

SWEET GRASS COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES - December 11, 2018

The Board of Trustees of Sweet Grass County High School met in regular session at 6:00 PM on December 11, 2018 in the School Library. Members present were Rochelle Brownlee, Susie Fiveash, Colleen Conner, Mary Gregorich, Josh Donald and Jim Niebur. Also present were Superintendent - Al Buerkle, Principal - Eric Gustafson, Activities Director - Barry Snodgrass, Clerk - Kim Plaggemeyer, Student Representative - John Baxter and Jacob Husman and guests, Casey Smith, Jerry Hansen, Sam Spector, Jessica Todd, Cindy Messer-Epperson, Austin and Taylor Standley, Chase Stephens, Kacey Higgins, Susie Fleming, Kim Finn and John Esp.

1. Rochelle Brownlee called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and read aloud the MTSBA definition and expectation of Public Forum, Public Comment in Montana. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Public Forum.
2. **Public Forum** - Casey Smith apologized to the Board and members attending the November Board Meeting for his behavior at the November Board Meeting. The Board thanked Casey Smith for his apology. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Report on Upcoming Legislative Session - John Esp.
3. **Report on Upcoming Legislative Session - John Esp.** Al Buerkle informed the Board that John Esp was running late and requested his agenda item be moved until John Esp arrived. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Approve the Minutes.
4. **Approve the Minutes** - Susie Fiveash made a motion to approve the previous November Minutes and Mary Gregorich seconded and the motion carried 6-0. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Student Council Report.
5. **Student Council Report** - John Baxter and Jacob Husman reported FFA attended John Deere Ag Days in Bozeman; Christmas Concert is 12/18/18; Speech & Drama took 2nd Place in Billings and 2nd Place at MSUB; Band on 11/14/18; SAVY is doing a food drive on 12/20/18 and attended the Behavioral Conference in Billings; Workshops and Shakespeare in the Park were a lot of fun and winter Basketball and Cheerleading have begun. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto SGCEA Report.
6. **SGCEA** - There was no SGCEA report. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Principal Report.
7. **Principal Report** - Eric Gustafson "Mr. G" reported that he, Alan Ronneberg, Deputies from Park County and Sweet Grass County Sheriff performed an all-day security assessment activity at the school on 12/18/18. They interviewed cooks and staff and did a night time assessment. Their findings will be sent to the school in a PowerPoint presentation and to the Shield Grant, which could possibly fund an SRO for the school for a year, if the Shield Grant

was awarded. Mr G. reported on the schools recent visit by Jetta, a black lab, who is trained to smell gunpowder and drugs with his Owner, Jacob. Jetta is not aggressive, just loves her toy. When she saw her harness, she knew it was time to work and knew it was all about getting her toy. When her Owner, John said, "socialize," she knew to go visit everyone. It was a good day with good repore for everyone. Mr G. reported that Nathan Stanley from Riverstone Health, Billings will be presenting on vaping at the school on 12/13/18. Also, there have been a lot of college recruiters at the school for the kids and kudos to our kids. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Activities Director (AD) Report.

8. Activities Report (AD) - Barry Snodgrass reported Black Box Design, who installed the original sound system in the gym in 1985 came back with their bid, which is pretty close to the other bid. However, the difference between the two bids are Black Box Design are willing to do the upgrades in stages. The first stage would be to replace the equipment in the wall and continue to work on finding funds for the upgrades. The Boys Varsity Basketball won all three games -Three Forks, Fairfield and Anaconda. The backboards for the side boards have been ordered for \$3900 and received free shipping again. Q2 recently broadcasted our football players regarding the money they fundraised for the Florence Football Player, who suffered a brain bleeding injury, while playing football. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Superintendent Report.

9. Superintendent Report - Al Buerkle reported MTSBA would like to meet on Monday, 1/28/19 in the morning for approximately 3-4 hours to go over the policy work completed, there are no additional cost for this meeting, as this meeting was part of the original fee. Due to Board Member schedules, Al Buerkle will contact MTSBA to discuss other dates and times available for the meeting. Jerry Hansen asked if the Public may attend this meeting? Al Buerkle will look into Jerry Hansen's question and get back to him with an answer. Sam Spector and John Baxter reported on their Coffee Committee Presentation and that the Department of Colorado included the Sweet Grass County High Schools' Light Project in their own reportings. Al Buerkle reported on the Indian Ed for All presentation on 12/5/18; made Solar Panels Grant copies available to the Board and Auditors will be coming on January 7 - 9, 2019. Al Buerkle proposed to change the Board Meeting from 1/8/19 to 1/15/19 at 6:00 PM, due to the home basketball game with Livingston. All agreed and the Board Meeting was changed to 1/15/19 at 6:00 PM. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Committee Reports.

10. Committee Reports.

- a. Safety Committee Review on 12/5/18.** Al Buerkle distributed a handout from the insurance safety inspection on 12/5/18. Discussion and opinions were voiced on prioritizing the items on the list. Kudos were given to Austin and Taylor Standley for the improvement in the Shop. Al Buerkle reported on the need to properly dispose of the chemistry chemicals and that it will be costly, but needs to be done. Also, the need for a plumbing system for an eye wash station in the kitchen and FCS areas. The insurance recommended a plumbing system over the current portable eye wash stations. Al

Buerkle will contact CTA Architects, the original architects, to schedule a structural safety check around the mezzanine areas of the locker rooms and weight room. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Board Members' Reports.

11. Board Member Reports - There were no Board Member Reports. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Old Business.

