

MARCH 9, 2022

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7:00pm in the ITV room. Present: Kyle Thiery, Ross Litsey, Lyle Fey, Jordan Jenner*, Amy Schlepp, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the agenda with three additions. Second by Thiery, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the minutes as written from the February 9th meeting and February 12th special meeting. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey to approve payment of general fund bills (\$40,970.99). Second by Thiery, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jenner to approve financial reports as presented. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt reported there are currently 4 phones not working properly and cannot be repaired DRN provided a quote to replace the current phone system--\$7,004.43. SRSA grant and Endowment grant would be available to pay for about \$6,000 of the cost. Discussion on just replacing the non-functioning phones and what the warranty would be on a new phone system. Mr. Schmidt will gather more information for next meeting.

Charles Garnaas submitted a letter of resignation effective 5-16-22. Motion by Litsey to accept the resignation. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously. Music position will be advertised immediately.

Teacher update: 1) Interviews for the elementary position will be held next week; 2) Phy Ed position is still being advertised; 3) Teacher contracts are due back by March 14th. Motion by Litsey to authorize Mr. Schmidt to open positions for any contracts not returned. Second by Thiery, motion carried unanimously.

The first reading was held for the following policies: Attendance and Absences; Procedure if Drug and/or Alcohol Use is Reasonably Suspected.

President Fey reported the superintendent evaluation was completed and Mr. Schmidt received satisfactory marks in all areas.

Fey and Thiery will be on the administrative negotiations team.

Mr. Schmidt stated himself, Schlepp and Litsey did a walk through of the building and came up with a list of smaller projects for this summer—will try to get some bids for next meeting. They have a more complex list of projects for next year that may require an engineer/architect. Significant ESSER \$ still outstanding. District end balance will need to be back to 35% + \$50,000 by 6/30/23.

Co-op meeting will be March 21st at 6pm in Ashley. Board members should contact Mr. Schmidt with agenda items.

Will do the long-term planning meeting in May right before regular meeting.

Mr. Schmidt stated winter sports were successful. Elementary VB and elementary WR have begun. Baseball starts 3/21, golf and track will begin in a couple of weeks.

Principal's report: 1) Discussion on eliminating weighted classes—many students are veering off career pathways to take weighted classes for GPA and valedictorian/salutatorian purposes. Colleges and scholarships are looking at GPA on a 4.0 basis so the weighted classes are becoming irrelevant. Scheduling conflicts in elective areas between weighted/unweighted classes. Teaching staff would like to see weighted classes eliminated. Would have to phase out over next two years and start with incoming sophomores. Some discussion on eliminating valedictorian/salutatorian as well. Board members agreed they would like to do more research and revisit the issue at the April meeting; 2) May need to consider changing cell phone policies—all 7-12 students have computers now so there's no need for phones in the classroom. Cell phone use during class is becoming an issue. *Jordan Jenner left the meeting at 8:58pm; 3) Acalympics 3/14 in Linton, large group music in Oakes 3/15, elementary movie day on 4/1.

Next meeting will be April 13, 2022 at 8:00pm. Motion by Thiery to adjourn, second by Schlepp. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President

MARCH 21, 2022

The Ashley school board held a special meeting on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 5:30pm in the ITV room to discuss the elementary positions and the Ag position. Present: Kyle Thiery, Lyle Fey, Ross Litsey, Amy Schlepp, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter, Dylan Bender. Jordan Jenner was absent.

Mr. Schmidt reported interviews for the elementary positions were completed and the committee recommends hiring Teresa Thiery for second grade and Rachel Rueb for sixth grade. Motion by Schlepp to hire as recommended, second by Litsey. Motion by Litsey to allow Kyle Thiery to declare a conflict of interest. Second by Schlepp, motion carried. Vote on motion to hire Thiery and Rueb; Schlepp, Fey, Litsey-yes; Thiery-abstained, motion carried.

Ag position was discussed—all board members agreed they would like to fill it with another Ag teacher but directed Mr. Schmidt to advertise for Ag/Shop/Tech and see what happens.

Motion to adjourn by Schlepp, second by Thiery. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 5:43pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President

