

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE PLATTE-GEDDES SCHOOL
DISTRICT #11-5 BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

President J. Sondgeroth called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Platte-Geddes School District #11-5 to order at 6:58 p.m. on Monday, November 18, 2019, in the Library at the Platte-Geddes Elementary School. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Jess Sondgeroth, Ross Van Zee, Duke Starr, Heather VanDerWerff, Roxi Summerville, Dennis DeBoer, Ross Varilek

Members absent: None

Others present: Superintendent Joel Bailey, Business Manager Kathy Holter, Elementary Principal Jennifer Knecht, Frank Cutler, Representative Caleb Finch and guest, and Jason Huizenga

Additions or deletions to this agenda

The following item was added to the printed agenda: Cognia/AdvancEd Accreditation

Approve agenda

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded D. Starr approving the agenda as amended. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Consent Agenda

Motion D. Starr, seconded R. Summerville approving the following consent agenda:

- Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on Monday, October 14, 2019
- Authorize Payment of Claims for November 20, 2019
- Approve Report of Cash Transactions dated 10/31/2019
- Void Check #41925 to Nike Heartland Training in the amount of \$150.00
- Add Meredith Suits and Susan Porter to Substitute Teacher List

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Participation

None

Routine Business

Representative Caleb Finck

Supt. Bailey invited District 21 Legislators to attend the November Board Meeting. Representative Caleb Finck accepted the offer and addressed several topics that he believes will be discussed during legislative session. Funding for education, results from the Ag Land Task Force, potential Capital Outlay funding changes, teacher compensation and targets, Special Education funding, out-of-district placements, and mental health initiatives were some of the issues discussed. Rep. Finck thanked Supt. Bailey and the Board of Education for the invitation and encouraged them to contact him anytime with any concerns or to provide insight during session.

Superintendent Report

Supt. Bailey thanked the board of education for the opportunity to participate in the Early Childhood Learning Rural Cohort. He gave a brief report on the objectives of the cohort and on the presentations he attended.

The Platte-Geddes Sports Boosters have approached Supt. Bailey on the possibility of them building an additional crows nest on the east side of the athletic complex. The space would be used for the opposing team's coaching staff and radio stations. Building specs are being sought and the Buildings Trade class is preparing some options and a supply list.

The Ag. Land Assessment Task Force is in the process of evaluating the current tax system and drafting legislation that would reform agricultural land taxation. Any reform effort that would aid agriculture producers would lead to higher taxes for residential and commercial property owners who would assume a larger burden of paying for education and county services. Initial projections indicate that an ag land tax reform would result in a loss in property valuation by \$1-\$2 million. If such legislation would be passed, an increased mill levy may need to be adopted by the school district to make up for the lost revenue due to decreased valuations.

The district received its Average Daily Membership from the Department of Education in October. The ADM for the current school year is 501.71 students. This is the number that is used to calculate our student-teacher ratio and state funding.

The enrollment at Platte-Geddes has hovered around the 500 mark for the past few years. Supt. Bailey would like the district to find creative solutions to attract additional students. The district loses approximately 85 students to home and private schools. Offering cyber schools and also changing our policy to allow home school participation in public school activities, with enrollment criteria, may be ways to boost enrollment.

Secondary Principal Report

Supt. Bailey delivered the Secondary Principal's Report in Mr. Frederick's absence. The first Parent Advisory Committee meeting was held on October 30th. Topics discussed included American Education Week, homework, 6th grade transition, homecoming, prom, ICU, Parent Teacher Conferences, announcements, and school presentations. Members on the committee are Marshall Ringling, Tonna Reiser, Michelle Hubers, Mel Sondgeroth, Tammie Olson, Tricia Meyerink, and Roxane Dyk. The members were thanked for taking on the role and dedicating their time to work with the school district in improving the communication between the school, parents, and community.

On October 22nd, Mrs. DeHaan, Mrs Wynia, Mrs DeGroot and Mr. Frederick attended a Comprehensive Needs Assessment workshop in Mitchell. On November 14th, Mrs. DeHaan, Mrs. Wynia, Mrs. DeGroot, Mrs. Hanson and Mr. Frederick spent the day worked on completing the Comprehensive Needs Assessment. Members of the team were thanked for their hard work and dedication in helping to complete those documents in order to complete a district action plan that will be submitted to the department of education.

Elementary Principal Report

November 18-22 is American Education Week. The theme this year is "Reach, Educate, Inspire." Mrs. Knecht gave a shout out to all who are involved in public education and thanked them for their commitment to educating all students.

The elementary school received a \$400 donation to Puddleducks from Lynn Walstad of Modern Woodman Insurance to use for the purchase of shoes, boots, coats, and other necessary items for student use. Mrs. Knecht thanked Lynn for being a sponsor of school supplies and other necessary items each year.

