

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE PLATTE-GEDDES SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #11-5 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017**

President S. Spawn called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Platte-Geddes School District #11-5 to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8, 2017, in the Library at the Platte-Geddes Elementary School. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Steve Spawn, Marlon Ferguson, Tami Smit, Ross Van Zee, Tricia Meyerink, Tammie Olson, Ross Varilek

Members absent: None

Others present: Superintendent Joel Bailey, Business Manager Kathy Holter, High School Principal Patrick Frederick, Elementary Principal Jennifer Knecht, Teresa Nelson, Jada Nelson, Isabel Nachtigal, Rob Graves, Jared Lang, Marcus King, Sadie Hanson, Faye Hirt, and Jason Huizenga

**Additions or deletions to this agenda**

None

**Approve agenda**

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded T. Olson approving the agenda as printed. All members present voted aye.  
Motion carried.

**Approve Consent Agenda**

Motion T. Olson, seconded M. Ferguson approving the following consent agenda:

- Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on Monday, February 13, 2017
- Minutes of the Special Board Meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2017
- Authorize Payment of Claims for March 20, 2017
- Approve Report of Cash Transactions dated 02/28/2017

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

**Public Participation**

None

**Routine Business – Administrative Reports**

**Good News Report**

Alexis Peterson was congratulated for reaching the 1,000-point basketball milestone.

The Senior FFA students had a successful trip to Texas. Ramsey Standy was featured as a CTE STAR student for CTE month. FFA students delivered treats to local businesses to thank them for their support during FFA Week. A “Drive Your Tractor to School Day”, pie eating contest, and Ag Olympics were also held to commemorate the week.

Mrs. Graves and her FFA program were featured in the “Zebra”, an online newspaper sponsored by the Department of Education.

Mrs. Darcie DuFrain received a Donor’s Choose grant to purchase a variety of chapter books for small group instruction.

The student council blood drive was a huge success. There were 39 registrants and 40 units were donated.

Mrs. Witt will be sending nine pieces of art made by five students to the state Visual Art Contest in Rapid City on March 17-18. The following students will have their pieces submitted: Torri Qualm-3 pieces, Martin Dekam-3 pieces, Emily Muilenburg-1 piece, Emily Chaney-1 piece, and Kaliena Anderson-1 piece.

Congratulations were extended to the boys’ basketball team on their district and region championships.

Mrs. Semmler and her Platte Colony students took a field trip to Pierre to view the legislative process and visit with Senator Lee Qualm.

Hallie Hallock, Alexis Peterson, and Jada Nelson were congratulated for making the 2017 SASD All-Conference team.

Mrs. Timmermans, who is fluent in Spanish, has been teaching the third grade students some different phrases; the eighth grade class has been learning about the effects of water pollution and have created water filtration units using items from around their homes; and the eighth grade girls attended a Women in Science program at Southeast Tech on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Superintendent Report**

Supt. Bailey and Kenny Antonsen met with Combined Building Company regarding the replacement of and new coverings for the existing bleachers. Combined Building Company will submit an estimate for the cost of the project. Other districts that have complete similar projects will be contacted to determine if there are other vendors. The project will most likely exceed the bid threshold so the project will need to be advertised for bids.

The colony teachers and Supt. Bailey met with the district's Title III representative to discuss how support can be provided for the English Learner students. This was the first group meeting held with the representative. Another meeting will be scheduled in early May.

Funding for education is not looking promising. There appears to be a tug of war going on between the House Appropriators, Senate Appropriators, and the Governor. Currently no increase to medical providers, state workers, or public education is being recommended. Supt. Bailey encouraged board members to contact the local legislators and lobby for some increase in state funding.

The administration has made the decision to hold off on moving the sixth grade to the high school building next year. Due to the magnitude of the transition, more time is needed to ensure that the best plan is in place.

Mrs. Daum, Mrs. Biddle, Mrs. Witt and Supt. Bailey attended the Todd Witaker presentation on "What Great Teachers Do Differently" last Friday. The morning presentation aligned with the topic of the presentation while the afternoon covered how to deal with difficult parents.

Supt. Bailey and Mrs. Hanson attended training on the Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate (ALICE) active shooter program. Supt. Bailey will contact the necessary personnel for additional information and possibly schedule a presentation for the board later this year.

Information was shared on the BlackPanthersLive.com site. There has been a high volume of IP traffic and visits to the site. Sponsorships sold for the website for the past calendar year have raised 56.02% of the creation cost. S. Spawn thanked Supt. Bailey and all involved with making the BlackPanthersLive a success.

Updates on the proposed concession stand remodel were shared with the board. Supt. Bailey is also finalizing the shop project with cost estimates and matching funds through the state. A firm proposal should be ready soon. A special board meeting may be scheduled to review and/or approve the project.

#### **Secondary Principal Report**

The second semester attendance report is at 93.67% for the junior high and 93.02% for the high school.

The National Honor Society will be conducting their induction ceremony on March 13<sup>th</sup> in the Lyric Theater at 7:30 p.m. Fifteen students have qualified for membership.

Mr. Frederick reported on school happenings. FFA Week was a big success. Corey Rabenberg and Chris MacKenny presented to all 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students during TAA time on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The Student Council completed their second blood drive on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The eighth grade girls will be attending the "Women in Science" Conference at STI. On March 15, "Carl the Energizer" will be giving a presentation to all students.

Platte will be hosting the second annual FFA District IV Career Development Event next Tuesday, March 14. Many schools bring students to participate in the various contests which are held throughout the Platte-Geddes area. Mr. Frederick thanked the community volunteers who are donating their time to help with the event.

#### **Elementary Principal Report**

Concerns have been expressed to Mrs. Knecht regarding the configuration of the current first grade class. Mrs. Knecht conducted extensive research on the pros and cons of small class sizes and presented her findings to the board for information purposes.

