

DECEMBER 9, 2020

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 7pm in the ITV room. Present: Lyle Fey, Kyle Thiery, Kevin Nitschke, Amy Schlepp, Ross Litsey, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter, Don Paulsrud, Sara Sathre, Cheyenne Ketterling.

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

Motion by Nitschke to approve the minutes of the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting as written. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Litsey to approve payment of general fund bills (\$114,196.20). Second by Nitschke, motion carried unanimously.

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

The 2020 taxable valuation report was reviewed--\$9,588,755 with total mills at 65.18. Valuation is up about \$885,000 and a decrease of about 5 mills from 2019.

Distance learning was discussed--Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Doane said the elementary is going well. They feel it would be beneficial to switch the 7-12 method from online with the teachers to NDCDE for the second semester. They're hoping that method will be less stressful for students, teachers and parents. Cost would be approximately \$900 per student (currently 10 students) and they would have to commit to the entire semester. Quarantined students would still be online with Ashley teachers for that period of time. Both administrators recommended the switch to NDCDE. Motion by Thiery to switch 7-12 distance learning students over to NDCDE courses for the second semester of the 20/21 school year. Second by Nitschke, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Doane stated there is nothing in the current policy to address eligibility for students taking NDCDE courses. He reviewed information he received from other schools. Motion by Schlepp: For the purposes of eligibility, if a student is 5 or more assignments behind in an NDCDE class, their grade will be considered an F. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously. This policy will apply to all students taking NDCDE courses, whether attending in-person or distance learning.

Motion by Schlepp to authorize Teresa Dockter to request a temporary increase in the credit card limit if necessary to purchase state wrestling tickets. Second by Nitschke, motion carried unanimously. The process has been suspended for now, waiting on more information.

Covid update: Governor extended mask mandate to January 18<sup>th</sup>; most of grant money has been spent; winter sports activities will have limited fan capacity.

Mr. Schmidt said Chuck Brandner was hired as head football coach and Connor Hill was hired as head baseball coach. Currently advertising for assistant coaches for both programs and should be conducting interviews soon.

Superintendent's report: 1) 5 schools will begin Covid testing all staff members, a few others are looking into it; 2) Three new students started school this week.

Mr. Doane said the staff enjoyed the breakfast the school board provided. The board will provide lunch for staff on 12/18 and a couple of businesses are donating treats on other days. Students and staff are participating in the 12 days of Christmas dress up days.

Next meeting will be January 13, 2021 at 7pm. Motion by Schlepp to adjourn, second by Thiery. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

-----  
Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

-----  
Lyle Fey, President