Mrs., Knecht congratulated staff members for receiving the "Enhancing Your Classroom" grant sponsored by the Hearty-Helpers 4-H Club. Recipients of the grants include: Mrs. Trisha Frandsen, Mrs. Sandy DuFrain, Mrs. Caitlin DeGroot, Mrs. Shawn Wynia, Mrs. Phyllis Daum, and Mrs. Jennifer Knecht.

Elementary students have begun practicing for the Christmas Operetta. The performance will be held on December 19th at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.

An on-site demonstration of an Into Math Program was held on Wednesday, November 13th. The elementary is planning to purchase a new math curriculum in the summer of 2020. Staff have been looking at many curriculum resources and working with Roxane Dyk to ensure that the programs follow the SD Content Standards.

Mrs. Knecht and Mrs. Wynia attended a Dyslexia Workshop in Pierre on November 8th in Sioux Falls.

Business Manager Report

The district received notice from the Auditor General stating that the 2018-2019 audit report has been accepted. Copies of the audit report were distributed to board members and reviewed.

Holter attended a School Law Seminar on October 22-23 in Sioux Falls. Topics covered included School Board Meetings/Hearings, Cybersecurity, FMLA, Employee & Student Grievances, Restraint & Seclusion, FERPA, Vaping, and LBGTQ Cases. She also attended a Procurement Plan Workshop in Chamberlain on October 24. This workshop provided guidance as to what was needed in the district's procurement plan.

The district's contract with Thrive Nutrition Services will expire as of June 30. Holter participated in a FSMC Renewal Process Skype meeting on October 29th. The RFP process has changed drastically within the last five years with the request for proposal/contract now being almost 100 pages in length. The RFP will be submitted to the board of education for review at the December board meeting and then submitted to the state for approval. Once the plan is approved by the state it will be released to potential respondents.

Health Screenings will be held on November 22nd. These screenings are offered free to staff who have elected to participate in the school's health plan.

The district is in the middle of a Food Service Administration Review. Most of the review has been done through the submission of information to the auditing firm. An on-site visit is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20th.

Athletic Director Report

Frank Cutler reviewed the fall sports and congratulated all coaches and student athletes for their performances. Wrestling practice started Monday and both girls and boys basketball will begin practice in a couple of weeks.

With the move of the sixth graders to the high school building, creating a middle school concept, Mr. Cutler and the administration are recommending a change in the configurations for the 2020-2021 basketball program for grades 5-8. Beginning next year, the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will be together and the 5th grade program will be coached by parents.

Mid Central Educational Coop Report

R. Summerville reported on the Mid Central Educational Cooperative meeting.

Core Educational Coop Report

R. Van Zee reported on the Core Educational Cooperative meeting held on November 11, 2019.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures and Consideration of Waivers

None

First Reading Section A Policies, Foundation and Basic Commitments

The board of education gave first reading to Section A Policies, Foundation and Basic Commitments.

Second Reading Policy DJFB, Procurement Procedures Policy

Motion R. Varilek, seconded R. Van Zee approving and adopting Policy DJFB, Procurement Procedures Policy as written. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Assistant Spring Play Director Contract, Ms. Joni Willoughby

Motion R. Varilek, seconded R. Summerville approving the assistant spring play director contract for Ms. Joni Willoughby in the amount of \$400.00. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Approve Resignation of Head Volleyball Coach, Jill Kemnitz

Motion D. DeBoer, seconded D. Starr approving the resignation of Mrs. Jill Kemnitz as head volleyball coach. Voting aye: D. DeBoer, D. Starr, J. Sondgeroth, R. Varilek, R. Summerville. Opposed: R. Van Zee, H. VanDerWerff. Motion carried. Mrs. Kemnitz was thank for her years of service.

Approve Sick Bank Request from Mrs. Kalli Oolman

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded R. Varilek approving the sick bank request from Mrs. Kalli Oolman for an additional 8 ¾ days. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Cognia/AdvancEd Accreditation

The former Platte and Platte-Geddes School Districts have participated in the AdvancEd accreditation review process for over ninety years. During the review, information and data is collected and compared to the accreditation standards. The district is then presented reports and feedback for school improvement. During a review year, the district incurs expenses of approximately \$5,000 to complete the process. To maintain accreditation, the district pays an annual fee of approximately \$1,200.00. This process is extremely similar to the comprehensive needs assessment that is currently being completed as part of the school improvement plan. The administration would like feedback from the school board on whether to continue using AdvancEd Accreditation or use an alternative assessment tool for a fraction of the cost. Motion R. Van Zee, seconded D. DeBoer to discontinue the accreditation process through Cognia/AdvancEd. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Set Time/Date for December Board Meeting

Motion R. Van Zee, seconded R. Varilek to change the time of the December 9 board meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. due to some conflicts and to hold the board meeting in the High School Conference Room. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion R. Varilek, seconded D. Starr to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

President

Business Manager