

APRIL 14, 2020

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 8:00pm via Zoom videoconference. Present: Lyle Fey, Gwyn Schumacher, Trisha Schneider, Kevin Nitschke, Ross Litsey, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter, Tony Bender, Don Paulsrud.

Motion by Schumacher to approve the agenda with one change. Second by Schneider, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Nitschke to approve the minutes of the March 11th and March 19th meetings as written. Second by Schumacher, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schneider to approve payment of general fund bills (\$21,634.59). Second by Nitschke, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Nitschke to approve all financial reports as presented. Second by Schumacher, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt stated the committee did two interviews for first grade and recommends hiring Wendy Bichler for that position. ESPB requires no additional classes for an individual with a current teaching license but she would have to complete the practice tests within one year. Motion by Schneider to offer a contract to Wendy Bichler for first grade. Second by Nitschke, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt will open the English position. Board members authorized Mr. Schmidt to offer a contract if the committee agrees unanimously on a candidate. Still no interest in the math position. Ashley and Kulm schedules will accommodate Mrs. Ellingson teaching it over ITV again if no math teacher can be hired.

Motion by Nitschke to approve teacher and extra-curricular contracts as listed. Second by Schneider. Schumacher questioned if Mrs. Ketterling would be fulfilling her extended-day contract in light of the Coronavirus situation. Also some discussion on whether golf/track coaching contracts for this spring should be paid since there may not be a season. Also possibly different wording on next year's extra-curricular contracts. Nitschke rescinded his motion and Schneider rescinded her second. Motion by Nitschke to approve the teaching contracts and Ag extended contract as listed and table the extra-curricular contracts until the May meeting. Second by Schneider, motion carried unanimously. Mr. Schmidt was directed to discuss co-op sports extra-curricular contracts with Mr. Kuntz. Contract approvals as follows:

Kristi Bender--\$52,600	Kristie Morrison--\$51,700
Chris Doane--\$76,500 (20/21), \$78,030 (21/22)	Don Paulsrud--\$52,100
Terra Engelhart--\$51,300	Mary Paulsrud--\$53,400
Charles Garnaas--\$53,050	Sara Sathre--\$46,600
Tracie Gass--\$41,000	Breigh Schlepp--\$40,600
Cheyenne Ketterling--\$41,000 + \$7,516.74 extended (33 days)	Jessica Schmidt--\$49,400
Denise Martz--\$50,600	Marilyn Simmons--\$49,450
Tucker Meidinger--\$40,600	
Melissa Meyer--\$43,400	

Discussion on ancillary staff salary increases--Supt. Schmidt recommended 4%. Motion by Schumacher to offer ancillary staff a 3.5% salary increase. Second by Schneider, motion carried unanimously.

Teresa Dockter explained procedures for a mail ballot only election as recommended by Governor Burgum. Information regarding ballot applications will be put on the school website, Facebook and in the Ashley Tribune. A drop bin will be placed in front of the school during office hours for ballot applications and to return ballots. Judges and clerks will still have to process the ballots but will work less hours since there is no polling place open on election day. Motion by Nitschke to conduct the June 2nd election by mail ballot only. Second by Schumacher, motion carried unanimously.

Bus routes for next school year were discussed--would like to go back to 3 routes if possible, which would affect the contract dollar amount. Mr. Schmidt was directed to provide information at the May meeting on what 3 routes would look like and see if it's possible to find another driver. No rural bus driver contracts will be issued until after the May meeting.

Board members reviewed quotes for a mini-bus: 1) IState Truck Center--2021 Thomas-\$56,900, camera option additional \$3,950; 2) Harlow's--2018 chassis on a 2019 body-\$54,900 or 2019 chassis-\$57,800; 3) Hartley's--2020-\$58,000. Motion by Nitschke to purchase the mini-bus from IState Truck Center for \$56,900 without the camera options. Second by Schumacher, motion carried unanimously.

Coronavirus update--no further direction from Governor Burgum on school closing. Distant learning seems to be going well--the teachers and Mr. Doane have been doing a good job to keep it rolling smoothly.

Supt. Schmidt still hopes to have some type of graduation--possibly later in the summer if we can get back in the building. Another option would be to use the football field with students & parents on the field, administrators in the crowd's nest using speaker system and spectators in vehicles around the field.

Will try to arrange a co-op board Zoom meeting for the first week in May.

Superintendent's report: Getting price quotes from companies for hallway locker replacement. Hope to have it for the May meeting.

Principal's report: 1) Registration is almost complete; 2) Read-A-Thon generated \$1,942.94 to be used for fun student activities. Students met their goal of reading 42,000 minutes and earned incentives such as putting make-up on Mr. Doane and making Mr. Schmidt into an ice cream sundae. Those events will take place in the fall if we are not back in school this spring; 3) Will be finished with evaluations soon. Due to the current situation, they were only required for teachers that have been in our school less than three years.

Next meeting will be May 13, 2020 at 8:00pm. Motion by Schneider to adjourn, second by Schumacher. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:53pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President

