

NIOBRARA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 13TH, 2024

Chair Ashurst called the meeting to order at 6:00pm in the Board Room of the District Office. Members present were: Hammer, Heth, Lund, Smith, Ashurst, Manning, Miller and Kruse.

Vice Chair Smith moved to approve the agenda as amended. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS

District Presentations: Student of the Month for the month of April was presented to Brigham Hendricks for elementary. Carter Bannon and Mason Hiser were the May Students of the Month for the elementary school. Tamera Munez was recognized as the middle school Student of the Month for May. Camden Rose was the high school's Student of the Month for April. Camden commended Mrs. Kruse for the great job she is doing as principal. Hattie Nelson was the high school Student of the Month for May. Samantha Kelsay and Tessa Manning were acknowledged for their achievements in competing in the American Dream essay contest. It's a contest held in the state of Wyoming and was hosted by Mr. Whitten this year. The competition is open for students 9th through 12th grade. Samantha was the winner earning \$300, Tessa Manning took second and Skielynn Bouissey as third. The first place winner then progresses to the state competition. They are judged against all of the other winners from other schools or districts. Samantha took third place at the state level earning a \$2000 award. Haven Hendricks won the TRIG-STAR Math competition for trigonometry and is sponsored by the Professional Land Surveyors of Wyoming organization and Mrs. Kremers. This contest helps promote careers in surveying and mapping. She will advance to the national competition. She can also apply for a scholarship if she decides to pursue a career in engineering. Cory Bruegger was awarded SEWAC Player of Year for boy's basketball. Cory was recognized for his leadership, determination and sportsmanship on the court as a player. He was also all conference and all state. Cory Bruegger and Melody ZumBrunnen were recognized as SEWAC boys and girls SEWAC Track athletes of the year. Melody ZumBrunnen has broken 5 team records and is a three time girl athlete of a year. The last two years it was unanimous. Both Coach Lyons and Coach Johnson spoke highly of the abilities and dedications to their sport. FFA student officer team and sponsor Mr. Hubbard presented on who they were, what they competed in at state and nationals as well as their highlights of the year. The Niobrara Skills USA chapter introduced themselves, what office they hold, and what they competed in at the state competition. They also showed a presentation showcasing their chapter activities. Some of the activities included redoing the flag pole for the county commissioners, attending fall conference, the jacket project, and improving their public speaking skills. They attended the CTE Proclamation Signing in Cheyenne with Gov. Gordon, US Senator Harriet Hageman, and various other politicians for the state. Their State Leadership Conference was held in Casper. They had five welders, one in job interview, and one medical math and terminology. They had two students run for state officer positions and were elected. The students were very excited about participating in this organization. Club sponsor Mr. Martinez spoke to the board about the growth of the each of the students in both their skills and their personal growth. FCCLA then introduced themselves, what they competed in at state, and if they are able to compete at nationals. Those students that are able to compete at nationals will be going to Seattle. Club sponsor and Principal Kruse helped to explain their projects as well and recognized another student who wasn't able to attend the meeting tonight. They thanked Principal Kruse for all of her hard work and effort. Chair Ashurst took a moment to recognize all of the staff who have put in time to help all of the students with all of these clubs.

LEMS: Principal Assman let the board know that they have been very busy wrapping up spring testing and screening. They had Ag Day for 1st and 2nd grade today, she thanked the community members and students who helped. Students showcased their art, PE and library talents projects. The elementary presented Seussical the Musical. It was phenomenal. They had their final celebration assembly. Converse County Bank helped celebrate

staff for teacher appreciation week. University of Wyoming hosted a traveling team for a STEM day for the elementary students. Upcoming events include: field day, 2nd through 6th grade music program and 6th grade promotion. She also thanked the board for having her as a principal at LEMS and Lance Creek.

HIGH School: Principal Kruse said they had a pep rally celebration. They have had lots to celebrate as was evident with all of the clubs and student recognition. Middle school girls won volleyball, basketball and track SEWAC. All of the spring sports are doing great. Both the girls and boys tracks won third at regionals. Graduation rehearsal is Wednesday with graduation being on Sunday at 2pm. The band and choir concert is next Tuesday, Track and Field banquets to follow that night. She thanked the board for the teacher appreciation gifts.

SPED: The state special Olympic Games were held in Gillette on May 3rd. There were four students who competed in them from our district. Three staff members took the students. Both the students and staff put in a lot of work getting ready to compete. Several students place in multiple events. The LRP Special Education Law conference was in Savannah, Georgia. Nine staff members attended the conference. Our district's special education lawyer was the key note speaker at the conference. They are getting ready to submit Indicator 14 report. Summer school and ESY will be starting at the start of June. Currently there are 53 students confirmed and may be adding more. They still have a WYVA Special Education teaching position open.

