

March 2021 Board of Education Meeting Synopsis

March 9th, 2021

- Order was called with the Pledge of Allegiance
- There were no additions made to the agenda.
- There were no visitors to the meeting.
- Approved the Agenda, Minutes and Financial Reports.
- Superintendent Siemsen reported the following:

Legislative update: Appears that the Governor's initial intention of a 2.4% increase to funding will pass. This will be taken into consideration as we look at contracts and other budgetary items for the upcoming school year. Spring activities are set to begin, with FFA CDE's, track and golf set to begin. Congratulations to Mrs. Hofer on the successful band concert that was held Monday, March 8th. The students performed well. The Northern Plains Insurance meeting will take place on March 17th. We will see where we are at as a group and get any updated information. Gayle and I will attend. We have a tentative date, March 26th, and plan for our staff, those who choose, to receive their COVID-19 vaccination. We would have them be given here at the school. The second shot will be scheduled for April 23rd. This is the initial schedule but it is subject to change. Senior experience work day is scheduled for March 11th. The presentation day will be March 26th. We also discussed the currently open head volleyball position. Between SC and Woonsocket, both districts are in favor of Rick Olsen resuming this post, pending his agreeing to take it. We will also determine the assistants and their rolls once the head position has been decided upon. Mrs. Vermeulen and I interviewed a prospective school counselor candidate. The interview went well and she will be offered the position. If she takes it, both SC and Woonsocket would have separate counselors moving forward. If not, the search would continue, but if no one is hired, Mrs. Foxley would continue in both districts. We will have Mid-West Boiler come and assess the boiler as there have been some issues with its performance. We will look to surplus some items in the near future (desktop computers, lighting system, and old suburban).

- Principal Vermeulen reported the following:

The MS Student Council did an excellent job during Kindness Week in February. One student visited each elementary classroom – watched a novel video, completed an art project, and various kindness activities. SCMS Valentine Prince Bryce Larson and Princess Morgan Hoffman were crowned February 11. The testing window opens March 8 and needs to be completed by May 7 for grades 3-8 and 11. One home school student will need to be tested. The ACCESS testing is completed at the Colony – identified limited English proficient. End of the 3rd q is March 11. Marla Feistner has visited SC twice completing vision, hearing, and scoliosis screening with various grades. The HS All State Chorus has been canceled by the SDHSAA. No School March 12 and 19.

Discussion Item:

Through a conversation, it was determined that on March 18, we will cancel school in order to avert potential staffing issues that could occur following the mass vaccinations being given to the staff on Wednesday, March 17. There is already scheduled to be 2 substitutes in the building that day and if we require more, even in the busing or kitchen areas, there would not be enough coverage.

Discussed utilizing extra help days more efficiently for potential conferences with parents. This will be a situation where any teacher or parent can schedule time to “conference” and discuss their students.

Discussed the lunch period and how it can be better organized.

- Approved the hiring of Kayla Olson as HS Science/Health teacher.
- Approved the 2021/2022 academic calendar.
- Acknowledged receiving letter from the SCEA to enter into negotiations (April 12 in conjunction with the regular board meeting).
- Approved the certified and classified letters of intent for employment in the 2021-2022 school year.
- Approved all extra-curricular letters of intent for employment in the 2021-2022 school year.
- Went into executive session to discuss personnel.
- Adjournment at 8:29

Next scheduled board meeting will be April 12, 2021 at 5:00, followed by certified staff negotiations.