

APRIL 15, 2022

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Friday, April 15, 2022 at 7:00am in the ITV room. Present: Kyle Thiery, Lyle Fey, Jordan Jenner, Ross Litsey, Amy Schlepp, Chris Doane, Jason Schmidt, Teresa Dockter.

Motion by Thiery to approve the agenda with one addition. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the minutes from the March 9th, March 21st special and March 21st co-op meetings as written. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jenner to approve payment of general fund bills (\$40,836.11). Second by Thiery, motion carried unanimously.

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

Ancillary staff increases were discussed—Mr. Schmidt recommended 5%. Motion by Jenner to give all ancillary staff a 5% increase for the 22-23 school year. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed a listing of teacher contracts returned—they are as follows:

Kristi Bender--\$55,250	Don Paulsrud--\$55,150
Wendy Bichler--\$44,750	Mary Paulsrud--\$55,950
Tyler Ernst--\$42,750	Rachel Rueb--\$41,950
Amber Gerszewski--\$42,350	Sara Sathre--\$49,150
Denise Martz--\$53,150	Breigh Schlepp--\$43,150
Tucker Meidinger--\$43,150	Jessica Schmidt--\$51,950
Melissa Meyer--\$45,950	Teresa Thiery--\$41,950
Kristie Morrison--\$54,350	

The second reading was held on the following policies: Attendance & Absences; Procedure If Drug And/Or Alcohol Use Is Reasonably Suspected. Motion by Litsey to approve the policies as written. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Thiery to authorize the business manager to destroy specified records prior to the 2014-15 school year as requested. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Candidates filing for school board election on June 7th were Lyle Fey (city) and Ross Litsey (rural at large). Election officials will be Pam McShane, Judy Haupt, Lanita Golz and Charles Dockter.

Mr. Schmidt discussed requirements of the four-year old program: 1) Students must be age four by August 1 of the school year; 2) Curriculum is aligned with the ND early learning standards birth to kindergarten; 3) Mrs. Bender holds 10 hours of family engagement workshops each school year. Motion by Schlepp to approve the four-year old program for the 2022-2023 school year. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Edutech will no longer be hosting webpages, however DRN has agreed to take over hosting of the school's webpage. Cost is expected to be under \$500 per year.

Hope to have bids on summer projects by May 1. Consolidated Construction is helping get information on some of the bigger projects for next year.

New legislation requires additional training for K-3 teachers. Mr. Schmidt would like to send PK-3, Title, PE, music, special ed teachers to a two-day training in July to meet those requirements and would pay motel/meal expenses. He would also like 8 teachers to come an additional 3 days during the summer to work on fine-tuning the new reading curriculum. He asked the board to approve up to 5 days of teacher pay for elementary staff and stated ESSER money can be used for that expense. Motion by Schlepp to approve up to 5 paid days for professional development for elementary staff this summer. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Long term planning documents will be sent to board members for review prior to May meeting.

Mr. Schmidt reported that PE teacher interviews were completed and the committee recommended hiring Dan Girard. Following discussion, motion by Litsey to offer the position to Dan Girard, allowing all years of experience to be brought into the system. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

Board recessed from 8:36-8:46am.

Mr. Schmidt will open the special ed paraprofessional position for the 2022-23 school year. Teresa Thiery held that position prior to being hired as the second grade teacher for 22/23.

Open coaching positions: Elementary GBB, Elementary BBB, Asst WR, Head Baseball, JHBBB, two Asst FB, Elementary FB, FBLA, Student Council.

Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Doane proposed a shift in administrative duties: Mr. Schmidt would continue the superintendent duties, take over PK-4 principal and give up athletic director and Mr. Doane would be the 5-12 principal as well as athletic director. With increasing initiatives requiring attention, it's becoming too difficult for one person to address PK-12 needs and this would allow them to split those up and be more effective. Would be able to accomplish that with no wage changes, just shifting of the athletic director pay and its equivalent. Motion by Thiery to change the administrative duties as proposed—Mr. Doane's principal salary will be \$5,900 less and he will receive \$5,900 for athletic director; Mr. Schmidt will receive \$5,900 for PK-4 principal and will no longer hold the athletic director contract. Second by Jenner, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on weighted classes and valedictorian/salutatorian: 1) School is required to do career ready interest inventories, some students take weighted classes for val/sal purposes rather than career path classes; 2) Students take dual credits as opposed to electives; 3) Teachers of elective classes have difficulty competing with the val/sal mindset, dual credit classes, online classes, scheduling problems; 4) Goals have shifted over the years from getting students ready for college to ready for the real world, whether that is farming, 2-year tech programs or traditional 4-year programs; 5) Colleges look at GPA on a 4.0 scale, any extra weight on the grades is disregarded. Same is true for scholarships—they also ask for unweighted grades. In light of both those points, the weighted scale is really only for

val/sal purposes; 6) Many schools are moving away from weighted grades and valedictorian/salutatorian. Board members asked administrators to get their specific questions answered for next meeting.

Superintendent's report: 1) Possibility of sharing music and Ag classes with Wishek if we are unable to fill those positions; 2) Three storm days recently—requirement is 1,050 hours for 7-12 and 962.5 for elementary. We have extra hours every school day so there are enough to absorb the storm days without making them up. Board members were in favor of that; 4) Researching international teachers.

Principal's report: 1) Concert on 5/3, Awards tentatively 5/11, Teacher appreciation week 5/2-5/7; 2) Considering a parent survey on cell phone use in school as it is becoming a problem and with all 7-12 having laptops, they're no longer necessary for in-class use.

Next meeting will be May 11, 2022 with long-term planning at 7:30pm and regular meeting to follow.

At 10:41am, President Fey stated the board would move to executive session under 44-04-19.2 to discuss administrative negotiations.

The board reconvened at 11:25am with all board members and Teresa Dockter present. Motion by Jenner to adjourn, second by Litsey. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 11:25am.

Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

Lyle Fey, President