12. Old Business

a. Review of Weapon's Storage Law - Possible Closed Session, Due to School Safety. Al Buerkle recommended waiting for discussion until all Board Members are present and until safety assessment has been completed by Mr G. and Alan Ronneberg. Mr G. agreed as well and Rochelle Brownlee read MTSBA Gun Policy. Jerry Hansen asked if this was a gun free zone? Al Buerkle responded yes by law and Mr G. suggested waiting until Alan Ronneberg was around for discussion, all agreed. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto New Business.

13. New Business

a. Creation of "Angel Fund" in Fund 215. Rochelle Brownlee report an anonymous donor has donated \$700 toward helping students in need. Rochelle Brownlee explained the Board had given Certified, Classified and Bus Driver Staff a Christmas Buffet lunch and five additional future lunch purchases. After presenting the meal gift to all staff, the kitchen employees informed the Board, they already receive these meals at no cost for working in the kitchen. These kitchen employees and other employees requested that their Board gift be donated to help assist students in need of meals. After discussing an additional fund to Fund 215 with the schools Auditor, Matt Helm, he suggested an Angel Fund can be added to 215, which would need Board action. Susie Fiveash made a motion to create 215 Angel Fund for breakfast, lunch or any food and Mary Gregorich seconded and the motion carried 6-0. Jerry Hansen asked how can students not afford to eat lunch, that's not right. How much would they need a year? Al Buerkle informed Jerry Hansen that the \$700 donation will cover them and go into the next year. Jim Niebur state the SAVY group is trying to set-up a student pantry. Jerry Hansen reported that SAVY is doing a coat donation and asked if they would take money. Jessica Todd replied "yes" to Jerry Hansen's question.

b. Planning of Budget and Fund Uses for Future Projects. Al Buerkle reported discussing this during safety report and having to prioritize the projects. All agreed to discuss this agenda item when the Board meets for the MTSBA Meeting at the end of January 2019.

c. Policy Proposal - #1430 Tobacco Free Policy. Al Buerkle reported school is a tobacco free zone and suggested adjusting the new type of nicotine i.e. "vaping" into this policy #1430 and other policies #5400, #5500 and #5103. This is just a proposal and does not require Board action. It will assist Mr G. to be able to deal with these situations in a more timely manner. MTSBA suggested to address these issues and they can add policy changes when the Board meets with them in January 2019.

i. **Impact on #5400 Chemical Abuse Policy, #5500 Activity Policy, #5103 Student Discipline.** Discussed with policy proposal #1430.

d. **Personnel -**

i. **Non-Tenured Staff Review - Courtney Leary, Jessica Todd, Barry Snodgrass, Austin Standley, Taylor Standley and Sarah Polich.** Mr G. stated, "They're good hire and a great non-tenured team."

ii. **Fall Coaching and Volunteers Positions Review, Renewal/Nonrenewal.** Barry Snodgrass reported going over evaluations with all Fall coaches. Barry Snodgrass and Mr G. discussed Fall coaches and Fall volunteers. Barry Snodgrass was uncertain if Darren Hecker would be back next year.

1. **Football - JV Moody, Tony Carroccia, Kent Morgan, Pat Dringman, Rocco Carroccia, Marc King, Becky Freese and Levi Ejvene.** Barry Snodgrass recommended renewal of all Fall Football coaching and volunteer positions.
2. **Volleyball - Natasha Stenberg, Kasey Higgins, Susie Fleming.** Barry Snodgrass recommended Nonrenewal of Fall Volleyball coaching positions.
3. **Cross Country - Jen Wood, Darren Hecker.** Barry Snodgrass recommended renewal of all Fall Cross Country coaching positions.

Colleen Conner suggested an Executive Session to the Board. Rochelle Brownlee informed the Public that the Board would go into Close Session at 7:05 PM, which included Board Administration, Kasey Higgins and Susie Fleming.

Rochelle Brownlee called the meeting back to order at 7:53 PM. Barry Snodgrass amended two Assistant Coaches, Kacey Higgins and Susie Fleming be renewed for Volleyball. Josh Donald made a motion to accept the recommendations of Activities Director, Barry Snodgrass for the renewal/nonrenewal and Jim Niebur seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

4. **Girls Basketball Volunteer Approval - Lana King.** Barry Snodgrass reported Lana King has completed her coaches clinic and they are waiting on her official background check. Barry Snodgrass recommended Lana King for Girls Basketball Volunteer. Barry Snodgrass reported Jeremy Young is no longer considered for this position. Jim Niebur made a motion to approve Girls Basketball Volunteer position to Lana King and Colleen Conner seconded and motion carried 6-0. Rochelle Brownlee asked for any additional Public comment, which there were none.

3. Previous Agenda Item - Report on Upcoming Legislative Session - John Esp.

Discussion and opinions were voiced. The Board thanked John Esp for coming. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Superintendent Evaluation Forms.

d. iii. Superintendent Evaluation Forms. Rochelle Brownlee distributed Superintendent Evaluation Forms to the Board and requested they be completed and returned to her by 12/28/18.

14. Review Claims - Jim Niebur made a motion to accept the Claims and Josh Donald seconded and motion carried 6-0. Rochelle Brownlee then moved onto Correspondence.

15. Correspondence - Rochelle Brownlee read a thank you card from the teachers for the lunches and Christmas Buffet.

16. Adjournment - Rochelle Brownlee adjourned the Board Meeting at 8:22 P.M.



K. Plagemeier
Clerk - Kim Plagemeier



Rochelle Brownlee
Chair - Rochelle Brownlee