Kindergarten registration and screening will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup> at Platte-Geddes Elementary. All students who are planning to enroll in kindergarten, full or half day for the 2017-2018 school year, will be screened.

A Reading Superbowl Party was held on Friday, March 3 for students in grades 1-4. Fathers on Friday was held the past three Fridays and was a huge success. Mrs. Knecht thanked the Parent Advisory Committee and all of the parents for the support of those programs.

#### **Administer Oath of Office**

Business Manager Kathy Holter administered the Oath of Office to Ross Varilek.

#### **Business Manager Report**

Four petitions were turned in for the two openings on the school board that will occur on June 30<sup>th</sup> with the terms of Steve Spawn and Tammie Olson expiring. The school board election will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Platte Community Building in Platte and at the Legion Hall in Geddes. Names on the ballot will include Robert Graves, Tammie Olson, Jess Sondgeroth, and Duke Starr.

A preliminary 2017-2018 budget has been completed. However, with school funding in question it is difficult to predict revenue amounts.

A Collective Bargaining Workshop will be held in Pierre, Sioux Falls, and Rapid City. The workshop will update school board members and administrators on the many facets of the negotiations process for teachers and staff. Board members should contact her if interested in attending.

#### **Athletic Director Report**

Mr. Cutler was contacted by All-American Sports Poster about creating a sports poster with all athletic schedules. The consensus of the board was that local businesses are already taxed with requests for advertising.

The Wrestling Advisory Committee is recommending bringing back the team dual tournament on the Thursday that precedes the state tournament. Discussion and a vote will be taken at the state Athletic Directors meeting.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Mid Central Educational Coop Report**

T. Olson reported on the Mid Central Educational Cooperative meeting held in February.

##### **Core Educational Coop Report**

The Core Educational Cooperative meeting will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

##### **School Board Committee Assignments**

The following Board Committee Assignments were presented:

Buildings and Grounds/Transportation: Marlon Ferguson, Steve Spawn, Ross Varilek

Finance/Negotiations: Tammie Olson, Ross Van Zee, Steve Spawn

PG Athletic Foundation Representative: Ross Van Zee

Strategic Planning: Tammie Olson, Tami Smit, Ross Van Zee

Technology Committee: Tami Smit, Tricia Meyerink, Marlon Ferguson

Motion T. Olson, seconded T. Meyerink approving the restructured school board committees. All members present aye. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business**

##### **None**

#### **New Business**

##### **Approve Offering Contracts to Certified Staff**

Motion S. Spawn, seconded T. Olson offering contracts to all certified staff for the 2017-2018 school term. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

##### **Senior Project Discussion**

Teresa Nelson, Marcus King, Faye Hirt, Jada Nelson, Isabel Nachtigal, Sadie Hanson, and Mike Miller (via email) expressed their opinions regarding Senior Projects. All supported the program and would like to see it continue as a required class. Motion T. Smit, seconded M. Ferguson making Senior Projects a requirement for graduation. All members present voted aye. Motion carried. Motion R. Van Zee, seconded T. Olson to grant credit for the Senior Project beginning the 2017-2018 school term. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

##### **Land Purchase Discussion**

Four architecture firms were contacted regarding a detailed sited plan for the high school. Supt. Bailey received the following quotes for services:

MSH Architects	\$7,000.00
Puetz Corporation	\$3,500.00 plus a \$1,500-\$3,000 rendering fee
TSP Architects	\$10,360.00

A quote from Architecture Inc. has not yet been received. The board felt that this phase needs to be completed before a decision can be made on land purchase. The quote from Architecture Inc. should be in by the end of the week. This topic will be revisited along with the shop project at a special board meeting to be scheduled at a later date.

**First Reading of Section G Policies, GA-GBM-R**

The board of education gave first reading to Section G Policies, Personnel, Policies GA through GBM-R.

**First Reading of 2017-2018 School Calendar**

The board of education gave first reading to the 2017-2018 School Calendar.

**Approve Voluntary Separation for Mr. Frank Cutler**

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded M. Ferguson approving the retirement and voluntary separation request of his teaching contract from Mr. Frank Cutler effective the end of the 2016-2017 school term. Mr. Cutler would like to continue all coaching and activity director duties that he currently performs. All members present voted aye. Motion carried. Mr. Frank Cutler was thanked for his years of service of teaching at the Platte and Platte-Geddes School Districts.

**Appoint Members to Serve on Local Board of Equalization**

Motion T. Olson, seconded R. Van Zee appointing Tami Smit (Platte) and Steve Spawn (Geddes) to serve on the Local Boards of Equalization. All members present voted aye. Motion carried. Platte's meeting will be held on Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Geddes's meeting is yet to be determined.

**Appoint Election Board**

Motion S. Spawn, seconded T. Olson appointing the following individuals to serve on the election boards for the upcoming school board election:

Platte: Shirley Johnson (Superintendent), Jody Ringling and Anita Crosby (election workers)

Geddes: Monica VanderPol (Superintendent), Norma Stluka and Colleen Jaeger (election workers)

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

**Consideration of Disclosure of Conflict of Interest Authorization Request**

None

**Set Date for April Board Meeting**

The school board meeting will be held at the regular scheduled date and time on April 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Session**

Motion T. Olsom, seconded M. Ferguson to enter into executive session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss personnel pursuant SDCL 1-25-2(1) and negotiations pursuant SDCL 1-25-2(4). All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

President S. Spawn declared executive session closed at 11:34 p.m.

**Board Action**

None

**Adjournment**

Motion T. Olson, seconded M. Ferguson to adjourn the meeting at 11:34 p.m. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

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**President**

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**Business Manager**