

AUGUST 12, 2020

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 8pm in the ITV room. Present: Kyle Thiery, Amy Schlepp, Lyle Fey, Kevin Nitschke, Ross Litsey, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter, Sara Sathre, Mary Paulsrud.

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

Motion by Nitschke to approve the minutes of the July 8th and July 27th meetings and August 6th joint co-op meeting minutes as written. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Nitschke to approve payment of general fund bills (\$89,305.86) and building fund bills (\$2,579). Second by Thiery, motion carried unanimously.

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

Reports of uncollected taxes for McIntosh and Dickey counties were reviewed.

The Health & Safety Restart Plan was reviewed--clarification of distance learning versus virtual learning. Distance learning is when the school has to close or a student has to quarantine. Method of instruction for distance learning is online at home with the Ashley teachers. Virtual learning is for those that choose not to come back to face-to-face instruction. Method of instruction for virtual learners needs to be decided by the board. Options available: 1) SE DRN consortium--curriculum provided by Arizona State University. Fees are \$3,000 per student (\$600 to AZ State, \$400 consortium fee, \$2,000 towards support teachers provided by Valley City State)--need numbers by 8/19; 2) AZ State University curriculum for K-6 with a supporting teacher from Kidder County--fees are \$1,100 (\$600 to AZ State, \$500 to Kidder Co). Then NDCDE courses for 7-12--fees are 6 classes per student at \$149 per class--need numbers by 8/14; 3) K-12 students online with their Ashley teachers for the entire school day; 4) CREA consortium--similar to SE DRN--fees are Elementary \$1,500 per student per semester, 7-12 is \$500 per student/per course/per semester. There was a lengthy discussion on all of the options available for the students. Motion by Nitschke to offer virtual learning for 7-12 through NDCDE and K-6 virtual learning using the Arizona State University curriculum with the Kidder Co supervising teacher. Motion died for lack of a second. Following more discussion, motion by Thiery to offer 7-12 virtual learning in-house with the Ashley teachers and K-6 virtual learning using the Arizona State University curriculum with the Kidder Co supervising teacher, with the option to review the situation at the end of the semester. Second by Fey. Roll call vote: Thiery-yes, Schlepp-no, Fey-yes, Nitschke-no, Litsey-yes, motion carried.

Motion by Litsey to approve the Health & Safety restart plan. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt outlined elementary recess and phy ed plans to keep each class separate from other classes and lunch serving times into smaller groups (again keeping with their class and separated from others). He would like to hire an additional Para to help with recess, lunch room and extra cleaning throughout the day. Pay would be \$13.50 per hour and contingent upon Covid restrictions. He would like to offer the position to Dawn Goehring first because she's already been in our school system the last two years. Motion by Litsey to offer Dawn Goehring the Para position, contingent upon Covid restrictions. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt stated students will be required to go directly to classrooms in the morning, rather than being in the hallways. He said the teachers' current employment hours per the master contract are 8:00am-3:30pm. Teachers are willing to adjust their hours to 7:50am-3:20pm so they can be in their classrooms when students get off the buses. Motion by Thiery to approve the time change as proposed. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

The board recessed from 10:25-10:30pm.

Mr. Doane explained the changes in the distance learning plan. Teachers will be using consistent platforms to make things easier for the students. 7-12 teachers will use Microsoft Teams and K-6 teachers will be using Class Dojo, Zoom and Weebly. Teachers will train the students how to use the programs during the first weeks of school so they are ready in the event school is closed or a student is quarantined. Instruction will be a full day just as if the students were in the classroom and attendance will be taken the same as if in school. Sack lunches will not be provided unless mandated by the state. If the state does mandate meals, they will not be free for everyone as they were in the spring. Motion by Schlepp to approve the distance learning plan. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the contract for Dawn Goehring for FBLA advisor (\$1,225). Second by Thiery, motion carried unanimously.

Still looking for an elementary boys basketball coach.

Summer project update: Painting of metal panels on west side complete; shed door & concrete work complete. Ron Mettler helped install the lockers (\$843)--he also installed plywood between the elementary 5th/6th lockers to cover the cinder blocks (\$345). Mr. Mettler has proposed a reinforcement board & baseboard for the bottom of the lockers because the metal gives easily (\$1,100). He will also install framed Plexiglass in front of the serving counter in the kitchen.

Motion by Thiery to approve the Annual Compliance report. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's report: 1) Brooke Buchholz will be the JHVB coach; 2) JHFB=10 kids, HS FB=21-22 kids; 3) Brief overview of a program available for \$2500 to install camera equipment to broadcast sports--requires a 5-year contract. Spectators would then subscribe to the service.

Principal's report: Mr. Doane feels we have a solid plan to re-open school and encouraged board members to ask if they have questions.

Next meeting will be September 10, 2020 at 8pm for the tax levy hearing and the regular meeting to follow. Motion by Schlepp to adjourn, second by Thiery. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 11:04pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President