WYVA: Principal Williams updated the board on former student Larkin Williams who is currently applying for the American FFA Degree. It is the highest degree achievable in the National FFA Organization. It shows a member's dedication to his or her chapter and state FFA association. There are several requirements to be able to apply for this. WYVA is finished testing. They will be able to have PD for K-8 for math in June and August through UW. They are very busy with the end of the school year, celebration, and end of year projects wrapping up. Dr. Heywood is amazed at all of the programs we have in the district. He also spoke to how much he has enjoyed working with the different teams and how great everyone is doing. He was amazed at how well Principal Kruse is doing as a first year principal. They will be graduating 55 seniors this Friday at 2:00pm. They will be having between 500 and 600 people attending. They would love to have as many board members in attendance as possible. The various types of students this program serves is amazing. There will be a dinner afterwards at the fairgrounds for all of the students and their families. Stride is sending a team to do interviews with students and families for promotions for Stride marketing.

Business Manager: Ms. Caffee was present via zoom. Associate Sped Director Bilbrey and she are currently at the Star Conference in Cody. The conference is put on by the WDE and pertains to the grants, what is and isn't allowable and the grants management system. She would like to set up a work session to review with the board how the district is funded through the state. She presented the basic numbers of the preliminary budget to the board and reviewed the information she provided. In July she will present a final budget. Due to not being able to predict what local revenues will be it is hard to have a solid number. Parts of the 100A report have been opened to help with budgeting. We lose are ESSRR funds Sept. 30th. Trustee Hammer had questions regarding invoices to be paid. Ms. Caffee answered her questions. Trustee Hammer asked Superintendent Mirich to discuss the daycare at the June meeting.

Superintendent: Superintendent Mirich had a few items to review. First he will not be able to attend the WYVA graduation, but will be putting a plan together to fill his role. The second item reviewed the SPED complaints to the WDE against the district that was discussed last month. The complaint that was labeled as systemic implied that the entire program was not working. The problem with most of WDE complaints are a result of someone not being told what they wanted to hear. Every complaint must be investigated. The last 6 complaints have been found invalid and non-supported. The latest complaint cost the district \$8,000.00 and does not include the time and effort of staff. The investigation did show that we were doing more than was stated in the IEP. It resulted in more time for staff with 2 thirty minute trainings. When complaints are made it doesn't always indicate wrong doing. The systemic complaint came from Trustee Hammer. Discussion was then held regarding executive session and work sessions that were held, executive session information being relayed to the public, chain of command, several letters of complaint against Trustee Hammer, staff requests because of Trustee Hammer, respect and lack of concern over actions, respect for staff, why Trustee Hammer should have attended the work sessions, board development, and the personal direction of the work sessions. Chair Ashurst directed the board

to move on from the Superintendent's report. Clerk Lund was very appreciative of the new sign and concrete work that was completed in front of the gym.

Board Member: Treasurer Kruse commended Ag Day and all of those groups that helped to put that on. Seussical the Musical was wonderful. She thanked the staff and all of the students who worked so hard. Trustee Manning did the public officer training. It was really good and went into a lot of detail. Trustee Heth talked about the WSBA meeting in Riverton. Some points mentioned were the health insurance rates, Wyoming Government Investment fund, area board reports, and SRO information. Chair Ashurst reminded the board that graduation is this weekend.

CONSENT AGENDA

Clerk Lund moved to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Chair Ashurst abstained from check #83406. Motion carried.

The following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

A – Minutes from last meeting.

B – Expenditures

- Detail Check Register:
 - General \$1,063,641.52
 - Activity..... \$8,086.89

ACTION ITEMS

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET SY 2025

Clerk Lund moved to acknowledge receipt of preliminary budget for SY 2025. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE SY 2024 BUDGET

Clerk Lund moved to approve amended SY 2024 General Fund Expenditures Budget to \$16,110,663.31. Seconded by Trustee Miller. Motion carried.

Clerk Lund moved to approve amended SY 2024 Special Revenue Fund Expenditures Budget to \$3,100,000.00. Seconded by Trustee Miller. Motion carried.

Clerk Lund moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel under statute {16-4-405(a)}. Trustee Heth seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was moved into executive session at 6:55pm after a brief break. The meeting was returned to regular session at 8:01pm.

