

AUGUST 11, 2021

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 7:00pm in the ITV room. Present: Kyle Thiery, Amy Schlepp, Lyle Fey, Jordan Jenner, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter, *Mike Barsness, *Tony Bender. Ross Litsey was absent.

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

*Tony Bender entered the meeting at 7:04pm.

Mike Barsness from Consolidated Construction Company gave a presentation on capital maintenance planning. They would do a thorough inspection of the building and create a report showing expected maintenance/repairs and fire code/ADA recommendations for the next 0-2 years, 2-5 years, 5-10 years. That would give the board/administration a full picture of the condition of the facilities and give them time to prioritize and plan for upcoming expenses. The process takes 2-3 months and cost is \$2,500. *Mike Barsness left the meeting at 7:56pm. Following discussion, motion by Amy Schlepp to move forward with the Consolidated Construction Company facility planning agreement. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Thiery to approve the minutes of the July 19th and July 29th meetings as written. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Thiery to approve payment of general fund bills (\$57,643.68). Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

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

The board reviewed reports of uncollected taxes from McIntosh and Dickey counties.

Motion by Thiery to authorize Mr. Schmidt to submit the annual compliance report to DPI. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schmidt stated that Brad Mann from HA Thompson proposed using the existing units in the library and grades 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 instead of portable air conditioning units as initially discussed. Those rooms have newer units that already have the cooling coils in them. There would still be additional work done, however no cost difference from the original bid. Those units are already included in the maintenance agreement and would be double the life expectancy of the portable units. Teachers in those rooms would be able to control the temperature using their computers. Board members agreed to the changes.

Mr. Schmidt reviewed the ESSER III application--\$80,000 for learning loss (includes Intervention Strategist, curriculum, after school program), \$70,000 for air conditioning, \$10,000 instructional materials and \$160,000 for operation which will be used for some teacher salaries (that would free up general fund money for maintenance and other projects without having to file capital expense forms with DPI for everything). Motion by Thiery to approve the ESSER III application. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

All of the summer building maintenance projects have been completed.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the contract for Dawn Goehring for FBLA (\$1,350). Second by Thiery, motion carried unanimously.

Extra-curricular positions still open: JHBBB, Asst GBB, Student council, Elem BBB. Ross Litsey has volunteered to coach elementary football for this year.

Covid update--Mr. Schmidt stated the intention is to go back to a normal school year—masks are optional, no contact tracing—only the person testing positive will be required to stay home. Some discussion on leave for staff —motion by Schlepp that all employees will use normal sick leave for any Covid-related absences. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously. Students will not be counted absent due to Covid if they have a doctor’s note upon return. There will not be any virtual learning—students absent for Covid will communicate with teachers via email or Teams.

Bella Anderson has requested the use of the small gym for dance class every other Saturday from September through December. Rent will be \$100 per session because she will be charging the students for the class. School events will take priority over the class.

Mr. Doane reviewed proposed handbook changes made by the committee which consisted of administrators, teachers, parents, students and a board member. Motion by Jenner to approve handbook changes as presented. Second by Thiery, motion carried unanimously.

Recess from 9:12-9:16pm.

Supt. Schmidt said he would be gone from 8/12-8/15.

Principal’s report: 1) Registration almost complete, eight PK and 1 foreign exchange student this year; 2) Open house on 8/16 from 6-8pm as well as 7th and 9th grade orientation.

Next meeting will be September 8, 2021 with public tax hearing at 7:30pm and the regular meeting to follow. Motion by Schlepp to adjourn, second by Jenner. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:26pm.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President