

JANUARY 15, 2025

The Ashley school board held their regular meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 7:00pm in the conference room. Present: Ross Litsey, Amy Schlepp, Lyle Fey, Corey Ulmer, Jason Schmidt, Chris Doane, Teresa Dockter, Tucker Meidinger, Erich Kroh. Jordan Jenner was absent.

Motion by Litsey to approve the agenda. Second by Ulmer, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schlepp to approve the minutes of the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting as written. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Ulmer to approve payment of general fund bills (\$58,873.61) and bond fund bills (\$84,147.26). Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously.

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

Building project: 1) Last day for Jeremy Winter (site superintendent) is this Friday 1/17—will meet with him for a final walk-through of items still outstanding; 2) Study hall unit is leaking—trying to contact Manning Mechanical; 3) Wall cracks will be addressed this summer; 4) There is a one-year warranty once we sign off on everything; 5) Building committee discussed signage—will be about \$6,900; 6) Will hold an open house for the public on January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4-8pm, with tours every 20 minutes; 7) Fitness committee established membership rates--\$120 individual, \$200 family—hoping to open the first week of February; 8) Fitness committee requested \$25,000 from Lions to purchase equipment to replace outdated items; 9) Opportunities Inc. gave \$10,000 towards Fitness Center ; 10) Insurance will increase \$450 per year to cover liability of the public using the Fitness Center.

Motion by Schlepp to rescind policies BA-BR2 (Board Member Internet and Social Media Use), HBAA (Federal Fiscal Compliance), and HBAA-AR1 (Federal Fund Expenditures and Inventory Requirements) and to use policy BDA to adopt the updated version of BA-BR2, HBAA, and HBAA-AR1. All board members present indicated they were in agreement with using policy BDA to expedite approving the policies. Second by Litsey. Roll call vote: Litsey-yes, Fey-yes, Schlepp-yes, Ulmer-yes; motion carried unanimously.

The first reading was held on policy BA-BR1 (School Board Ethics Regulation).

Kulm has asked to join the South Border baseball co-op—they have approximately 3 kids interested. There would be no change in the name, practices, or transportation. Board members are in favor of scheduling a co-op meeting to discuss it.

Pursuant to NDCC15.1-16.13, the Ashley Education Association hereby notifies the Ashley Public School Board of their desire to enter negotiations prior to the expiration of the existing negotiated agreement. Motion by Schlepp to approve the AEA notice. Second by Litsey, motion carried unanimously. Ulmer & Litsey will be the board negotiators. President Fey stated the board would hold an executive session at February's meeting to discuss negotiation strategy.

Mr. Schmidt's report: 1) Request from Andy & Melissa Meyer to have open gym for grades 3-6 boys/girls basketball—schedule would vary. Board members granted the request but asked that they work with Mr. Schmidt to create a scheduled calendar so the key fob can be programmed accordingly; 2) Part of the building project is retaining 5% of the project materials, which would include flooring, lighting, ceiling panels, etc. Those materials are currently being stored in a container owned by Consolidated Construction and they are willing to rent that container to the school for \$115/month until it's cleaned out. The school is also currently renting a container for \$140/month from Container Pros—that one is full of old weight/cardio equipment and furniture. Container Pros would sell that container to the school for \$5,500 and that one could be used for the project materials once the old items have been cleaned out this summer. Motion by Litsey to allow Ulmer to declare a conflict of interest. Second by Schlepp, motion carried unanimously. Discussion that the copper was sold for \$6,000 so would cover the cost. Motion by Litsey to purchase the container from Container Pros for \$5,500. Second by Schlepp, motion carried with Schlepp, Litsey & Fey voting yes; Ulmer abstained; 3) Working on 25/26 calendar drafts; 4) NDA+ testing in elementary, as well as student engagement surveys. Some teachers will be attending training in February for the NDA+ testing; 5) Finish on the wood floor in the gym is bubbling—will need to be sanded down and refinished this summer.

Mr. Doane's report: 1) Local science fair was held 1/15, regionals are 3/10; 2) Mathcounts on 2/5, county spelling bee on 2/14 in Zeeland; 3) HS students doing engagement surveys.

Next meeting will be February 12, 2025 at 7:00pm. Motion by Schlepp to adjourn, second by Ulmer. Motion carried unanimously, meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

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Teresa Dockter, Business Manager

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Lyle Fey, President