fix.

F. Teacher CBA/Negotiations: Superintendent Curtis said that he knew the board wanted him to set dates for contract negotiations, but he said that it is difficult to set these before the end of the legislative process. He said that the teachers met last week. They said that they would be expanding their representative group so that there are three from each building as part of the committee. Superintendent Curtis also said that he wants to share the long-range budget projections with the teachers and classified staff showing that we could be insolvent in four years. A discussion was held about the possibility of having a board member in the negotiations meetings as a support to the administrative team. Director Smith said that doing this is against WASDA policy.

G. Classified Pay Scale: Superintendent Curtis said that he would like to develop a classified pay scale. He indicated that many districts are doing this, and as things currently are a person who is a first-year employee makes the same as a person with 20 years in the job category.

Student and School Programs/Principals Report:

The annual Speech Spelling and Math competition for students in grades 5-8 will be held in Endicott next Tuesday.

Our annual science night will be next Wednesday evening here at the school with a Pizza and salad dinner to be served in advance of that event. This year we are encouraging involvement by teachers in addition to those who teach science by focusing on a STEAM night. Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math.

Our annual Academic Banquet is scheduled for Monday, March 25th. We will be sending out invitations for that event early next week. I have again invited Cherish Summers to be our speaker, but I haven't heard back from her, so we are still working on a presenter.

High School spring sports were supposed to begin yesterday. We will have to see when we get a break in the weather that allows us to move forward with these programs.

As a result of the wonderful weather we have been having, we have now twice canceled staff training with Brenda Kneeshaw regarding the use of the interim assessments in the SBAC testing. At this point, we aren't sure how we will handle that work. It may be it ends up being part of our August staff day work. This is a bit frustrating as the training is a big piece of the work we're trying to do with our teachers to improve test scores.

There are few things on the radar you may want to be aware of:

- Winter Sports awards will be on March 11th
- The junior high students will be part of a county-wide health fair on March 12th
- The National Honor Society Induction will occur at Tekoa on March 20th This year I believe we have 6 and possible 7 students who will be inducted.
- The Missoula Children's Theatre will be here in LaCrosse this year. It will be the week of March 17-22.

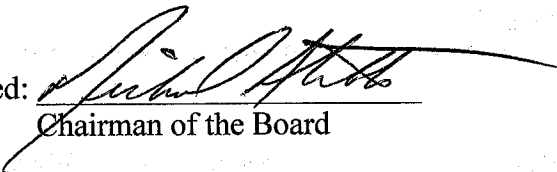
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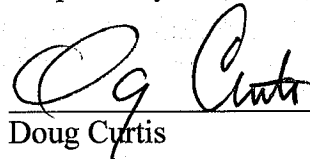
- A. Financial Report: Superintendent Curtis indicated that revenues are up over 30K from where we thought they would be. Additionally, we budgeted about 30K for a new Suburban but so far seem to be getting by without purchasing a new one. Some of the reasons for the funds coming in include the Avista bills being lower so far this winter, and the funds from grants claims coming in.
- B. Approval of Payroll and Bills – the following direct deposits, wire transfers, and warrants were approved (Miller/Smith):

12607400	to	12607409	in the amount of	\$163,409.51	Jan	Payroll	
900002694	to	900002720					
12607426	to	12607457	in the amount of	\$30,770.37	Feb	GF	A/P
12607422	To	12607425	In the amount of	\$5,215.41	Feb	ASB	A/P

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: 
Chairman of the Board


Doug Curtis