APPROVE CLASSIFIED STAFF REHIRE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 SY

Clerk Lund moved to approve recommendations per the list for the 2024-2025 SY. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVE ACTIVITIES REHIRE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 SY

Clerk Lund moved to approve the recommended activities rehire list for the 2024-2025 SY. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Vice Chair Smith and Trustee Heth abstained from the Football coaching rehire. Motion carried.

APPROVE RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE SECONDARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR FOR SY 2024-2025

Clerk Lund moved to approve Michele Ogburn as Secondary School Counselor for the SY2024-2025. Trustee Heth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVE RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE WYVA SECONDARY ENGLISH TEACHER FOR SY 2024-2025

Vice Chair Smith moved to approve Andrea Halls as Secondary English Teacher for WYVA for SY 2024-2025. Motion seconded by Clerk Lund. Discussion was held. Motion carried.

APPROVE REVISIONS TO POLICY GBCCA-R ON SECOND (FINAL) READING

Treasurer Kruse moved to approve revision to Policy GBCCA-R on second reading. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Trustee Heth moved to table all policies to work session. Discussion was held. Motion carried.

APPROVE ADOPTION OF POLICY IHBI ON SECOND (FINAL) READING

Treasurer Kruse moved to approve Policy IHBI on second reading. Clerk Lund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVE ADOPTION OF POLICY KB AND KB-R ON FIRST READING

Treasurer Kruse moved to approve policy KB and KB-R on first reading. Seconded by Clerk Lund. Motion carried.

APPROVE REVISIONS TO POLICY BDDH AND KD ON FIRST READING

Clerk Lund moved to approve Policy BDDH and KD on first reading. Seconded by Treasurer Kruse. Discussion was held. Trustee Hammer called for a roll call vote. Hammer-no, Heth-no, Lund- yes, Smith-yes, Ashurst-yes, Manning-no, Miller-no, Kruse -yes. Motion failed. Trustee Manning moved to approve amendments discussed to policy BDDH and KD on first reading. Seconded by Trustee Heth. Clerk Lund called for a roll call vote. Hammer-yes, Heth-yes, Lund-no, Smith-no, Ashurst-no, Manning-yes, Miller-yes, Kruse-no. Motion failed.

APPROVE ADOPTION OF BOARD NORMS

Treasurer Kruse moved to approve adoption of Board Norms as presented. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVE RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT WITH WIN-CULTURE

Treasurer Kruse moved to approve contract with Win-Culture of \$98,500.00 for the WY 2024-2025. Seconded by Trustee Manning. Discussion was held. Motion carried.

APPROVE ADDITION OF MS/HS CROSS COUNTRY

Treasurer Kruse moved to approve adding MS/HS Cross Country to activities for the SY 2024-2025. Vice Chair Smith seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Motion carried.

APPROVE WYVA RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

Clerk Lund moved to accept the resignation of Jordan Graves. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Motion carried. Clerk Lund moved to accept the retirement of William Wilcox. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2024-2025 DISTRICT SALARY SCHEDULES

Clerk Lund moved to approve steps and lanes to the salary schedule for the 2024-2025 school year as applicable. Treasurer Kruse. Discussion was held. Motion carried.

APPROVE SRO FOR THE SY 2024-2025

Trustee Hammer moved to hire an SRO for SY 2024 pending approval of a contract. Seconded by Trustee Heth. Discussion was held. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

SRO: Attorney Mark Hughes discussed changes he would like to make with the contract. Clerk Lund had some concerns that we haven't officially adopted having an SRO or School Liaison. Discussion was held if there was room in the budget to have an SRO for next year. It was also brought to the boards attention that there are restrictions to the funds we would be able to use to pay for the position. Officer Smith helped to clarify the difference between the two positions being offered. Trustee Manning asked which the admin team preferred. Discussion was held. Trustee Heth would like Mr. Hughes to look at some different contracts for the position. Discussion was held regarding the ability to budget for the position.

Board Evaluation: The board evaluation was done.
Trustee Hammer left the meeting at 8:59pm.

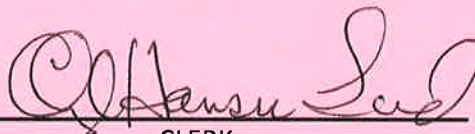
Vice Chair Smith moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel under statute {16-4-405(a)}. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chair Ashurst returned the meeting to regular session at 9:19pm.

There was a brief discussion held regarding the policy process.

Trustee Miller moved to adjourn meeting. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm by Chair Ashurst.



CHAIRPERSON



CLERK